

TRAINING MANUAL



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Leather Care & Advice Services.



Leather Repair Company

leatherrepaircompany.com

INDEX OF CONTENTS

1/ Introduction to LRC UK & Complaints Procedure Page 3

2/ Setting Up Your Business Page 5

3/ Health & Safety of Products Page 7

4/ All About Leather & Identification Page 11

5/ FAQ's Page 53

6/ Pocket Guide Page 61

7/ Stain Removal & Cleaning of Leather Page 94

8/ Leather Repairs & Restorations Page 112

9/ Colour Mixing Guides & Demos Page 143



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 1

Introduction to the Leather Repair Company & Complaints Procedure

Introduction to Leather Repair Company

The Leather Repair Company was set up many years ago with a view of giving the customer something better as far as a service was concerned compared to the competitors in the industry. Something of interest, value for money and a training course to remember, with the backup you need to ensure that your business was a success and that you had someone there at the end of the phone, email or fax you can rely on when you require help.

Formed in 1996, the Leather Repair Company has gone from strength to strength. Started off by a chap named Richard who first took a liking to Leather Care & Repair at the young age of 14 across the pond in the USA. To find out more about us and our company please see the reviews page.

Based in the Northeast of England. Providing leather repair & restoration services in many sectors including; leather furniture, leather car interior, leather clothing, luggage & handbags and any other leather items you can think of.. (yes, and those types!).

The magic happens on the sunny east coast of Yorkshire. Where careful thinking, care, love, and affection goes into every aspect of the leather industry. Manufacturers of high-quality products from leather cleaning kits to leather jacket repair kits, from leather conditioners to leather car interior kits. Our leather repair kits come in all shapes, sizes, and different colours.

We don't just manufacture leather products for the public. We supply other leather repair businesses. Hey, we even have customers as far as Australia & New Zealand. They don't order from halfway across the world for the fun of it. Our products are great!

Here at the Leather Repair Company, we even provide a training service. We have courses that fit people from all walks of life. It doesn't matter what your current skill set is, whether you're a beginner or an expert who wants to touch up on leather repair training. We're here to help, we have a course suitable for everyone. Sure, you might be in the hilly highlands of Scotland and can't make it to pretty little Yorkshire. Not a problem! We'll give you training sessions via webcam. All you need to do is request, book a date, make sure you have the correct equipment. And of course, grab a microphone so you can ask those vital questions.

We also provide a (nearly) nationwide repair service! Give us a call, see what we can do for you.

Failing that, we're always on the road. We travel all over the UK visiting various shows where we're more than willing to help the next customer with their questions. If we're at a show near you, we could even swing by and take a look at Granddads old leather sofa sat in the corner.

Our focus is on our customer care services and the products we manufacture here in sunny East Yorkshire. We don't just chuck a load of chemicals in a pot to give you some leather care products. We manufacture the finest Leather Care & Repair products period and will stop at nothing to ensure we are the market leaders at all times ahead of technology limits in some cases. Don't take our word for it read our review section.

The services cover leather and fabric on items such as furniture, car interior, upholstery, clothes, footwear, handbags, luggage, marine & aviation.

Complaints Policy of Restorers Limited t/as Leather Repair Company

Restorers Ltd t/as Leather Repair Company views complaints as an opportunity to learn and improve for the future, as well as a chance to put things right for the person or organisation that has made the complaint.

Our policy is:

- To provide a fair complaints procedure which is clear and easy to use for anyone wishing to make a complaint
- To publicise the existence of our complaints procedure so that people know how to contact us to make a complaint
- To make sure everyone at Restorers Ltd t/as Leather Repair Company knows what to do if a complaint is received
- To make sure all complaints are investigated fairly and in a timely way
- To make sure that complaints are, wherever possible, resolved and that relationships are repaired
- To gather information which helps us to improve what we do

Definition of a Complaint

A complaint is any expression of dissatisfaction, whether justified or not, about any aspect of Restorers Ltd t/as Leather Repair Company.

Where Complaints Come From

Complaints may come from any person or organisation who has a legitimate interest in Restorers Ltd t/as Leather Repair Company, after purchasing goods, having something restored / repaired or having taken up a training course.

A complaint can be received verbally, by phone, by email or in writing.

This policy does not cover complaints from staff, who should use Restorers Ltd t/as Leather Repair Company Discipline and Grievance policies.

Confidentiality

All complaint information will be handled sensitively, telling only those who need to know and following any relevant data protection requirements. Data protection No ZA117051.

Responsibility

Overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation lies with the board of directors.

Review

This policy is reviewed regularly and updated as required.

Adopted on 1st June 2014

Last reviewed 11th June 2022



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 2



Leather Repair
Company.®

Setting Up Your Business

Starting out and setting up a business is not easy by any means.

You don't need a licence to run a leather repair business, but you will need insurance to run your business, trying to run a business without cover is going to be a costly mistake.

How you present yourself to the public says a great deal about you as a company and the quality you offer.

Look at the competition in your area, getting a feeling of what they offer and how they operate, get them to supply you with prices see how they do things, then you can base your business and customer care service around this but make it even better. You have to stand out in the crowd, be unique and special.

Decide if you're going to buy a van, use your car to begin with or get a workshop?

Get an accountant

Get a company name

Get a logo

Get your business bank account

Get your social media accounts set up

Get a website

Get insurance

Get a uniform

Get a business plan

Leather Repair
Company. ®

Before you begin, make sure you understand your market, who your clients are, your brand voice and how you plan on marketing, always be professional and stay away from the noise of the internet, small video clips are informative and make sure you create a YouTube account to upload videos to and short, YouTube shorts need to be for less than 180 seconds.

Get to know social media formats as each platform has its own format, make sure adverts are based around each one.



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 3

Understanding Health & Safety of the Leather Repair & Care Products

Understanding the health & safety implications of using chemicals for leather repair

All our products are PU water based so are very environmentally friendly, apart from Gel Degreaser, Primer and Adhesion promotor and alcohol cleaner, these two items are solvent based products and require special care to be taken when storing and using these products.

All leather care products that you are disposing of should be contained within special containers and disposed of in the correct manner with the environment agency, you should not just pour the colourants and other water-based products down a drain.

Gel degreaser, primer and adhesion promotor and alcohol cleaner are solvent based products. Exposure to solvents can have serious effects on workers' health. If you use solvents or manage or supervise someone who does, or if you are involved in the specification of solvent-based products for use in profession, you need to be aware that: exposure can be a health hazard; and safe working practices must be used to minimise the risk of exposure.

Health effects Solvents can make you ill by:

- breathing in vapours - paints, paint strippers and glues give off solvent vapours as they dry, or cure and these vapours may be harmful. Deliberate inhalation of solvent vapours (glue sniffing) can kill;
- skin contact - some solvents can be absorbed through the skin. Repeated or prolonged skin contact with liquid solvents may cause dermatitis;
- eye contact - contact with liquid solvent and solvent vapour can cause irritation and inflammation;
- ingestion - solvents can be taken into the body on contaminated food, drink, and cigarettes. People have accidentally drunk solvents that have been kept in old, unlabelled drinks containers. The main effects of solvents are irritation of the skin, eyes and lungs, headache, nausea, dizziness, and light-headedness. Exposure can impair co-ordination, and this can make people more prone to accidents such as falling off ladders. People may lose concentration on important or difficult tasks, and they may react more slowly to dangerous situations. The effect can vary from person to person and will generally be made worse by drinking alcohol. Very high exposures can cause unconsciousness and even death, for instance where adhesives are used in unventilated confined spaces or where there are serious spillages. Other possible effects on health vary according to which solvent people are exposed to. Anyone who has been exposed to solvents and feels that their health has been affected should seek medical advice.

Legal provisions

Work with solvent-based products is subject to the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH), which require the health risk to be assessed and then prevented or controlled. Users will find information on the hazards on the containers, but they should also get information (often as 'Hazard Data Sheets') from manufacturers and suppliers. Users then need to consider how those hazards can be prevented or controlled.

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

If exposure cannot be adequately controlled in any other way, workers should wear PPE.

They may need to wear one or more of the following:

- Protective overalls
- Appropriate gloves that have been specially selected for use with solvents
- Face shields
- Respiratory protective equipment

Where ventilation does not provide adequate control. Half-mask respirators fitted with the appropriate filter may be sufficient in many instances, but a compressed airline breathing apparatus may be necessary where solvents are sprayed, or when working in a confined space. Those who need to wear PPE should be trained in its proper use and in its limitations. Store the equipment in clean, dry conditions away from chemicals - a locker would be suitable. PPE should be maintained and kept clean and fit for wear.

First aid

Anyone who appears to have been affected by solvents should be taken into the fresh air immediately and given appropriate first-aid treatment. Heavily contaminated clothing should be removed as soon as possible. Wash solvent splashes off the skin with plenty of water and cover any wounds with a suitable dressing. Splashes of solvent in the eye should be treated by washing the eye with water for at least 10 minutes before the injured person is transferred to hospital.

Hygiene

Good personal hygiene is very important. Facilities for washing and changing should be provided and workers should wash their hands before eating, drinking, smoking, and going to the toilet. Eating, drinking, and smoking should take place away from the work area. You should not smoke in areas where solvents are used - solvents passing through a cigarette can break down into even more harmful substances. Articles which become heavily contaminated with solvent should be removed immediately. Overalls and contaminated personal clothing should be laundered before being re-worn. It may be necessary to air them in a safe place first, to let the solvent evaporate off. Laundering should only be done by professional cleaners who have been told the nature of the contamination. Thinners, leather prep and alcohol cleaner should not be used to remove paint or grease from the skin, as this can cause the skin to become dry and inflamed. Proper cleaning materials, eg soap or other cleanser, should be provided and used.

Water Based Products

First Aid Measures

General: In all cases of doubt or when symptoms persist, seek medical attention. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Inhalation: Remove to fresh air, keep patient warm and at rest. If breathing has stopped, administer artificial respiration. Give nothing by mouth. If unconscious, place in the recovery position and seek medical advice.

Skin Contact:

Remove contaminated clothing. Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water or a recognised skin cleaner. DO NOT USE SOLVENT OR THINNERS.

Eye Contact:

Remove contact lenses. Irrigate copiously with clean, fresh water, holding the eyelids apart and seek medical advice. Ingestion: If accidentally swallowed obtain immediate medical attention. Keep at rest. DO NOT induce vomiting.

