



# LEATHER UPHOLSTERY

## Basic Cleaning of Nubuck

### INTRODUCTION

A Nubuck leather will have a varied hue, will be soft and will scratch readily with a fingernail. Complete stain removal may be more difficult on Nubuck. The lighter the color, the more they will show. You need to watch for fading and evaluate the evenness of the nap of the leather. The nap can rub off wherever there is a lot of friction (e.g. end of the seat cushions, arm rests, etc.). To determine if you are cleaning Nubuck, refer to the identification brochure.

### PROCEDURE

- **STEP 1**  
Test for safety and results. Clean an inconspicuous panel of leather - usually the side of the cushion. Wrap **Nubuck Cloth** around a sponge and rub back and forth on the leather. Look to see if the **Nubuck Cloth** scratched the leather. You may need to break in a **Nubuck Cloth** in inconspicuous areas. Use gently on some Nubuck leathers. Apply **Strong Cleaner** to a sponge and squeeze repeatedly to create foam. Rub foam onto the panel of leather in a circular motion and wipe off dirt with **Terry Cloth Towel**. Dry panel with hair dryer. Inspect your sponge to see if the color of the leather came off on the sponge. If no color is seen, proceed with the cleaning. Some Nubuck leathers can only be safely cleaned with a **Nubuck Cloth**.
- **STEP 2**  
Clean entire sofa with a **Nubuck Cloth** to remove as much soil as possible.
- **STEP 3**  
Use **Strong Cleaner** and clean from panel to panel, drying each panel as you go with hair dryer or **Air King**. After entire sofa is cleaned, re-clean any panels that appear to be dirtier than others.
- **STEP 4**  
Apply **Nubuck Eco-Protector** and dry each section as you go. It is better to apply two light coats than one heavy coat.

- **STEP 5**  
After the protector is applied, brush the leather to raise up and even out the nap. You may use a clean dry sponge, a **Brass Velvet Brush** or a **Horsehair Brush**.

### Chemicals Needed



**Strong Cleaner**  
**Type:** Water-based leather cleaner  
**Highlights:** Removes soil and oil buildup on leather.



**Nubuck Eco-Protector**  
**Type:** Water-based leather protector  
**Highlights:** Protects against oil-water-alcohol-based stains and other soiling.

### Accessories Needed



**Sponges**  
**Description:** Absorbent material  
**Purpose:** Used with **Strong Cleaner** to create foam for cleaning Aniline. Aids in agitation and soil absorption.



**Nubuck Cloth**  
**Description:** Lint-free cloth  
**Purpose:** Used for cleaning most soiling on Nubuck leathers.



**Terry Cloth Towels**  
**Description:** 15"x26" Absorbent terry cloth  
**Purpose:** Removes chemical and soil during leather cleaning.



**Hair Dryer**  
**Description:** Drying tool  
**Purpose:** Aids in the rapid drying of leather and curing of protector.



**Brass Velvet Brush**  
**Description:** Brush  
**Purpose:** Fluffs and finishes fine velvets.



**Horsehair Brush**  
**Description:** Brush  
**Purpose:** Agitates chemicals on upholstery.



**Air King**  
**Description:** High volume air mover  
**Purpose:** Aids in rapid drying of leather after cleaning.

## HELPFUL HINTS –



- 1 Restorative cleaning may be necessary due to a collection of oil and food stains, partial fading and ink marks (you can learn these procedures in the Leather Specialist Class).
- 2 Many pieces may have heavy oils in arm and headrests that do not come out in normal cleaning. An application of **Leather Degreaser** may be necessary to remove these oils.

**CAUTION** – Nubuck will require more time and product to clean/protect than Aniline and Protected leather. In heavily soiled areas, “like-new” results may be more difficult to achieve. Suggest to the customer more frequent cleaning to avoid the necessity of restorative measures.



## Quick Guide



### PROCEDURE

- 1 Pre-inspect and clean an inconspicuous panel with **Strong Cleaner**.
- 2 Clean entire piece with **Nubuck Cloth**.
- 3 Clean with **Strong Cleaner** and dry each panel as you go.
- 4 Apply **Nubuck Eco-Protector** evenly over piece and dry. Apply second coat to heavy use areas.
- 5 After the protector is applied, brush the leather to raise up and even out the nap using a clean dry sponge, a **Brass Velvet Brush** or a **Horsehair Brush**.

### PRODUCTS

- Strong Cleaner
- Nubuck Eco-Protector
- Nubuck Cloth
- Sponges
- Terry Cloth Towel
- Hair Dryer
- Brass Velvet Brush
- Horsehair Brush
- Air King

## Other Resources

Leather Specialist Training Manual and Course  
Leather Cleaning and Repair Video  
Bridgepoint Website • [www.bridgepoint.com](http://www.bridgepoint.com)  
Customer Service • 1-800-794-7425