



Type in 'how to care for leather' into Google and the results are infinite. Saturated with different leather care products and recommendations, it makes it difficult to decide which approach to adopt. However, Abbey are here to help.

Having received advice from leather tanners and curriers J E Sedgwick and J Clayton & Sons and sharing our own experience with leather, we have compiled a list of top tips to help prolong the life of your leather *and* that are cost free (well almost!).

1. Fundamentally, treat your leather like you do your skin! Leather is still living and breathing and therefore it must be kept nourished and fed, particularly in hotter climates.
2. How? Make sure your leather is kept moist by applying a wax such as Abbey Saddle food or Sedgwick's Leathercare and gently apply. This will prevent your leather from drying out and will keep it well fed! If the bridle leather dries out at any time it will be more prone to water spotting and other damage. In addition, as there is an increased chance of drying out during transport and also during production of bridles, fashion belts, briefcases etc. we recommend that you feed the leather before point of sale every time.



Top tips for taking care of your leather.



3. Do not store leather in direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time as the leather will begin to bleach and may cause colour discrepancies. Your skin is sensitive to UV rays and so is your leather. However, if this is unavoidable we would recommend using Fiebing UV Leather Shield which is available from www.abbeyengland.com. It will protect the colour of your leather by applying the shield on a monthly basis.
4. Avoid your leather from being scored by keeping it away from sharp edges and animal claws.
5. If grit and dirt is left to build up to excessive levels this could cause an abrasive effect. Wipe regularly with a dry clean cloth.
6. Do not keep your leather near intense heat sources such as open fires and avoid storing your leather in damp areas.
7. If spills occur react as soon as possible before the liquid sets. Use a damp clean cloth to wipe and leave to dry.
8. Do not use furniture polish, abrasive cleaners, varnishes or any ammonia based products as these products may contain solvents which can break down the protective coatings of the leather.

Although this advice seems obvious, people do not practice every 'top tip'. Invest your time into looking after your leather and it *will* reward you in future years.

Abbey England.