



The Remarkable Material

Leather is one of the oldest natural materials, used by man as a personal protection from the elements.

From its humble beginnings, leather has become a symbol of luxury. It is a versatile material with many practical benefits that derive from its natural qualities - durability, suppleness and attractive colours and surfaces.

Leather is the strongest upholstery material known to man, outwearing most textiles many times over. Tough enough for soles of shoes yet comfortable enough to be used for upholstery.

The finishes and aniline dyes are permanent and will never cause cracking, fading or peeling.

No two pieces of leather are ever the same, it constantly adjusts to its environment, mellowing with age so each piece will gain its own rich patina as it is used, cleaned and fed with wax.

The deep lustre that is created through long use only serves to increase the attraction of this natural and unique covering.

GLOSSARY OF LEATHER TERMS AND FINISHES

Aniline: The transparent dye used to colour leather all the way through. It conceals none of the natural characteristics or markings on the hide.

Antique/Distressed: Leather that has signs of natural ageing and wear that has been artificially created.

Corrected grain: Leather that has been buffed to remove any blemishes and embossed with a grain or decorative texture.

Full Grain: Top-grain leather with no corrections or alterations to the natural grain surface.

Natural Markings: Common leather markings include: shading variations, healed scratches, neck wrinkles, insect bites, stretch marks, barbed-wire, vein and brand marks. This is the way to distinguish real from fake leathers, however modern techniques now make it possible to replicate natural markings.

Nubuck: A top-grain, aniline dyed leather that is buffed to create a soft nap. Not a true suede, which is made from a less desirable 'split' hide. Due to vulnerability to stains, nubucks are often finished for protection.

Patina: A lustre or shine that develops with use over time. Usually associated with fine antiques and vintage furniture.

Pigmented Leather: Leather that is finished with a solid pigment coating for consistency of colour and texture. Pigment may be used to cover imperfections as well as aid protection. Also known as a painted finish.

Pull-Up: A full grain, aniline dyed leather that is waxed or oiled. When pulled the oils/wax migrate to become lighter in the pulled areas. A look associated with quality leathers.

Pure-Aniline: Top-grain leather that is aniline dyed and receives no other additional coating. Also known as full aniline or Naked aniline.

Savage: A mottled, tone-on-tone effect created by blending similar colours. Used to add depth and character to the leather.

Semi Aniline: Also known as Aniline-plus or protected Aniline. Top-Grain leather that is aniline dyed and coated with matching pigment and/or other topical finishes to even out the colour and add protection.

Split: The bottom layers of a hide that has been split-off from the Top-grain leather, then pigmented and sueded. Generally a stiffer, cheaper and less durable leather.

Top coat: A transparent, protective coating applied to the leather surface.

Top-Grain: The uppermost layer of the hide. This is the highest quality part of the hide and the most preferred for upholstery applications.

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