Fire Fighting Measures

The liquid products are 'non-flammable'. Extinguishing Media: Recommended: alcohol resistant foam, CO₂, powder, water spray/mist. Not to be used: water jet. Recommendations: Fire will produce dense black smoke containing hazardous products of combustion (see section 10). Exposure to decomposition products may be a hazard to health. Appropriate self-contained breathing apparatus may be required. Cool closed containers exposed to fire with water spray. Do not allow run off from firefighting to enter drains or watercourses.

Accidental Release Measures

Avoid breathing vapours. Contain and collect spillages with non-combustible absorbent materials e.g. sand, earth, vermiculite, diatomaceous earth and place in a suitable container for disposal in accordance with the waste regulations. Do not allow to enter drains or water courses. Clean preferably with a detergent; avoid use of solvents. If the product enters drains or sewers, immediately contact the local water company; in case of contamination of streams, rivers or lakes, the relevant environment agency.

Respiratory Measures

If exposure to hazardous substances identified above cannot be controlled by the provision of local exhaust ventilation and good general extraction, suitable respiratory protective equipment should be worn.

Dry sanding of the dry film will give rise to dust and/or hazardous fumes.

Hand Protection

When skin exposure may occur, advice should be sought from glove suppliers on appropriate types and usage times for this product. The instructions and information provided by the glove supplier on use, storage, maintenance, and replacement must be followed. Barrier creams may help to protect exposed areas of skin but are not substitutes for full physical protection. They should not be applied once exposure has occurred.

Eye Protection

Eye protection designed to protect against liquid splashes should be worn.

Skin Protection:

Cotton or cotton/synthetic overalls are normally suitable. Grossly contaminated clothing should be removed, and the skin washed with soap and water or a recognised skin cleaner. Regular skin inspection of users of this product is recommended. ALWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE EATING, SMOKING OR USING THE TOILET.

Transport Information

Transport within the user's premises: - Always transport in closed containers that are upright and secure. Ensure that persons transporting the product know what to do in the event of an accident or spillage.

Exposure Controls

Provide adequate ventilation. Where reasonably practicable this should be achieved by the use of local exhaust ventilation and good general extraction. If these are not sufficient to maintain concentrations of particulates and/or solvent vapours below the relevant Exposure Limit Values, suitable respiratory protection must be worn.



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 4

All About Leather & Identification

Learning Leather Identification & Understanding the different types

We will follow a procedure to identify all leather types by using a linen tester. With this tester you can look at the grain structure and see what a genuine hide is and one that is a false hide by having the grain impression heat pressed into the leather. Most modern furniture and car interiors are given a grain impression by tanneries with a huge heat press to apply a grain pattern to the leather.

The process to apply a grain pattern to leather is first of all make the hide nice and smooth by getting rid of imperfections, then give the hide an initial coating of colour.

Then once this is coated with the initial colour coat, a huge heat press / roller is then used to put the grain impression into the leather and then normally another two coats of colourant are applied on top of this. This type of leather is known as pigmented / top coated, the most common used leather in cars and on furniture.

Hides that are real hides are easy to spot as you can see real structure to the grain and some hair follicles are present on a hide, this can be seen by looking at the leather hide via a microscope, depending on the quality a linen tester can also be used.

Some leather can be very easily identified. Aniline leather, which is a very luxurious leather it is natural and is a dyed leather with no surface finish left on, it can be identified by placing a small drop of water in a hidden area onto the leather, if after a short while, this soaks in then you have an aniline leather, and this will require the aniline dyes for any repairs or restoration.

Getting to grips with how leather feels to the touch is very important. Aniline leathers have this luxurious super soft silk touch and feel to them, on the other hand a pigmented leather is more robust and rigid and has a plastic type feel to its finish and feels much colder to the touch compared to aniline leathers.

Something very nerdy....

Hides / Skins are made up of just three main ingredients

Water 60% -- 65%
Protein 25% -- 30%
Fats 5% -- 10%

The protein is mainly collagen (this will be found in many cosmetics) it's the collagen that is transformed into leather by the tanning process.

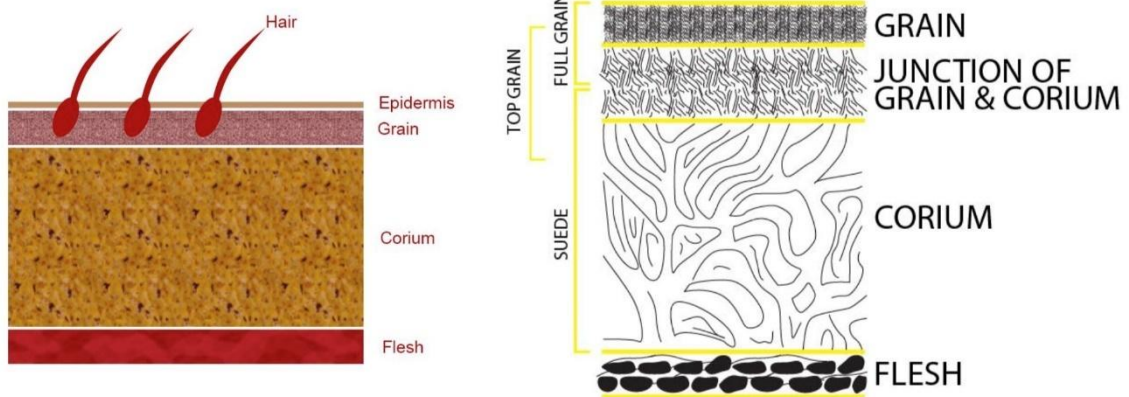
Raw skins / hides have four main parts - an epidermis, grain, corium and finally the flesh.

Two of these layers - the epidermis (a thin protective layer of cells during the life of an animal) and fleshy remains - are removed during tanning by a process called liming. This leaves just the grain and the corium.

All grains carry many distinctive marks such as insect bites, growth marks and wounds giving each leather skin its unique appearance.

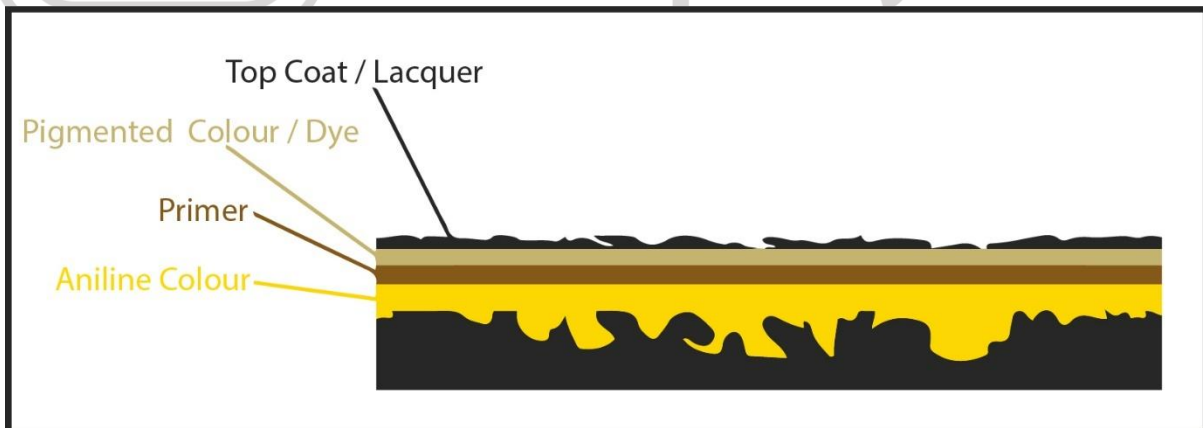
What is Leather and Where Do Skins Come From

What Does Leather Consist Of?



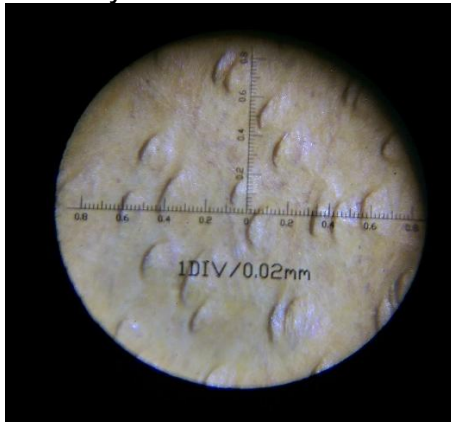
Leather Repair Company. ®

Understanding Skins and Layers

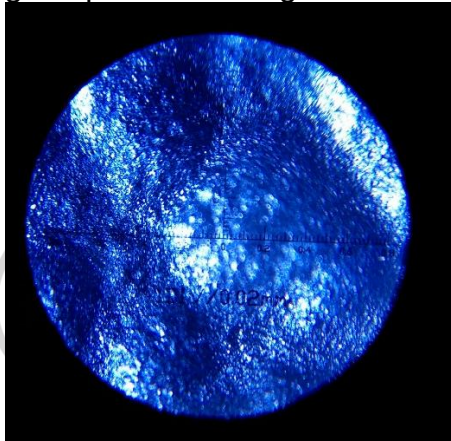


Looking at different leathers through a Microscope

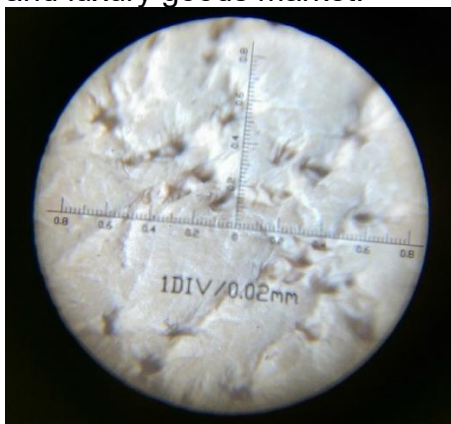
This is aniline leather through a microscope using a powerful 100x microscope look carefully at the structure and how it looks natural.



This is pigmented leather this is self-explanatory it's coated in a colour, filling in the grain pattern making it look smooth and plastic looking.



This is veg tanned leather, its natural, again its dyed using vegetable matter like bark etc. This is a full grain veg tanned leather sample, used a great deal in the handbag and luxury goods market.



