

## Recommended General Maintenance

We are often asked, "Is leather practical?" The answer to this depends on your definition of practical. If we expect leather to be "plastic perfect" and never show use or develop a patina, it might not be practical. But if we understand and appreciate the changing beauty of fine, natural leather and its amazing durability, it is most practical.

Leather is resilient. It will outwear textiles many times over. Since fabrics are woven, any change in their appearance from age and use detracts from their beauty. Leather, on the other hand, adjusts to its environment. It mellows gracefully with age. Leather is expected to change; even the oils from our hands help to develop the patina.

Full grain leather is not demanding and requires very little care. It should not be abused by harsh cleaners or substances such as wax or mink oils, saddle soap or other leather polishes. These become surface sealants which keep premium full grain leathers from breathing (hence they will eventually dry out and crack). A periodic wipe with a cool damp cloth is sufficient means of cleaning under normal conditions.

The following guidelines will help you to maintain the beauty of Spinneybeck leather without destroying any of the natural characteristics:

**Finished Leather:** Acqua, Alaska, Amazon, Andes, Antique, Derby, Ducale, Embossed Tipped, España, Forte, Hand Tipped, Leather Tiles, Lucente, Portofino, Sabrina, Salon, Torello, Velluto Pelle, Vicenza, Volo

Finished leather, the most popular, is smooth and has a satiny finish. Its breathable protective finish makes it most suitable for high traffic areas or contract use. It is maintained by wiping with a cool, damp cloth. For tougher soiling, use a pH balanced soap on a cloth and rinse. Remember to always use cool water. Repeat if needed.

**Naked Leather:** Arizona,\* Belting Leather,\* Capri,\* Cervo, Copenhagen, Cordovan,\* Distressed,\* Prima, Riva, Saddle

Naked leathers have no surface or impregnated finish, other than dye matter, which may mask or alter the natural state of the leather. There is no barrier against spillage or staining, therefore, naked leather should be selected with this in mind.

The only recommended cleaning method for a naked leather is to wipe the entire surface with a soft cloth and cool water. Do not spot rub, for it will darken only that area. The idea is to even out any abrasions or stains.

*\* Leathers noted should be cleaned as a naked leather due to their very light application of finish.*

**Grain Sueded Leather:** Ducale Velour, Marissa

Full grain leathers that have been lightly buffed to raise the nap of the surface are referred to as "grain sueded" leathers. This produces the softest hand of any suede leathers. For maximum soil resistance and durability these leathers have received an impregnated soil resistant treatment.

Grain sueded leather can be maintained with reasonable care as spillage will bead up and roll off. However, it should not be allowed to puddle, but be blotted up immediately. For normal care, grain sueded leather should be dry brushed occasionally. Remove general soilage with a suede cleaning block.

**Textured Sueded Leather:** Maremma

Textured Sueded Leather is an aniline dyed leather with a dense sueded surface. The textured surface is protected by an impregnated, soil resistant treatment which shields the surface without disturbing the suppleness and rich coloration.

Textured sueded leather can be maintained with reasonable care as liquids will bead allowing spillage to be blotted up immediately. For normal care, the surface of textured suedes should be brushed occasionally with a scotch brite pad followed by vacuuming to remove dirt and loose fibers.

*Note: Certain inks or stains cannot be removed from leather just as they cannot be removed from other upholstery fabrics. Use caution to avoid these accidents. Remember that our leathers are all natural "skins." Treat your leather the same way you would treat your own skin.*

Please call for more information about Spinneybeck Maintenance Kits, which include our specially formulated cleaners, conditioners and ink removers.

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