

# TANNER BATES

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## TRADITIONAL ENGLISH LEATHERWORK

### **Care of your Devon Messenger Bag**

This Devon Messenger Bag is a unique product made from equestrian hides originally tanned for stirrup leathers and bridles. It is hand-stitched with 1mm braided polyester thread which doesn't rot unlike the traditional linen. Your bag is extremely tough and doesn't mind rough treatment. It even looks better as a result. To keep it looking in tip top condition give occasional dressings of Hide Food and polish with a shoe brush - similar to the treatment needed for saddles and bridles

Before leaving the tannery our leather is treated with a blend of waxes and oils which among other things offer suppleness and water resistance. With time and use the oak bark tanned leather softens and more flexible.

To maintain durability apply Tanner Bates Hide Food every 6 months or so. Rub into the outside grain of the leather and leave to absorb. If this is done in the evening any residue that is left not absorbed in the morning can be removed with a horsehair brush.

**If your bag is used in wet conditions** we recommend a water resistant wax eg Renapur or Nikwax Leather and Fabric Protector to maintain water resistance. **This is important as there is a slight chance of dye staining in wet conditions.** Apply Renapur sparingly. Too much gives an unpleasant sticky finish. The manufacturers say that if you can see it you have put on too much. In the beginning apply it every day for 5 days and you will see the water resistance build up as water beads off the surface without affecting the appearance of your leather. This product can also be used on outdoor footwear.

If your product gets wet leave to dry naturally in the open before applying a feed. With care leather will give many years of service and grow more beautiful in the process.

Tanner Bates Hide Food is a preparation supplied to us by our tannery with the correct pH and make up of oils to suit this oak bark tanned leather.

If your bag is left unused for some time you may see a white residue on the outside surface. This can be removed with a shoe brush rather than a cloth.

Direct heat on leather causes permanent marking, localised weakening and drying. Do not place next to a radiator. Avoid leaving the bag for prolonged periods on floors with underfloor heating.

The lining is treated with an acrylic sealer and can be cleaned with a moist cloth and if necessary a very mild soap. Avoid wetting.

Think that's all but if any other info you can offer through experience with your Devon Messenger Bag please let us know.