Leather v Vinyl

This is a typical vinyl seat; leather never cracks like this.



Leather will always wear like this



Leather Glossary

All leather skins used in the manufacture of garments, shoes, accessories, and upholstery are by product of the food industry.

The different types of products used are as follows, Cow (Bovine), Horse (Equine), Lamb/Goat (ovine).

Tanning

Once the Animal has been slaughtered its skin is pulled and preserved in salt to stop the putrefaction process. It is then sorted into quality, either the hair removed or preserved then tanned and finished.

In any tanning process the way a skin is finished is done in many different ways, the most common way is:

Chrome

Chrome tanning uses a solution of chemicals, acids, and salts (including chromium sulphates) to dye the hide. Chrome tanning is a very quick process, taking about a day to produce a tanned leather, with commercial tanneries you can imagine the millions of leathers each day that are tanned around the globe. First the hide is pickled by being left in acid salt mixtures to remove the hair, this is all before being placed into the chromium sulphate solution. All hides then come out looking light blue this is where the term wet blue's come from these then have a finish colour applied.

Vegetable Tanned

Vegetable tanning is probably the most talked about as being safe and bio friendly and very kind to the environment. Vegetable tanning is probably the most traditional way of tanning hides. This is all done by using Italian artisans, most of the process is actually done by hand also making it a truly handmade product. Unlike chrome tanning, vegetable tanning can take up to 40 days to produce a piece of dyed leather.

Vegetable tanning uses completely natural ingredients such as a bark from chestnut trees this is to tan the leather. This means the finished products colour produced is of beautiful warm, rich tones of natural browns. Vegetable tanning is normally carried out by tanneries that have a rich heritage of tanning hides. Some processes can amazingly take up to one year! With chemicals the vegetable is reduced dramatically. Vegetable tanned leather is normally used for exclusive designers for high quality accessories like handbags and is normally heavier in substance from around 2.0mm going all the way up to 5.0mm. Vegetable tanned items gain the beautiful patina over time as it gains a fantastic look and its amazing characters.

Bio Tannage

This is an organic process for tanning which is chromium and heavy metal free. The use of metals and mineral tanning agents such as aluminium, titanium, iron, zirconium, and acetic acid are used and are proving an alternative for the chrome process.

Finishing: Nappa

There are various finishes on Nappa, but this is a generic name given to the grain side finish of Lamb and Cow hides, this type of product is the most widely used for all aspects of the leather industry. Nappa normally has a smooth surface. Methods such as washing or shrinking are then applied after the skin has been through all the previous steps and processes of tanning.

Nubuck

This article is produced on the grain side of the skin mostly using very high-quality leather, the grain is buffed to give a suede look. During the 90's this was very popular for both Men's and Ladies garments and also used widely in the shoe industry. Recently there has been a resurgence with this product and its proving to be a very popular item once again. The drawback of this item is that it can stain easily and therefore needs a stain resistant finish applied like the Nubuck Guard from the Leather Repair Company.

Suede

This is the wrong side of the skin; the inside of the animal being used. With most suede's the skin is split to ensure a fine finish to the grain that is left, the epidermis is sometimes finished and used as skivers this product is used in the bookbinding industry. All types of animal skins can be finished into a suede hide, most commonly is pig. Pigskin is used mostly in the garment trade and usually provides the cheapest form of product as this is widely manufactured in the Far East where most of the skins come from.

Shearlings

A generic name given for the wool skins used mostly in the garment industry as the fur is on the grain side the most effective finish is suede, but most finishes can be applied to the flesh side. For this item prices are high currently due to a strong demand and low kills.

Applications given to skins to a grain side are as follows.

Aniline: This is drum dyed skin and chemicals are put into the drum and finished by drying naturally. Only the highest quality of skin type is used in this process and the touch is always luxurious and superb. This skin type does have its drawbacks as it can easily stain this again to lengthen the life and to protect the life of the skin is best coated with a stain resistant finish, like the Aniline Guard from the Leather Repair Company.

Pigmented: This process is first base dyed then dried and pigmented with a spray similar to the process used in car industry and furniture trade.

Nubuck: Produced using the grain side, the grain is buffed to give a suede finish, but stain quickly and requires a stain resistant coating applied. You can use the Nubuck Guard from the Leather Repair Company to protect the finish.

Kid: Is a generic term for a small / medium sized goat mostly used in the shoe and handbag trade / industry

Origins:

Lamb: With Lamb skins the premier hides are probably Spanish Entrefino or South African cape. These produce reasonable wool / Shearlings but the grain nappa is always superb. Most other domestic producers have varying qualities European tends to be higher followed by New Zealand, Middle East then Australia. In the countries like Australia where they shear the wool. The quality of the skin is poor as the wool tends to stretch the skin, causing the grain structure to be poor and very wide open.

Goat: The Indian Subcontinent produces very high volumes of goatskins for suede, Nappa or kid. Nigeria make the most consistent product and is prized in Italy and throughout Europe as an item. Goat skins from Greece, some people regard as the best in the world, and this is also our opinion and what we use.

Cow: The best quality in Cow hides comes from European stocks, while the bulk of cow Nappa for all trade types emanates from Brazil, USA, and South America.

Pigskin: The majority of this comes from the far east, China being the largest producer of skins, this is then followed by Korea, Taiwan, and Japan and in that order of production.

Quality:

All skins are given a grading on a table from A to H.

Grading has no reflection on the type of leather produced most leathers are seen on a TR basis, this is known as table run, it would be difficult to recognise a specific skin.

Skins are normally sold on a basis of an A / B selection process, but this would include lower grades as well.

It's clear that the higher price of a skin would naturally reflect in the pricing structures.

Regulations:

All leathers are now strictly regulated by stringent standards in their country or origin. Most tanners obey by the rules laid out by their respective governments in keeping with water treatments and waste disposals within guidelines laid down by the international committees. All tanners use non carcinogenic dyes and many are using ecologically sound chemicals in their process.

All About Leather

The creation of leather is done via the tanning of hides and skins. Once tanned, only then does it become leather. Giving you a hard wearing, durable, strong enduring leather.

Leather is a versatile material. With a wide range of different types of leathers, manufacturing processes, steps, care guides and even things you can do with it.

British Standard BS 2780 Definition of Leather

“A general term for hide or skin with its original fibrous structure more or less intact, tanned to be imputrescible. The hair or wool may, or may not, have been removed. Leather is also made from a hide or skin which has been split into layers or segmented, either before or after tanning. But if the tanned hide or skin is disintegrated mechanically, without combination of a binding agent it is made into sheets or other forms these sheets or forms are not leather. If the leather has a surface coating, this surface layer, however applied, must not be thicker than 0.15mm.”

Making a hide or skin into leather is not one process but a series of processes. The steps can be split into 4 categories.

1. Beamhouse Operations
2. Tanning
3. Post Tanning
4. Finishing

Beamhouse Operations

The Beamhouse process is made up of several steps. The aim of this part of the task is to clean the hide, removing all hair and dirt.

Once free of flesh, hair, and dirt. The hide can be split to be used on furniture and used as suede.

After removing any chemicals from the hide, flattening the grain and pickling, the hide is now ready to go through the tanning process.

Tanning

This is the process most people have heard about. Invented in 1858 whether they know what it is or not is a different question. This is when the hide actually becomes leather.

There's a few different types of tanning:

- Vegetable tanning
- Mineral tanning
- Chrome Tanning

Chrome tanning is the most commonly used method. This is said to be the most effective.

To get technical, chrome tanning uses Chromium (III) sulfate ($[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$). In their original state, tanned hides are blue. Often called "wet blue".

Throughout the tanning process, it increases the spaces between the protein chains. Sodium bicarbonate is also used. This has 2 uses: Increases the PH and prompts cross-linking between the chromium and collagen.

The hydrothermal condition of the skin then increases as it's resistant to shrinkage.

Post Tanning

This stage is quite simple, the leather has chemicals added to it to prepare it for later stages.

Dye is then added, this obviously gives it the overall colour.

As pleasant as it sounds, fats and oils are then added to the leather. This helps softens the fibres. This also create the "leather smell".

Finishing the leather

This is the final stage of the hide to leather process. Buffing, pigment colour correction and often embossing. Embossing can add extra detail to the grain by using a heavy plate which presses onto the leather.

Leather Types

FULL ANILINE

The most attractive and natural leathers which are prized for their soft natural feel. These are leathers which have been aniline dyed in a vat process with no colour coating added to the surface. They are the most expensive leathers to produce because only the very best selection of hides can be used to produce full aniline leathers. Full aniline dyed leathers are more susceptible to absorbing liquids because of the natural porosity of the hide. Because they don't have a top coating the leather breathes more easily and is cooler to sit on.

PULL UP ANILINE

This is a type of aniline leather (described above) that has an extra top treatment of oil and/or wax effects. These Pull Up leathers are designed to become "distressed" looking through time and use. Its properties are similar to full aniline but in places of heavy use, the oils will be pushed away leaving lighter areas – particularly on the seating areas. It will also scratch easily. The Leather Repair Company has special products designed to restore the look and feel of Pull Up leathers.

SEMI-ANILINE

Semi-Aniline dyed leathers have been both dyed through and have a thin finishing layer on the surface. They offer a combination of the softness and feel of full aniline leather with the protective benefits of a surface finish. By dyeing the leather through before the final thin top coating is applied, a very even colouration is achieved with only a thin layer of finish. This means the leather remains softer because it is not necessary to apply a thick top coating.

PIGMENTED

The leather may be buffed (corrected) to reduce heavy natural scarring and blemishes in the hides. It is then coloured with a coating containing opaque pigments and embossed with a grain pattern to ensure a uniformity of colour and resistance to fading.

NUBUCK: also called – CHAPS, STONEWASHED OR SUEDE

These are actually aniline leathers where the surface has been brushed and have created a texture similar to a velvet on leather. Many people confuse these with suede leather. Suede is the flesh side of a piece of leather, and nubuck is an effect that is done to the grain side. This brushing actually breaks the surface and opens up the leather even more making it incredibly soft. The brushing also makes the leather even more absorbent than aniline leathers.

