

FORTIVO HOME SHOP

A NO-FUSS GUIDE TO KEEP YOUR LEATHER ITEMS LOOKING BRAND-NEW



RECOLORING LEATHER BALM

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What are the items I can restore using the leather balm?

Our leather restoring balm is a versatile tool meant to bring out your leather and vinyl items' elegance and shine. The balm's miraculous agent can repair minor scratches, dents, fading, and discoloration on all kinds of absorbent leathers.

The balm can remedy minor damages, slight cracking, and freshen up the color of your leather. Aside from leather furniture, FORTIVO recoloring balm can also be used on jackets, shoes, saddles, belts, purses, gloves, and tool pouches.

In order for the balm to work, the leather you plan to apply the agent must be absorbent. The balm works by soaking into the fiber structure of the leather so the color is in the leather rather than *on the leather*.

To know if the leather is absorbent, place a drop of water on the surface of the worn or damaged area. If the water soaks inside the leather, it is considered to be absorbent. As the water soaks in, the leather will become darker.

What are the things I need to prepare beforehand?



1) It is recommended to test the leather balm in an inconspicuous corner. This way, you can determine if the surface is compatible with the agent. Do take note that some types of leather are more absorbent than others.

2) The leather balm is available in three different colors. It blends with the leather to enhance its color when applied. The amount of balm you apply to the material affects the shade of the finished product.

3) Determine which color you need and the type of shade you want for your leather items.

4) Prepare water to test if the leather is absorbent. Be sure to leave the water on the surface for at least 1 minute.

5) You will need a clean piece of cloth to test if the leather or vinyl surface has no residue of the balm left.



Step by Step Instructions

- 1)** Clean the damaged area and remove any bits of leather debris. Dust and dirt prevents the balm from soaking unto the leather. Ensure that the area being repaired is dry before proceeding to the next step.
- 2)** Put a sufficient amount of balm on the sponge and apply by dabbing it over the repair area. Feel free to go over the same area multiple times to achieve the desired finish. You can wipe it off with a cloth when wet if you don't like the results.
- 3)** Allow it to dry for several hours. You can enhance the color further by reapplying the balm and repeating the steps.
- 4)** Grab a clean cloth and both the leather, rotating the cloth as you go until there is no more color transferring onto the cloth

- 5) We recommend using a final coat of leather wax, polish or conditioner on top to improve the life of the leather.
- 6) Please visit our resource center for detailed how-to repair videos, e-books and more. We highly recommend watching the step-by-step instructions video before you begin your repair.
- 7) Visit www.fortivoshop.com/resource-center.html or quickly scan the code below using the camera on your phone!



Scan me!



How can I maintain my leather items?



- 1)** No matter what kind of leather you have, it needs to breathe. Make sure you store your leather items in a properly ventilated area to prevent mildew and rot from damaging your leather's condition.
- 2)** You might think it's a good idea to dry your leather items after getting soaked. **BIG MISTAKE.** Never expose your leather from direct sunlight or heat. When leather gets wet and heated right away, they might shrink. Also, sunlight hastens leather's fading process.
- 3)** Leather requires impeccable maintenance. To prevent them from aging prematurely, clean them regularly using a damp cloth. This habit prevents your leather from accumulating dirt, dust, and abrasive particles.

- 4) Applying protective and conditioning creams is also an excellent measure to uphold your leather items' condition. Like lotions to human skin, these products rejuvenate leathers and lengthens its lifespan while maintaining their supple feel and shiny luster.
- 5) When your leather ends up accumulating scratches, minor damages, and fading, it is best to treat them using a recoloring balm.
- 6) If you need to restore the color to damaged areas, you need to consider how the actual damage looks. These areas need to be of a lighter color than the surrounding non-damaged leather



How to condition your leather



Why condition your leather?

Regardless of what kind of leather you have, it's critical to condition them every once in a while. When you use your leather items in a daily basis, exposing them to dust, debris, grime, and moisture. Conditioning your leather is an absolute **MUST** if you want them to survive your daily use and abuse.

What will happen if you neglect leather conditioning?

Leather, like our skin, needs moisture. When they run out of moisture, they start to lose their natural oils and they get less flexible overtime. They become more fibrous, gets wrinkled, flaky, and develop the unsightly cracks we all hate. Plus, having an expert to restore them can be expensive.

1) **Find the best leather conditioner—or make one yourself!**

Several leather conditioning products flock the market, but finding the right one is not a piece of cake. Take time to check all the ingredients in your chosen product. Oils like mink oil, essential lemon oil, leather honey oil, coconut oil, and virgin olive oil are viable options. Products with beeswax and natural baby soap is are also an excellent choice.

Homemade recipes with these ingredients are one click away. But make sure to test your conditioning agent—homemade or not, in a small are in your materials.

2) **Lather gently**

Put a small quantity of your leather condition on a soft cloth. Rub the agent softly. Repeat this process every month to keep your leather items such as jackets, shoes, purses, and upholstery in their pristine shape.





1) Bleach

Dilute the affected area with cold water. Use a soft and clean cloth to clean the spilled bleach. Keep in mind that dabbing gently will prevent the bleach from going spreading or seeping deeply in your leather. If there are traces of discoloration or fading, use FORTIVO's recoloring leather balm.

2) Blood stains

If the blood stain is dry, gently brush using a brush with firm bristles. Soak a sponge in soda water and dab the stained area. Pat the surface dry using a clean cloth. Afterwards, sponge the area with a weak solution of washing-up liquid and cold water. Again, dab the leather dry. If the stain still refuses to come off, use a leather cleaner agent.

3) Burn marks

Soak a sponge in a mixture of water and glycerine, apply on the affected area, and leave it for an hour. Afterwards, sponge with cold water and repeat the process until the burn marks disappear.

4) Candle wax

Wait for the wax to settle. Scratch or peel the hardened wax using your fingers or a stiff brush. You can also use a hairdryer on low setting to melt the wax. Use a paper to wipe the melted wax and apply a leather cleaner agent to remove any residue.

5) Chewing gum

Use an ice bag and hold it against the chewing gum. Peel the gum from the leather and use a dampened cloth with white spirit to rub the residual stains. Be sure to spot test first before applying.

6) Crayon or make-up

Pour a few drops of washing-up liquid in water to create a mixture. Apply gentle strokes in a circular motion from the outer area, slowly working your way to the center.

After the mixture dries, sprinkle with talcum powder. Add a few drops of washing-up liquid and leave the area untouched for 24 hours. Brush off the excess powder and apply your choice of leather cleaner.

