

# Maintenance leather

Wildspirit works with the best-regarded tanneries in Europe. During a very specialized process, hides are turned into highly durable leather of the highest quality. Leather is a natural product. Every piece of leather has its own living grain and color nuances. Natural characteristics such as neck folds, small closed flaws, open pores, dung stains, insect bites, stretch marks or a ridge line can be discernible. Slight variations in color and veins, and small imperfections in the leather should be considered as particular characteristics of the material, which contributes to the uniqueness of the product. These unique characteristics give the leather its individual character, its warm and living patina and its natural beauty. Exactly for that reason, Wildspirit decided only to work with these types of leather. Very uniform leather is all too often artificially treated. This causes it to lose character and often also quality. For these reasons Wildspirit only works with the highest quality of pure aniline leather.

Your quality leather seating deserves sound maintenance. Most problems with leather are the result of years of faulty maintenance. Wildspirit staff is always at your disposal should you require further information or assistance.

#### A Preventive maintenance

- Unpack the furniture immediately after reception. While unpacking the goods always use a scissors so that you do not cut the leather cushions
- In spite of severe quality control of our products before shipment, it can happen that possible faults have escaped from our attention. Please control the goods immediately after reception, check: the reference, the color, etc. Faults have to be reported immediately within 7 days. Used or installed goods can not be taken back.
- Avoid exposing the leather cushions to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. The sunlight will bleach the surface as well as making the skin dry out and even crack.
- Avoid using or placing sharp objects (belts, buckles, studs from jeans trousers, zips,...) on the leather cushions. Leather cushions are very durable, but not accident or damage proof.
- In order to keep the leather at its best, we recommend protecting it from water, oils (make-up) and alcohol (perfume).
- Beware of not placing the chair upholstered with leather cushion too near to direct strong heat sources such as open fires, heat outlets, or sources of damp. Make sure that the leather cushion doesn't dry out, as this will affect its suppleness and softness of touch. The ideal humidity is 55% to 65%.

## B Daily maintenance

Our products do not require high levels of maintenance but regular care will protect and maintain its beauty and quality.

Once a week use a clean, moist cloth and distilled water. Use the cloth only for your Wildspirit cushions and only work with pure water that will exclude any traces of soap, detergent or other solvents that can damage your leather.

## C Maintain twice a year

To keep your leather in optimal condition, maintain it once or twice a year (for example in the spring and in the fall) with leather soap and cream. Proceed as follows:

- Dissolve an ample 5 ml teaspoon of soap in 3 or 4 liters of tepid water.
- Wash the leather with this soap solution using a soft sponge.
- Carefully rinse with a chamois and pure water and dry off with a soft cloth.
- Allow the leather to dry out thoroughly and afterwards rub it in with leather cream. Do not apply the cream too thickly. Don't ever apply cream to a piece of leather furniture which has not first been thoroughly cleaned: if you do, you will cause dirt to get stuck in the pores of the leather.
- Finally, polish the chair up a bit with a dry soft cloth.

### D Stain removal

Don't ever attack marks with solvents or chemical products. Liquids need to be quickly patted dry. You can try to rub fat marks away with a soft white rubber. Other marks can be treated with pure water and a little non-alkaline glycerin soap.

Always try your treatment beforehand on an invisible patch. And above all, don't be impatient: often the mark will fade into the overall patina of the leather after a while.

- Warning: Certain products found in most homes can cause irreparable damage to your leather. Bleaches, tile cleaners, mildew removers, oven cleaners and drain openers are very strong chemicals that can discolor or even dissolve the leather cushion.
- Simple soap and water on a sponge is generally all that any of our skins will ever need.
- Prompt attention to spots and spills is essential. The following recommendations should be used for spot cleaning:

#### Water soluble stains.

Remove solids from a spill by gently scraping with a spoon or dull knife. Immediately wet a cotton towel with cold water, wring it out and place over the stain. When the towel is saturated replace it with a fresh one until the stain doesn't give off anymore dirt. Leave the cotton bath towel to dry. Never scrub or rub abrasively as a fuzzy area may result. You should be very careful with dyed paper towels. Spots of the dyestuff of the patterns are extremely difficult to remove. Therefore use always a bath towel to absorb the liquid. Take special care not to over saturate with water, this can cause water marking and discoloration.

#### Oil or grease.

Wipe excess off the leather with a clean, dry soft cloth. Do not apply water to try to wash a grease spot; instead use a special cleaner which will break down the oils. For more engrained stains or dirt, the use of a gentleman's shaving brush is very effective in drawing out the engrained stains and dirt from the leather preventing it from being vigorously rubbed with the soft damp cloth. Apply the shaving brush to hot or boiling water before using with the cleaner enabling the heat of the brush to draw the oils from the grain effectively. Then allow drying. Do not force dry by using a hair dryer.

- When the spot is removed, take a soft suede brush and brush a slightly larger area than the original stain so that it matches better.
- Only use specific cleaning products that are guaranteed for use on skins
- If a cushion gets seriously wet, you need to take special care to prevent the leather suffering as it dries. Blot carefully with a dry towel to remove excess water. Allow to air dry naturally at room temperature and keep away from sunlight or direct heat.
- With some stains, it may be necessary to experiment on a very small area with water or solvent to determine what will dissolve the substance. Always try the cleaning method in a hidden area first to convince yourself of the results.
- When the above recommended processes do not remove the spot, the services of a good professional cleaner (with a wide range of materials and processes available) are recommended.