Bonded Leather

Bonded leather is sometimes known as reconstituted leather, it's like a synthetic type of leather, like vinyl. Made of synthetic materials of several types that is spread over ground up leather and other substances. It's mechanically processed to give it the appearance of leather. Bonded leather is almost like a laminate stuck together, this type of woven material can break down and when it does it's very unsightly and causes bubbles to break and burst where the bonding / glues have broken down. When you examine bonded leather under a microscope you can see it's true characteristics coming through and you can then tell it's not real leather at all and is almost all plastic, the backing of bonded leather has this almost webbing type look to it under a microscope a very similar look to bi cast leather on the back.

What Gives Suede and Nubuck That Distinctive, Touch, Look & Feel?

Both types of leather are sanded to produce a velvet soft feel. The main difference is that nubuck is sanded on the outer surface of the leather, the part that would have been the exterior skin of the animal, while suede is sanded on the inner layer of the skin from the split.

Naps are short protein fibers that give suede and nubuck that fluffy and velvety surface.

Nubuck costs a great deal more than suede, it still has that quality and that beautiful nap to it, it's more durable and more stain resistant, making it the perfect partner for shoes and boots.

Always use a soft brass bush to keep the nap raised up for best protection; these soft bristles don't damage the sensitive suede & nubuck surface and work to lift nap upright, giving your shoes that traditional velvet feel.

Nubuck Is Tougher and Suede is Softer

Naturally, the outside of a hide is tougher than the inside of a hide. It has to be in order to protect the animal from damage.

Since nubuck is made from the outside of the hide, accordingly it is more rough and tough and long-lasting than suede.

Suede is made from the "split" end of the hide and is softer, more porous, and less resistant to scuffs and stains. Suede is dyed through to give it colour.

Suede is often used in the lining of gloves and shoes, to give them that luxury soft feel to your hands and feet.

Aniline Leather?

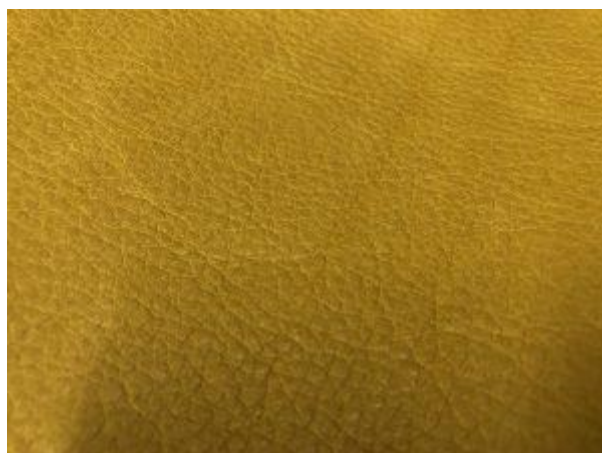


Aniline Hide

Aniline is a soluble dyed product, it's the highest grade and most natural of all leather types. Aniline doesn't have any pigmented finish applied to the surface, this gives it a silky, warm, smooth feel and touch.

The pores in aniline are clearly visible and must be shown on the surface for this to be classed as an aniline leather.

This type of leather has all-natural marking displayed on the surface from the animal, the soluble dyes used in the dye process give the surface a transparent look retaining all the original characters of the hide. Any scars, or marks are left on the surface as no correction is taking place, so the grades selected here are only the finest grades of hides to ensure the finished skins are as near perfect as possible.



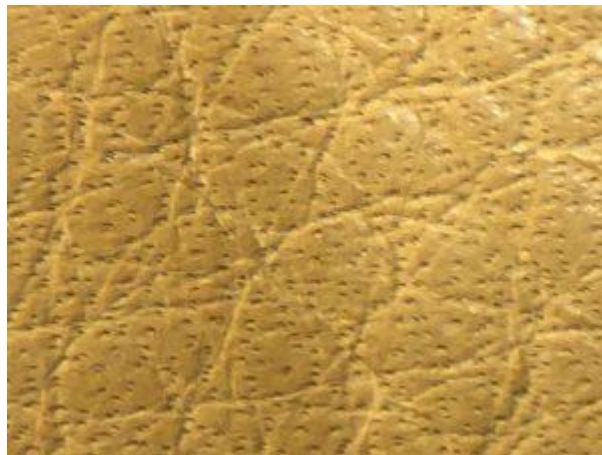
Aniline Leather Close Up

Aniline leather can be protected to avoid stains taking place, but this protective coating must not contain any pigments as the pigments will fill the pores of the leather making the leather not aniline.



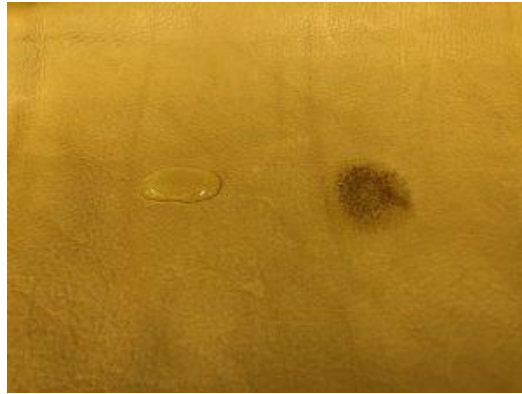
Aniline Leather Hide

Some confusion arises when people see naked aniline or full aniline or pure aniline. Naked, [full aniline](#) and pure aniline means they have no soluble dyes applied and are left natural just like a crust is left with no dye or pigmented finish applied.



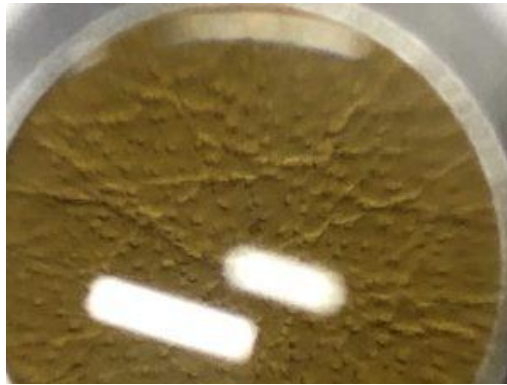
Aniline Leather Showing The Pores In The Hide

To identify your leather, to find out if you have an aniline, a simple water test can be carried out on a hidden area. Apply a drop of water to the surface and leave it, if this soaks in then you have an Aniline leather, if it sits on the surface, you have a pigmented leather finish item.

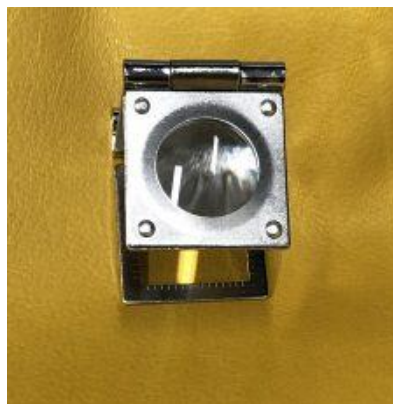


Aniline Leather Skin With Water Test

You can also use a linen tester to look at leather, again, you will see natural hair follicles / pores in the leather, again, this points towards aniline leather.



Aniline Leather Through A Linen Tester



A Linen Tester Looking At Aniline Leather

Aniline leather hides are used in many sectors of the leather industry, aniline leather is used in the luxury market due to its price tag and its velvety warm feel, with all-natural grain visible.

This type of leather is not as durable as [pigmented](#) / protected leathers, as it has no surface coating applied, leaving it open to the elements and possible staining from general day to day use. Much great care has to be taken with this type of leather to avoid stains and dirt and grime build up, regular care and maintenance is required with specialist [aniline care products](#).



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Bonded Leather?



Bonded Cushion

Bonded leather is made like the production of paper, shredded leather scraps all made into a pulp glued together using bonding materials, this is then placed onto a paper or backing fabric and glued to it.

Bonded materials sometimes known as reconstituted leather. It is like a synthetic type leather, like vinyl. It's made of synthetic materials of several types that is spread over ground up leather and other substances.

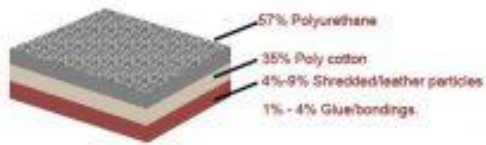
It's mechanically processed to give it the appearance of leather.

Bonded leather is almost like a laminate stuck together, this type of woven material can break down and when it does its very unsightly and causes bubbles to break and burst where the bonding / glues have broken down.

When you examine bonded under a microscope you can see it's true characteristics coming through and you can then tell it's not real leather at all and is almost all plastic, the backing of this has this almost webbing type look to it under a microscope a very similar look to [bi cast leather](#) on the back.

This form of fake leather is made in layers all glued together as follows (this will differ from manufacturer to manufacturer) the exact recipes used are kept a trade secret but is something like the following.

Bonded Leather



57% polyurethane

35% poly cotton

1% – 4% glue / bondings

4%- 9% pulp leather shredded up with other materials.

[Pigmented leather](#) is very different to bonded leather

This type of fake material is by far one of the worst fakes leathers around today, it fools so many people and its a very popular material in the USA where people believe they have genuine leather couches only to find it isn't.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Nubuck Leather

Nubuck is a top grain cattle leather that's been sanded on the grain side to produce a velvet feel and touch to the material. The sanding process gives a short nap to the short protein fibres.



Nubuck Leather Hides

Nubuck is sanded on the top side whereas Suede is sanded on the inner side of the leather hide. Nubuck is prone to colour stability from UV fading due to the sanded surface. Nubuck can be waterproofed to give it better stain resistant properties, it's very breathable as well and used a great deal in the footwear industry due to its strengths and breathability.



Nubuck Skin Showing UV Fading Issues.

Nubuck is like Suede but is from the top grain rather than the split areas where Suede is mainly from.

This type of leather has to be dyed heavily with [aniline dyes](#) to cover up the sanding marks and to give it some colour.

Nubuck scratches easily and when water is dropped on it this will darken the areas but will dry back out again naturally. Juice, drink and alcohol will stain this type of leather and will not dry out so they disappear and a stain will be left on the leather.

All types of [shoes and boots](#) are made from this type of leather and are very popular fashion items, they provide comfort, along with strength and offer great breathing properties.

It's used a great deal for walking boots, as it's a very breathable product. When protected it offers outstanding waterproof protection and keeps the feet extremely warm in cold conditions.



Walking Boots provide comfort and warmth for hiking.

