



# DIRECTIONS FOR USE

## Aniline Dye Stain

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### Summary

- 1) Work area
  - 2) Vacuum
  - 3) Surface Prep
  - 4) Aniline Dye Stain
  - 5) Optional: Topcoat (Sold separately)
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### 1) Work area

Lay down drop sheets to protect your work area and ensure good ventilation.

### 2) Vacuum

Vacuum to remove pet hair, dust and loose particles.

### 3) Surface Prep

Spray Spot & Prep (No.4) on one area at a time. A scrubbing brush can be used to agitate into the grain. Use a cloth to wipe away dirt and grime from the leather using moderately firm pressure. There may be little to no sign of soiling on the cloth. Continue cleaning regardless. Work fast as unfinished and porous leathers absorb liquids quickly and the cleaner flashes off quickly. Repeat until all areas are thoroughly clean and free of soiling, oils, silicones, waxes and emollients. Apply extra cleaner and scrubbing on greasy areas. The aim is to remove grease from the surface as its not possible to remove it from the inner structure.

#### Optional: Smooth rough areas

Whilst it's not necessary to sand all areas, if there are areas that are rough to touch, smooth them by sanding with 800 - 1000 grit sandpaper. The aim is to remove any loose or flaking coatings, smooth surface irregularities, and if

applying Topcoat (No.7) over the dyed areas, sanding keys the surface to promote a good bond between the substrate and new coatings. When done, wipe over to remove dust.

## 4) Dye Stain

### Colour test

Test in an inconspicuous place (between cushions, low on the back, underneath or inside (handbags or inside zippered cushions), apply a small spot then allow to dry. If the colour is too dark or intense, it can be diluted with water and/or IPA. For most applications, dilution is not necessary. If you think that the colour is not intense enough, apply a second and third application and allow drying. If the colour needs adjustment to suit your leather, blend in other colours (sold separately) to achieve the right colour for your job.

### Application method

Aniline Dye Stain (No.29) can be applied with a sponge, spray gun, airbrush or spray bottle. The stain penetrates the fibres. A second or third application can further intensify or darken the colour. Apply more where needed; ie where there's high levels of UV fading.

To apply, pour Aniline Dye Stain (No.29) onto a sponge and squeeze to incorporate it. Start at the back or in a low priority area. Working quickly, draw the sponge over the surface using moderately firm even strokes. Experiment to find the most suitable stroke for your leather; eg, long straight lines, circular or cross-hatch. Continue applying until all areas or the desired areas are dyed.

Dye stain boosts the colour and rarely produces completely even colouration because of the organic, fibrous nature of leather and variable levels of coatings between worn areas and as-new areas. This unevenness can render a pleasing soft mottled effect. It can help to allow a couple of days for the dye to settle and dry. Unwanted unevenness can be rectified by the use of Colour Restoration Cream (No.32) (sold separately) over the dye stain.

### Optional trouble shooting:

#### Manage dry and porous leather

Parched leather may absorb the product very quickly. To control or slow absorption, try the following:

- 1) Work more quickly so that you cover maximum area whilst the sponge is full
- 2) Dilute the Aniline Dye Stain (No.29) to extend the product then apply multiple applications as needed
- 3) Dampen the leather with water using a spray bottle or cloth. This can help to disperse the dye evenly and can help the product go further
- 4) Apply 2 coats of Prime (No.5) after surface prep (cleaning and sanding) (sold separately). This can lightly seal the surface, thereby slowing absorption.

## 5) Optional: Topcoat

When colour work is done, allow 2 or more days drying time then apply 2 coats of clear topcoat for extra protection and to prevent dye transfer onto skin and clothing. When the colour coats are dry, apply topcoat using a sponge, roller or spray-gun. Allow drying. Apply a second and final coat. Prioritise high traffic areas. Allow to dry.

Prevent freshly coated faces touching until they are dry.

Note: Matte topcoat is best applied with a spray gun

### Drying time

Dyed leather can be dry within 30 mins to 1 hour.

If Topcoat is applied over the dyed leather, allow around 2 days before using the leather again. The coatings are touch dry in 30 mins, dry in 2 days and fully cured in 14 days. Treat the coatings with care to avoid scratches, scuffs or other damage. Don't use covers such as sheets or blankets in the first 2 weeks as fibres from the fabrics may embed in the soft coatings and pull them off when lifted.

This make-over process can be repeated as needed. Refresh intervals vary depending on the type and condition of the leather as well as the amount and type of use the leather receives.

## Tips

- When dying, work quickly and use even pressure
- If using Topcoat (No.7) or Colour Restoration Cream (No.32), follow this process
  - Spot & Prep (No.4)
  - Aniline Dye Stain (No.29)
  - Colour Restoration Cream (No.32) or Topcoat (No.7) or both in that order
- If using coatings, avoid touching the leather between coats during the restoration process as body oils could compromise coatings adhesion
- Mild sunshine, a room heater or a hair dryer can be used to speed drying between each coat of Topcoat.

## Maintenance

This make-over process can be repeated as needed. Refresh intervals vary depending on the type and condition of the leather as well as the amount and type of use the leather receives. Some fading can be expected in high UV environments.

## After care

After 7 or more days of drying, condition with Nubuck, Suede & Aniline Nourish (No.11) (also available in a kit with Nubuck, Suede & Aniline Cleanse (No.10) and protect with Protect (No.3) (always do a test spot first) if no additional shine is desired. Waxy Care Kit can be used if shine is desired.

## More details

- **Ideal for:** Re-dying aniline, semi-aniline, waxed and oil pull-up leather or any leather project where new coatings are needed.
- **Use with:** The Leather Hero range of products
- **Application schedule:** As needed.
- **Application method:** By hand using a sponge, brush or foam roller or by spray gun
- **Best accessories:** Microfiber cloth, applicator sponge, sandpaper, brush, gloves.
- **Instructions:** On the bottles, under the How To tab and Directions For Use tab on the Repair & Recolour Kit listing on [www.leatherhero.com.au](http://www.leatherhero.com.au)
- **Drying time:** Touch dry in 1 hour, dry in 2 days and cured in 14 days.

- **Time before use:** 2 or more days where possible.
- **Available separately:** All products are available for purchase separately.
- **Test before use:** Test products in a hidden location before use.
- **Storage:** Store in a dark, dry place with the lids on tight. Avoid bacterial contamination.
- **Results:** Each piece of leather is unique. There are many makers of leather using a vast array of tannery treatments to create leathers with different characteristics. In optimal circumstances, this kit is capable of producing results that last for many years. That said, results and durability vary. The type, quality and condition of the leather, whether the full and correct process was used when applying the products, the amount and type of use the leather receives and the amount and type of leather care applied after repairing and recolouring all impact results and durability. The products are designed to let you restore and maintain the colour coatings on your leather as needed for the life of the leather.