



3922 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60613
Tues - Sat, Noon - 7pm

773-296-0690
www.shel-don.com

LEATHER CARE

Moisture and Dryness on Leather

Extreme dryness can cause cracking. When the natural leather oils start to dry up due to wear and time, then a conditioner is highly recommended to revitalize its look and feel. Extreme moisture should be avoided as the fibers will loosen and weaken. Molding may also occur.

Storing Leather Garments

To keep the leather from aging due to excess dryness or exposure to moisture make sure all leather garments are kept in a well ventilated area. Exposure to sunlight for a long period of time can dry out the leather and cause the color to fade. We recommend hanging all items on padded wooden hangers to minimize wrinkles. Never store in hot places.

Cleaning Your Leather Garment

A new leather item comes with its natural protection and conditioner. It is not necessary to use a conditioner the first year depending on how often you use the item and how well you take care of it. A great way to clean leather is to use a warm damp cloth just enough to clean the surface. It is important to clean stains ASAP to prevent stains from settling. This is the best and most conventional way to clean the leather yourself. It is cost effective and the leather will keep its original luster. If oil or ink stains seep and settle into the leather, then the stain will be permanent.

Using Conditioners

Leathers have different finishes and tanning methods. There are also many conditioners, sprays, and oils available that it is important to first test out the conditioner on the inside or corner of the garment as it may not produce the result you are looking for. When buying any sprays or conditioners be sure that you have the right product for what you want to accomplish. Understand that a conditioner can also be a water repellent but most don't protect against water damage. Always follow directions and apply conditioner

Mink Oil

Black leather along with very dark colors can be rejuvenated with the magic of mink oil spray. The mink oil will darken the hide, adding color, as well as waterproofing and conditioning. If you spray it on be sure to spray it evenly.

How Often To Apply Conditioners

How often you have to waterproof and condition depends on the amount of exposure your items have to the elements and how much the article absorbs the conditioner. Once a year is standard, but constant wear can be more strenuous on leather and can mean more applications. Keep in mind that over-conditioning an item can make it oily.

Removing Odors From The Leather

Unfortunately odors cannot be removed from the leather. Leather items have a strong scent that will last awhile. Conditioning can keep its smell and ventilation can air out unwanted smells.

Using Cleaners

If treated carefully and conditioner applied regularly most leather garments do not need to go to the cleaners. Remember the beauty of the leather is its characteristics with aging and how well it breaks in and molds to your body. Items that are still dirty after conditioning may need to be professionally cleaned. However, dry cleaning chemicals can cause fading, shrinkage and loss of luster. Dry cleaning is recommended as a final option.