Below are close up pictures showing you how these two leathers look different when side by side.



[Suede](#) Close Up



Nubuck Close Up

Cleaning and care with both Nubuck and Suede are very similar, when cleaning always clean seam to seam ensuring the full item is covered in the natural water based cleaning solution. Rubbers and erasers along with a specialist brush can be used.

Areas that are affected with heavy grease stains like around cuffs of jackets can be sanded with a Nubuck or Suede sanding block to allow the cleaning solutions to get deep into the nap pile to lift out dirt and grime.

A lot of people always ask what is leather, its a natural material, find out about [what is leather](#). When cleaning the leather boots after a long walking session, never use heat to dry them out, this can make the leather go hard, its best to allow them to dry naturally at room temperature, heavily soiled walking boots can have the soil brush off and then plain water used to clean them down, then allowing them to dry naturally.

Pigmented Leather Embossed Grain

The leather may be buffed (corrected) to reduce heavy natural scarring and blemishes in the hides. It is then coloured with a coating containing opaque pigments and embossed with a grain pattern to ensure a uniformity of colour and resistance to fading.

Pigmented leathers primary goal is to provide protection and make leather last longer.

Pigmented / Finished leather provides protection against wear, stains, moisture, colour loss, tears and much more.

Pigmented leathers don't have that silky soft feel and touch that you do get with [aniline leathers](#), this is due to the painted surface that's applied to preserve the skin.

Looking at pigmented / finished leather through a microscope, you will see this is evenly coloured and will not vary in shade, you will also notice due to these hides being embossed with a grain pattern this will be very uniformed across the surface.

Placing a drop of water on here will also show that it's waterproofed as it will not absorb the water, unlike an [aniline leather](#) that will absorb the water.



These are pigmented cow hide leather skins.

Pigmented leather goes through a tanning process, where the hide is dyed with aniline dyes so it's a dyed through hide, then a pigmented binder coat is applied to the surface. This provides a protective coloured layer to the surface, this also enhances the embossed grain patterns.

Once this is carried out a further layer is added of topcoats / clear coats to protect the coloured layer underneath from wear and tear. This is providing a stable UV base to help against UV rays bleaching the coloured layer on the hide.

With any coating that is applied to a leather hide, this must not exceed 0.15mm thickness, if it does it can't be sold as a leather hide.

Car leather never used to be dyed through like they are today, they were tanned and then a coloured layer applied to the surface, very much like [connolising](#) your leather.

Today car [leather](#) is dyed through first with aniline dyes and then a coloured coating applied and finally a topcoat clear lacquer is applied to give the hides waterproof properties. Some are chromium tanned while others are synthetic tanned.

Pigmented Leather genuine Grain.

Just like pigmented leather, but the only difference is its genuine grain rather than an embossed grain pattern.

Its tanned in exactly the same way as embossed grain pigmented leather either chromium tanned or synthetic tanned.



The above is genuine grain pigmented leather



This Orange skin is embossed grain pigmented leather

Repair
®

As you can see from these two grain samples above its easy to tell them apart once you know the difference between the two leathers.

When you look at leather if the patterns is almost identical all over and vert pronounced then its embossed, if the pattern is not so heavy looking and does not have a regular pattern like the creamy coloured hide above then its genuine grain leather.

Semi Aniline Leather?

Semi aniline leather usually has a light surface coating of pigment or even a light finish coating making it more durable. Aniline is the most natural and soft leather.

Shops can make this very confusing by calling semi aniline leathers, aniline leathers, they are not as they've had a microscopic coating applied to the surface, hence why some people have shortened the name to micro pigment. The coating is only very fine, so it doesn't hide the natural markings and pores in the leather.

With this leather type of aniline leather coating this can allow moisture and body oils to penetrate it and get into the leather, just remember you can't Clean Out only Clean On the surface of any type of leather. Getting dirt out of leather is almost impossible.

Just remember to carry out tests in hidden areas, as once used this type of leather can trick you. Regular cleaning and protection are required with this type of finish to ensure its light surface coating does not break down quickly.

For the ultimate protection for your semi aniline leather you can apply special coatings to the surface to stop stains from ever taking place. This special coating not only protects your leather but enhances its qualities.

Semi Aniline leather is far superior in quality than pigmented leather. Semi aniline can often be sold as pigmented leather due to lack of knowledge with salespeople in store. With Semi Aniline having a natural warm feel to the touch, you should be able to tell the two apart as pigmented leather will feel much colder to the touch and have a plastic type feel to it.

Semi aniline leather is used for a multitude of trades, due to its abilities and having a slight surface coating, its used in many sectors, including clothing, shoes, handbags, jackets, skirts, belts, hats and even as a wallpaper. Semi Aniline is warm and soft to touch with a microscopic coating to help protect it unlike [Aniline Leather](#).

With this type of leather its more durable than aniline leather but does not have as much characters as aniline leather or [crust leather](#). (Naked leather)

To the touch it's also different. It does not have that true silky warm feeling when touched that aniline leather has.



Semi Aniline leather skins

With semi anilines, you can also carry out a water drop test, again this will sit on the surface, so dab it back up, if left for over four minutes, this will then start to soak into the leather surface, a slight darker patch will start to appear. Always carry out tests in small hidden areas.

Semi Aniline leather is very rarely found in cars as it's not as hard wearing and as easy to maintain as pigmented leather, some luxury cars have semi aniline leather in them like Ferraris. Pigmented leathers feel firmer and colder than this type of aniline finish.

Pores can be embossed into leather to give a false impression that you have a form aniline leather, using a digital microscope to look at the leather will tell you differently and show you the correct leather type you are handling.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Suede Leather



This is [leather pig skins](#)

This is the wrong side of the skin; the inside of the animal being used. With most suedes the skin is split to ensure a fine finish to the grain that is left, the epidermis is sometimes finished and used as skivers this product is used in the bookbinding industry, or for desktops.

All types of animal skins can be finished into a suede hide, the most common one is pig.

Pigskin is used mostly in the garment trade and usually provides the cheapest form of product as this is widely manufactured in the Far East where most of the skins come from.

Suede is sanded to give it a velvet type finish. Nubuck which looks similar to suede is finished finer, the suede fibres are much coarser.



Ferrari leather steering wheel.

It's not just Ferraris that come with suede steering wheels, many vehicles come with suede steering wheels. From Ferrari to Honda and BMW to mention just a few, But people do also get mistaken as a lot come with [alcantara](#), this is not a leather it's a synthetic man-made material.

As well as steering wheels, this type of leather is used in other areas in vehicles as well like roof linings in luxury vehicles.

What Gives Suede and Nubuck That Distinctive, Touch, Look & Feel?

Both types of leather are sanded to produce a velvet, soft feel. The main difference is that nubuck is sanded on the outer surface of the leather, the part that would have been the exterior skin of the animal, while suede is sanded on the inner layer of the skin from the split.

Naps are short protein fibres that give suede and [nubuck](#) that fluffy and velvety surface.

Nubuck costs a great deal more than suede, it still has that quality and that beautiful nap to it, it's more durable and more stain resistant, making it the perfect partner for shoes and boots. Always use a soft brass bush to keep the nap raised up for best protection; these soft bristles don't damage the sensitive suede & nubuck surface and work to lift nap upright, giving your shoes that traditional velvety feel.



[Leather trainers and boots](#)

Nubuck is tougher and Suede is softer. Naturally, the outside of a hide is tougher than the inside of a hide. It has to be like that in order to protect the animal from damage.

Since nubuck is made from the outside of the hide, it is rough, tough and long-lasting with a velvet touch. Suede is made from the "[split](#)" end of the hide and is rougher, more porous and less resistant to scuffs and stains, it's dyed through to give it colour. Suede is often used in the lining of gloves and shoes to give them that luxury soft feel to your hands and feet, normally this will be pig, goat or lamb suede.

With cleaning and care, its best to have these types of leathers protected from new, or after being cleaned by leather experts, cleaning can be done yourself with brushes, rubbers and erasers. But you will always find they go slightly darker when cleaned and allowed to dry naturally, this is due to the nature of the leather hide.

Two-Tone Leather



Two Tone Leather Pigmented Hide

Two Tone leather has a contrasting finish known as two tone leather.

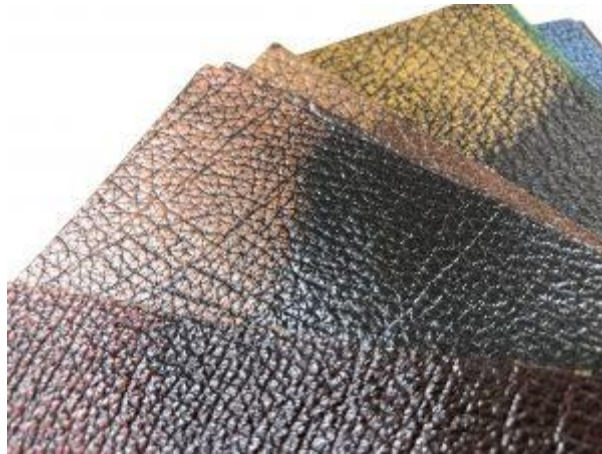
Two tone leather is made up of several shades of pigmented finish on the surface to give the effect of a two-tone leather finish item.

Two Tone leather finishes are mainly used in the furniture industry and are very well known on chesterfield sofas. On chesterfields some people refer to these as an antique finish due to the contrasting finish and wear that takes place with age.

You can create a two-tone finish leather on any colour and type of leather, what you are doing is applying thin layers of pigmented finish with PU lacquer leaving each layer translucent and see through, so that each colour represents a layer of colour.

In a lot of cases depending on the two-tone finish desired a very fine layer of black pigment mixed with PU lacquer is applied over the surface to give a dark shadowing effect to the finish to complete the process.

It's easy to be confused over Rub Off Leather compared to Two Tone Leather. Rub off leather is a process very different to two tone leather, a surface coating is applied and then the top layer is rubbed off with an alcohol solution to reveal the layers below, leaving darker shades within the grain to give an almost antique look to the leather finish.



Rub Off Leather Pigmented Finish

Below is an example of two-tone leather being created on a cream leather armchair, transforming the armchair into a beautiful antique more luxury looking chair than a standard cream.

The first stage to create two tone leather is to remove all the old surface coating and pigment paint so hardly anything is left on the surface.



