



# Leather Care

## **COWHIDE / POLISHED LEATHERS**

These leathers generally can be cared for in the same way. It is important to note however, that some are lighter weight than others and therefore need some extra care.

### **CARE:**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with brush or rag.
2. Clean thoroughly with leather conditioner or leather balm.
3. Apply a thin coat of neutral shoe cream, then brush or rub with a soft cloth until luster is obtained.
4. For a high luster, apply a thin coat of wax polish, neutral paste on light colors, matching polish on dark colors. Brush or rub again.

## **NAKED FINISH LEATHERS**

The natural top grain of the leather, including the scars and blemishes, is totally visible. These leathers have their own special needs.

### **CARE:**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with soft brush or rag.
2. Clean with soft brush.
3. Do not use conditioners as the leather may become darkened.
4. Protect these leathers in the same way as suede. New boots should be treated with 2 coats of Water & Stain Protector. Allow to dry between coats for maximum protection.
5. Keep free of mud and drying elements.

## **OIL IMPREGNATED LEATHERS**

These leathers are tanned using oils to protect and lubricate the fiber. They are generally thicker leathers and are considered work leathers although often used for casual wear.

### **CARE:**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with brush or rag.
2. Replenish oils with an all-purpose conditioner.

## **SUEDES / SNUFFED FINISH LEATHERS**

Suedes have a nap finish achieved with a medium abrasive paper. Snuffed finish preserves the natural grain by lightly removing the elevated surfaces.

*Napa and Sueded Shrunk Shoulder*

### **CARE:**

1. New boots should be treated with 2 coats of Water & Stain Protector. Allow to dry between coats for maximum protection.
2. Keep free of mud and drying elements.
3. Clean with nylon brush.
4. On snuffed grain, use a fine abrasive paper lightly on the areas that are already snuffed.

## **EXOTICS**

These leathers are all unique with their own properties and needs. Some are tough and some need pampering. Although some can be cared for much like other leathers, be sure to check the recommended care for each kind.

### **CARE: Alligator, Caiman,**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with brush or rag.
2. Apply Reptile Conditioner with a soft cloth.
3. Let dry then buff with a soft cloth.
4. Apply thin coats of conditioner often.

### **CARE: Kangaroo**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with brush or rag.
2. Clean thoroughly with leather conditioner or leather balm.
3. Apply a thin coat of neutral shoe cream, then brush or rub with a soft cloth until luster is obtained.
4. For a high luster, apply a thin coat of wax polish, neutral paste on light colors, matching polish on dark colors. Brush or rub again.

### **CARE: Ostrich**

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with brush or rag.
2. Apply Leather Conditioner with a soft cloth.
3. Let dry then buff with a soft cloth.
4. Apply thin coats of conditioner often.

### **CARE: Snakeskins**

Snakeskins are hard and dry with irregular surfaces. They do not absorb conditioner well, so frequently apply thin coats of conditioners to keep them from splitting. They are vulnerable to dust settling in creases and causing damage. They depend on good care...even if they are just sitting in the closet.

1. Remove loose dirt or dust with a brush or rag. Wipe against the scales in order to remove the dust and dirt, then wipe with the grain of the scales.
2. Apply Reptile Conditioner with a soft cloth with the grain of the scales.
3. Rub or buff with a soft cloth until luster is obtained.
4. Apply thin coats of conditioner often.
5. Since rattlesnake is tanned differently, no cream or polish is required to preserve its natural beauty. Simply brush clean.