

## LEATHER COLOR & TEXTURE



How does the leather get its color?

**Answer:** The leather hides are stripped of all colors and then drum dyed with color and pigment to ensure color consistency. The pigment ensures fade resistance and helps the leather wear over time. You can expect color variation from hide to hide; due to the fact leather is a natural product and will absorb dye differently.

What is drum dyeing?

**Answer:** Leather is soaked in a large drum to allow the dye to penetrate all the way through the hide. The advantage here is if the top layer of the leather product gets scratched, the layer underneath is the same color, so it is not as visible.

How is leather made soft and pliable?

**Answer:** This is part of the finishing process. A variety of coatings are placed on the leather to protect the leather and produce effects pleasing to the eye and hand. The end use of the leather determines the type of finish process to be applied. Each type requires different physical properties in the finish. Flexibility and resistance to water and wear are a few of the required properties in the finish.

How should leather products be cleaned?

**Answer:** Use a reputable wax-free leather conditioner to clean most types of leather. Test the conditioner in a hidden area with a soft, clean cloth to ensure the conditioner is compatible with the leather. Once you have determined the leather conditioner is compatible with your leather item, follow the instructions on the leather conditioner.