Stage 1 Of Two-Tone Leather

Stage 2 in the process is the application of the base layer of pigment, this is always a much lighter colour than those colours being applied to the top.



Stage 2 Of Two Tone Leather

Stage 3 of the process is to ensure a full even coating of the much lighter base colour is applied.



Stage 3 Of Two-Tone Leather

Stage 4 in the process is starting to apply darker shades drying as you go to make sure these are locked in.



Stage 4 Of Two-Tone Leather

The 5th stage of two tone leather is applying the final black wash finish over the surface along with a lacquer mixture, this is normally achieved by mixing 80% lacquer with 20% pigment paint finish, a gloss lacquer is used for the final stage to give sheen and to bring out the full effects of the two tone finish on the leather.



Stage 5 Of Two Tone Leather

The finished items looks truly stunning, and it is an amazing transformation.



Two Tone Pigmented Finish Leather Completed

Creating a two-tone finish is not as difficult as it may appear. Once you have been shown how to do this, it's an easy process to undertake and carry out. Spot repairs are very simple and easy to do, you just have to learn the process for this, training courses can help a great deal to find out about how to make or repair two tone. If you want to give this a go, look at taking up a training course.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Vinyl Material?



Vinyl Material

Vinyl is easy to identify once you know what you are looking for. If you look at this sample you can see the grain pattern is far to evenly distributed over the surface, this is one way of many ways how to tell.

Vinyl is a form of plastic, it's a synthetic man-made material, from ethylene found in crude oil and chlorine found in regular salt.

When these two materials are manufactured, they form a product known as polyvinyl chloride PVC resin, commonly known as vinyl.

Vinyl is used a great deal in the marine industry as it provides waterproof seating for all types of marine items. Restaurants use a great deal of vinyl on seating areas as it's easier to wipe down and take care of than traditional [leather](#) items.

Vinyl has advantages and disadvantages in its uses, in cars it's a much colder stiffer material than genuine leather items.

Vinyl can be extremely hot to the touch in warmer weather conditions and in extreme cold conditions can be extremely cold to touch, whereas leather naturally attracts warmth and is a much more stable material.

Vinyl is prone to cracking and splitting making repairs difficult to undertake with traditional repair techniques and methods.

Vinyl seats are very common in car brands, predominantly the sides and backs of most car seats are vinyl materials, it's easy to tell them apart from leather, vinyl stretches like a plastic and when you rub your finger over vinyl the grain will not follow your finger like genuine leather will.

Vinyl does not wear like leather does, see these pictures below of a typical vinyl seat that's cracked, leather doesn't crack like this it cracks on natural lines not random like this.



As you can see with vinyl, its clear these are plastic with the way the seats have cracked open, leather never cracks lie this, you can see where its gone against its false grain, leather always cracks with the grain.

What Is A finished Crust

The Naked Leather Known As Crust Aniline Leather

A finished crust aniline leather which has been tanned (treated to become non-perishable) but not coloured but has had a partial finishing carried out. This is chromium tanned leather and is in most cases always white.

Finished Crust leather are very difficult leathers for cleaning due to zero surface finish as they are only dyed and left with no surface coating or protection.

When used on upholstery it's given more generic terms, unprotected leather, pure aniline leather, or even some call it naked leather.

Restoring finished crust leather to a brand new condition is almost impossible, it will change the surface look and feel slightly, crust aniline leather has been tanned so that its unperishable, but with no colour but with only a partial finish to the skin.

Its suggested that regular cleaning using an aniline cleaner and protection is carried out as often as you possibly can to avoid the surface getting stained and this then soaking in to the leathers, with the crust leather being absorbent, you can't just do an arm, the full item has to be done as it will shade or change the surface look so the full item has to be cleaned and protected on a regular basis

Finished Crust aniline leather has the most luxurious touch and feel to it, like silk, but requires the most maintenance to keep it in perfect shape, as its fully open to the elements. Keeping it protected at all times is imperative, giving the finished crust leather a protection layer is essential, its advised that an expert master technician applies a coating of the special leather guard crust aniline leather system to your items at once to avoid stains taking place.

With all finished crust aniline leathers they are very susceptible to fading, staining and soiling at all times. Anything that is left on the surface will soak in at once, finished crust and pure crust leather creates difficult cleaning processes as anything that you do to a crust leather will change the way it looks, so its protection, protection and more protection.

What Is Alcantara

Alcantara is a synthetic material that is man-made.

A great deal of people think that Alcantara is suede and think leather cleaners will work on this material.

It was designed and made in the 1970's and named after the company.

Alcantara is composed of about 68% polyester and 32% polyurethane. They claim it gives increased durability and stain resistance.

The material feels and looks like suede and a large number of people get mixed up with this material is amazing, as it's just a fabric.

It contains no leather content at all and should not be treated as leather in any way, shape or form.

With it being a material like product cleaning this can be problematic, but over the years we've tested many products and ways to clean this material.

We have found the best options to clean Alcantara. They are as follows:

- You can use warm water in a spray bottle along with an Alcantara cleaner. Spray this onto the material and allow it to dwell for a few minutes. This will break down any dirt and grime. Then you can use a soft suede brush to lightly brush over the surface. This removes any dirt and grime and then use a vacuum to remove any excess or you can wipe over with a microfibre cloth to remove dirt and grime.
- The other option is to use steam to clean this removing dirt, bobble and grime at the same time, giving you a nice clean fresh looking Alcantara seat.
- Some suggest using IPA / alcohol cleaner, but we would not use this as it could bleach the colour and remove the dye from the material.

A lot of manufacturers use Alcantara like Mercedes, BMW, Audi and Toyota just to name a few.

It can be found on steering wheels as well to give you a softer more luxury feel. However, sweat and compounded dirt can soon make the steering wheel look terrible. The fibres become flattened due to grease and grime build up.

Steam cleaning the material can be carried out with care as its more delicate than normal fabrics. Every time when steam cleaning use a soft suede brush to fluff up the fibres making it look as good as new again.

To help prevent the material from getting ingrained dirt and grime build up you can apply a fabric protector to give the material a waterproof finish. This stops dirt and grime attacking the surface.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

What is crust leather?



Crust [Leather Shoes](#)

The Naked Leather known as Crust Leather are veg tanned leathers that have had no dyeing process applied.

A crust leather which has been tanned (treated to become non-perishable) but not coloured or finished in any way.

Crust leathers are very difficult leathers for cleaning due to zero surface finish as they are only dried and left with no surface coating or protection.

When veg tanned crust leathers are used on upholstery it's given more generic terms, unprotected leather, pure aniline leather, or even some call it naked leather. Chromium tanned hides are not often used with finishing fully.

Looking at crust through a microscope is fascinating, you will see the full natural markings of the skin and hair follicles, this will also show you there is no colouring on this skin and that it received no dye either.

It gains its colouring naturally from day light and UV rays, some call this natural patina. As this ages, the colours will be uneven and look stunning.

Great care must be taken with this type of skin so plenty of food must be applied in the form of protection creams to protect against stains and bodily fluids.



Crust Skins / hides

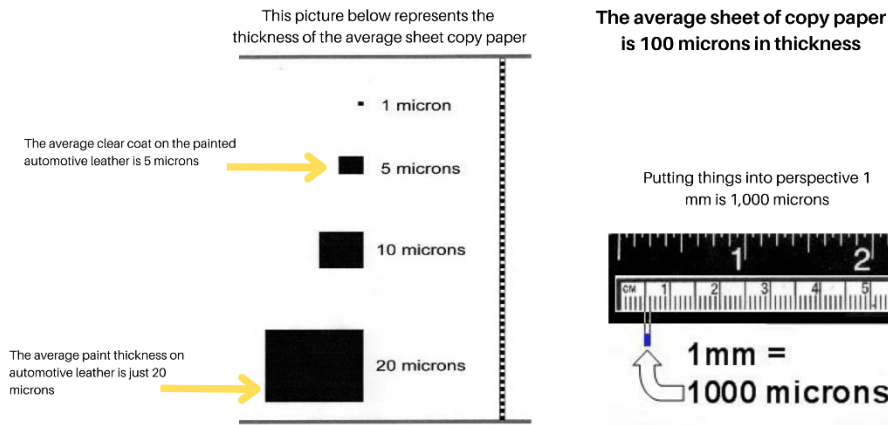
Another form of crust is [vachetta leather](#) as used on LV handbags and cases, its the small leather edges and bases, in most cases that's the only genuine leather on a LV bag or case.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Understanding The Thicknesses Of Leather

Understanding Thicknesses



Leather Repair
Company. ®

One of the most important parts of leather is understand the thicknesses of each coating.

The above chart should help you understand how fragile leather is and why you should only use dedicated leather cleaners ONLY on leather.

Making sure this coating is preserved and or replaced is essential.

Using the correct products and avoiding the wrong process like steam cleaning, scrubber pads, micro fibre cloths, magic erasers will help prolong the life of the leather.

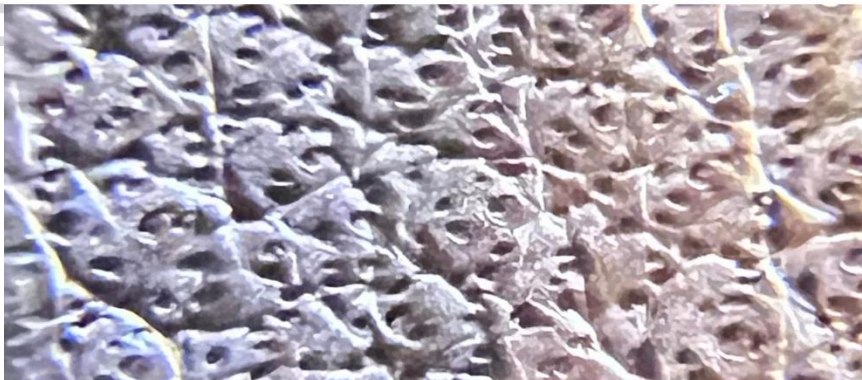
Understanding Leather



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Different types of leather look different and require different care, both above and the below are car interiors but two different leather, but they look the same to the naked eye.

Know Your Holes!!!



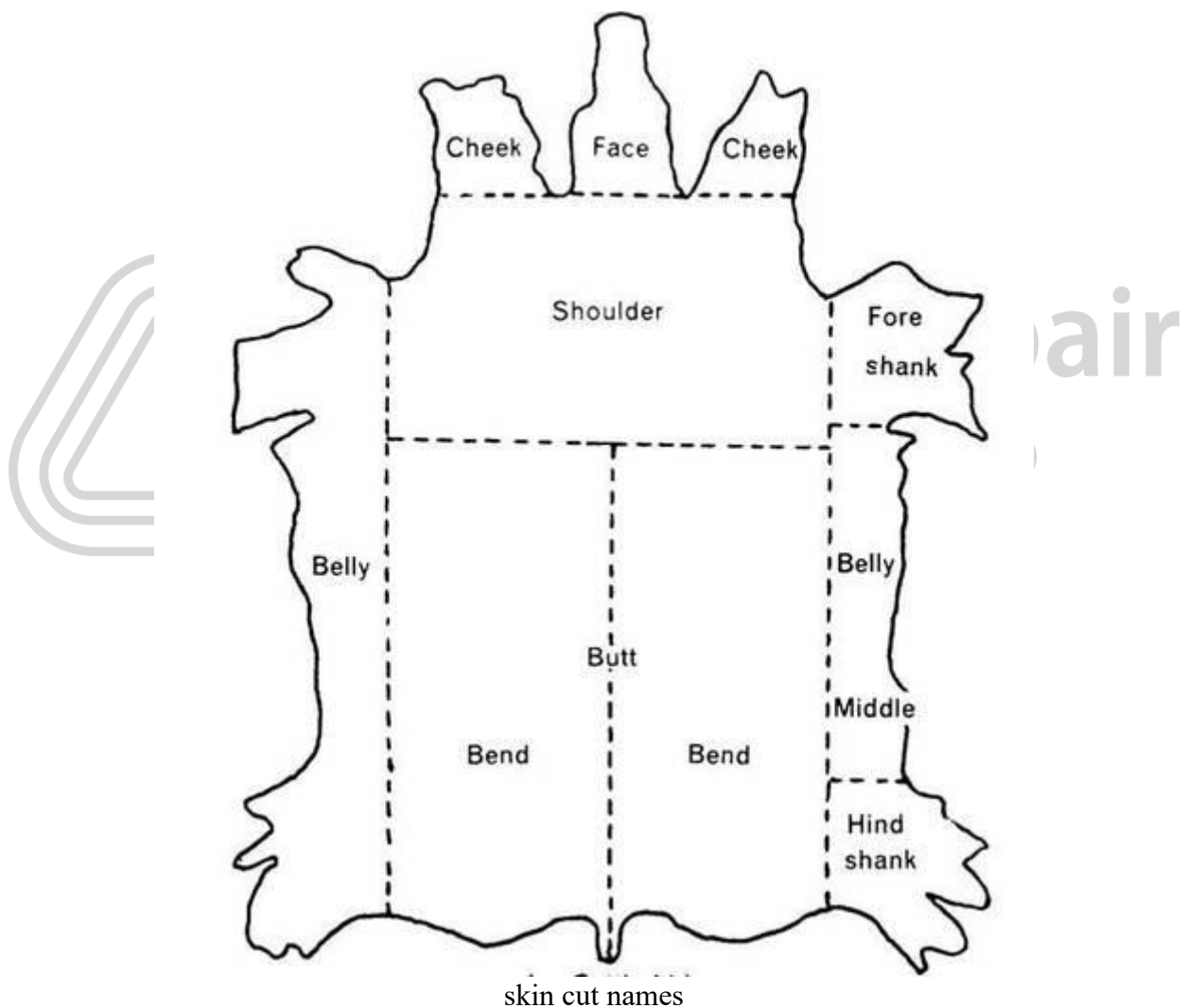
Leather Repair
Company. ®

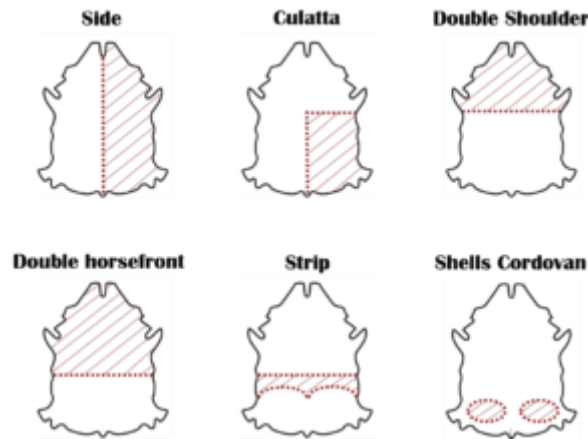
What Are The Different Parts Of A Leather Hide?

Below this picture gives you details of the most common parts of the leather hide and what they are called.

These cuts are from a leather hide that is cut into different sections, a full hide is left intact and sold as a full leather hide.

The butt area is commonly the toughest and most dense fibre structured leather of all the leather cuts, that from a horse, shell cordovan is the best known cut for handmade high quality leather shoes.





Skins Horses

Depending on the animal will depend on the size of the hide, a bull is far bigger than a cow, some manufacturers will only ever use a bull.

Depending on where the skin comes from on the animal will also determine the quality of the hide and its natural markings.

It would also determine if the leather was a top grain, embossed or a split, or even a drop split, they all make a difference, with an embossed grain, you won't see any natural markings on the skin.

With all the different leather sections, you also get different thicknesses in hides, you can get a hide from a cow that's 0.5mm thick and one that's 1.5mm and they will both feel very different, both could be pigment finished and the thicker skin, someone would state it's plastic, when it's as genuine as the thinner skin.

But due to the thickness it will make the thinner skin feel softer and more supple and feel more luxurious when they are just the same it's all due to the thickness.

Skins can also be sanded, buffed, oiled and waxed to give a different feel and finish to each and every skin all from the same animal to be used in different trade and sectors.



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

Leather Repair
SECTION 5
Company. ®

FAQ's

LEATHER CARE FAQs

Leather care FAQs can be mind boggling, don't go mad about your leather issues, we can help ...

If you have a question about or a problem with leather, like stains, colour loss, scratches, tears rips and more, the chances are somebody else has asked us before. This page has some of the common sorts of questions we have received, so have a look at them and see if they help! If you don't see your issue here, please email us at info@leatherrepaircompany.com. If you want further help with our Leather Care FAQs please do get in touch.

We are constantly being asked questions about leather so you will find updates for leather care FAQs on this page will be kept up to date as much as possible.

Below is a list of the most common leather care FAQs if you have any please do ask them and we can add them for you.

Q: My denim jeans have left a colour stain on my light-coloured leather sofa – what can I do about this?

A: Colour staining is an increasingly common problem as light-coloured leather furniture becomes more popular and dye transfers from one material to another. This can be avoided by using a leather care product to protect the leather before use or after cleaning. For further information contact info@leatherrepaircompany.com. Some retailers may provide leather protector at the point of sale or apply it prior to sale. For the best Leather Conditioning & Protection Cream Follow this link – - [View Leather Conditioner & Protection Cream](#)

Q: How can I protect my cream-coloured leather car interior from stains and scuffing?

A: It's best to use a leather protector such as LRC's , this is best done either before the leather becomes soiled, at the point of purchase or after cleaning the cars leather interior this helps prevent colour staining from materials like denim or newsprint and also significantly reduces wear and tear on leather bolsters, seams, stitching and entry/exit points in the vehicle. Scuffing can't be stopped due to things like buttons on clothing etc but using the protection cream four times a year will help reduce this from possibly happening and keeping your leather in far better condition that it would have been before. For further information contact help@leatherrepaircompany.com

Q: My handbag is brand new, and it has mildew all over it. Why has this happened, what can I do to remove it and to help stop it happening in the future?

A: This can be prevented by storing in a cool, dry, airy place. Do not store in polythene. I would suggest you wipe off existing mould, with a wool pad dampened in a pure white vinegar solution. Contact our specialist site for handbag repairs.

Q: I sent my Belstaff jacket to the dry cleaners and they have removed the top surface colour, I contacted Belstaff direct, and they passed me your details can you help?

A: Yes, this can be resolved, the top surface colour on some Belstaff jackets are a thin coating to give it that luxury antique look, without the correct cleaners this can be removed quickly. Dry cleaners use steam and this is what will have taken the top surface colour off, we can professionally restore this antique look for you, please visit our jacket repair page if you go to the bottom of the page you can download our forms and ship the item to us for a professional appraisal.

Q: One of my children kindly used ink on my sofa & the marks don't come off. How can I remove blue ballpoint pen from a leather sofa it's a cream colour?

A: Sorry about the problem with the ink marks on your leather furniture. Ball-point pen ink is an oil based viscous ink, when on the polymer finish applied to the surface of upholstery leather and therefore is quickly absorbed into the surface making it difficult to remove. You can use our Ink & Stain Remover Kit. However, they are only fully effective if treated soon after contamination; the longer you leave the ink the harder it will be to remove. The longer you have left the ink on the leather furniture the more likely it is that a colour restoration process is required, you can buy a small scuff kit to do this.

Q: The salesman at the garage has told me I don't need to protect my new cars leather car interior is that correct?

A: That is wrong, protecting and feeding your leather from new is more important than after it's been used, as when its new it's in one of its most vulnerable situations, open to the elements to be attacked. It's better to protect and feed your leather from new than pass up on doing it as it's amazing how quickly it can break down if not protected fully and correctly. You can view our leather care plan this plan applies to leather car seats, furniture, clothing, shoes in fact anything that is leather.

Q: I have a rip in my most loved leather jacket can you help me 😞

A: Please don't worry, we can repair this for you. This can be repaired to look like a natural scar line in the leather, in some cases almost invisible. You can visit our page on leather jacket repairs or if you wanted to repair this yourself you can buy a leather glue repair kit.

Q: The cloakroom attendant stuck a sticker on my leather jacket and after removal it has removed some colour and left it dull and will not come out leaving a dark spot as some dirt has stuck to the stickiness. Please help with a remedy!

A: This is a very common issue. The surface coating on leather jackets is very thin and with these cloakroom stickers applied it can in a lot of cases remove the colour, depending on how badly it's removed it you have three options. Option one is to use the leather re colouring balm, option two is to use a small colouring kit to dye the affected areas, option three is to send it in to us for a professional restoration

Q: When I agreed to buy my leather sofa it looked a nice dark cream colour, but what has been delivered does not look the same colour as in the shop. Why?

A: Leather is a natural product and due to this there will be some shade variations that are natural. These can happen during the manufacturing of the hides in the tanneries.

Q: I've had this furniture for a few months now and I went to wipe it overusing an all-in-one leather cleaner/conditioner wipe, the colour of the leather came off with the wipe! Is this normal? I do know my furniture is not aniline or nubuck if that helps. The furniture shop I purchased it from gave me no instructions on how to care for the leather and it had no instructions on it either. When I purchased it, he showed me a swatch of the leather as I told him I needed a leather that did not scratch because I have young kids who love to climb all over it with toys. The swatch did not scratch but the furniture does badly.

A: If you bought the leather wipes at the same place as the furniture and the furniture shop recommended to use them on your furniture, then you have a legitimate case to make a complaint as it appears that there is clearly an incompatibility between the wipes used and the finish on the leather. If you do not get any joy with the furniture shop, then I would suggest you contact your local trading standards office. You can click on this link to take you direct to the trading standard's web site. We would be happy to provide an independent report if you need one.

Q: Is it ok to hang my leather jacket in a wardrobe?

A: Yes, it is ok to hang in a wardrobe as long as there is some form of movement of air, ie ventilation holes somewhere. Do not hang in a polythene cover or a clothing sack or travel suit bag.

Q: How do I go about re-finishing my car seats?

A: All you will need is one of our leather kits that will fit in with what you're doing if it's a full interior restoration then you require a large colour repair kit. We will also supply you on request a full restoration guides and our 34-page book we have written in house.

Q: I have emulsion paint on my new leather sofa. Is the emulsion removable from the leather at all?

A: Yes. Using the Leather Cleaner or the Stain Remover. However, a gloss paint is much more difficult to remove, and this will require a Leather Colorant Kit if you have gloss paint on your leathers surface.

Q: Do I need to keep turning my leather cushions on my sofa to keep it in better condition?

A: It is best to rotate cushions every 30-60 days for even wear on the leathers surface, depending on the amount of use. With any form of lining, it's best to remember to exercise the lining / foam by fluffing and redistributing the lining / foam evenly throughout.

Q: Will it matter if I place my leather furniture next to a radiator?

A: Take care not to place your furniture too near a radiator or a similar heat source. Make sure there is at least 2 foot of space between your furniture and the heat source. If this is not done, you will find your leather breaks down quicker and this will in time cause colour loss to take place.

Q: Should I care for my leather handbag?

A: When you first purchase a handbag it's best to use LRC's leather protector before you use it for the first time and once a month to keep on top of this. It's also advised to clean the leather on your handbag every time you protect it. Apply a small ten pence size amount of protector onto a soft, clean cloth. Rub into the leather, if the bag is a well-loved, used handbag take special care with any scratched areas. Then buff off the excess with a soft, clean cloth. For dimples and small dents, rub behind the affected area with your hand on the inside of the bag. We highly recommend use of LRC's leather protector for leather handbags to protect them and extend the life of your handbags. We have not tested other brands of protector. Be sure to store your bag in its storage bag when not in use. Do not store your leather item in a plastic bag at all, make sure the leather can breathe and has air ventilation.

Q: How long will it take to get my order?

A: In most cases your order is sent the same day or within 48 hours maximum, in the UK they are all sent by a courier or tracked 24-hour delivery. Excluding weekends and bank holidays.

Q: Will the repair be invisible?

A: A lot of companies will tell you yes it will, we are an open up-front company, so in the majority of instances no. We only use highly advanced equipment to re colour your leather. This is matched by eye perfectly, to a minimum accuracy of 99.9%. Scuff and scratch repairs are as near to invisible as we can get them.

Q: Can you repair the colour loss on a leather jacket?

A: Yes, we can do that for you, you can find the address on our contact us page. As soon as it arrives, we will advise you, please don't forget to download our address label and repair sheet to pop in your parcel so we know who it is from, this is on the contact us page.

Q: Can I get a free quote from you?

A: Yes, you can, it's all part of our service, free quotes and we don't charge for calling to give quotes either.

Q: I have an old leather belt and I love the buckle and I can't find another like it, can you replace the leather belt for me and put the buckle on to the new leather belt?

A: Yes, we can manufacture for you a new leather belt and put your buckle back on to the new belt.

Q: Can I use saddle soap on my leather?

A: No saddle soap is very bad for leather and should only be used on saddles and tack equipment.

Q: Is APC safe to use on Leather?

A: NO, DON'T use APC on leather, neat or diluted in any form as it's highly dangerous for leather. The damage an APC can cause to leather is outstanding, NEVER use an APC on leather as this can weaken the surface structure causing the surface to become sticky which means the solvents are reacting with the clear coated finish breaking this down.

Q: I have candle wax on my leather how do I remove it?

A: There are many ways which you can remove candle wax from leather, from freezing, warm water to methylated spirits etc. After years of research and testing we have found the safest way to remove candle wax from leather is to gently heat the wax with a hair drier. Using the hair drier melts, the wax allowing this to be removed very quickly, safely and easily.

Q: Can I use an IPA (Alcohol Cleaner) to clean my leather interior?

A: No, with it being a solvent-based product this will cause damage to the clear coat or start to remove the dye from anilines etc, meaning a restoration has to be carried out.

NOTE: All leather care FAQs are real questions that have been asked and we have provided solutions to the above problems and suggested products we have used over the years, that have worked for us, this does not mean it will work for you, we cannot be held responsible for any problems arising from trying one of the above Q & A's. You should always test in a small hidden area first before starting anything. All items you work on are at your own risk. If you have any leather care FAQs, please do send them in to us we will be pleased to respond. help@leatherrepaircompany.com





**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 6



Leather Repair
Company.®

Pocket Guide



Leather Repair Company.

Leather Pocket Guide

www.LRCUK.com

Contents

Section

A Bit About Us

Introduction

What Type of Leather?

Assessing the Damage and Your Options

Getting the Leather Ready For Repair

Glues and Fillers

Re Colouring

Coloured Finishes

Using Our Colouring Mixing Service

Suite Re Colouring

Car and Boat Seat Repairs

Removing Ink

Removing Paint Spills

Removing Glue

Curry Stains

Aniline Leathers

Solving Problems

Colour Peeling You Applied

Making Colours Yourself

Colours & What They Do!

Two Tone and Mottled Finishes

Applying the Finish Clear Coat

**Leather Repair
Company. ®**

A

A Bit About Us

Products

At **Leather Repair Company**, we believe we offer the public and trade some of the best products in the world at the most affordable prices. We have designed our own complete range of leather care, repair and restoration products, tools, and equipment, all of which are made to the highest of standards and specifications. All of the raw materials we source and then manufacture are purchased from British companies helping to support the local economy. This is why we are bringing to your door some of the finest products in the world and you know you have the quality and backing of an international company with almost 30 year's experience in the leather care products profession.

We take note of every small detail

We believe in making a difference. In our customers' eyes the **Leather Repair Company** stands for Value for money, Quality, Innovation, Fun, Friendly and a Sense of Competitive challenge. They expect extraordinary things from us, a fact which puts us in a unique position of trust and strength, but which also gives us a responsibility not to disappoint. Being so well known means we no longer need to make promises, but we do. More importantly, we keep them!

Always the same

All new ventures we start, we base on hard research and analysis. Typically, we review the industry and put ourselves in the customer's shoes to see what could make it better. We ask fundamental questions; is this an opportunity for restructuring a market and creating competitive advantages? What are the competitors doing? Is the customer confused or badly served? Is this an opportunity for building the **Leather Repair Company** brand? Can we add Value? Will it interact with our other businesses? Is there an appropriate trade-off between risk and reward?

A new moral every time

We always look for opportunities where we can offer something better, fresher, and more valuable, and we seize them. We often move into areas where the customer has traditionally received a poor deal, and where the competition is complacent. With our growing world-wide awareness, we also look to deliver 'old' products and services in new ways. We're pro-active and quick to act, often leaving bigger and more cumbersome organisations in our wake.

Formed in 1996, the Leather Repair Company has gone from strength to strength. Started off by a chap named Richard who first took a liking to Leather Care & Repair at the young age of 14 across the pond in the USA.

Based in the Northeast of England. Providing leather repair & restoration services in many sectors including; leather furniture, [leather car interior](#), leather clothing, luggage & handbags and any other leather items you can think of.. (Yes, and those types!).

The magic happens on the sunny east coast of Yorkshire. Where careful thinking, care, love and affection goes into every aspect of the leather industry. Manufacturers of high-quality products from leather cleaning kits to leather jacket repair kits, from leather conditioners to leather car interior kits. Our [leather repair kits](#) come in all shapes, sizes, and different colours.

We don't just manufacture leather products for the public. We supply other leather repair businesses. Hey, we even have customers as far as Australia & New Zealand. They don't order from halfway across the world for the fun of it. Our products are great!

Here at the Leather Repair Company, we even provide a training service. We have courses that fit people from all walks of life. It doesn't matter what your current skill set is, whether you're a beginner or an expert who wants to touch up on leather repair training. We're here to help, we have a course suitable for everyone. Sure, you might be in the hilly highlands of Scotland and can't make it to pretty little Yorkshire. Not a problem! We'll give you training sessions via webcam. All you need to do is request, book a date, make sure you have the correct equipment, and of course, grab a microphone so you can ask those vital questions.

We also provide a (nearly) nationwide repair service! Give us a call, see what we can do for you. Failing that, we're always on the road. We travel all over the UK visiting various shows where we're more than willing to help the next customer with their questions. If we're at a show near you, we could even swing by and take a look at Granddad's old leather sofa sat in the corner.

Our focus is on our customer care service and the products we manufacture here in sunny East Yorkshire, we don't just chuck a load of chemicals in a pot to give you some leather care products, we manufacture the finest Leather Care & Repair products period and will stop at nothing to ensure we are the market leaders at all times.

The services cover leather and fabric on items such as [furniture](#), [car interior](#), upholstery, [clothes](#), footwear, [handbags](#), [luggage](#), marine & aviation.

Introduction

Leather has some huge advantages over fabric furnishings, it's easier to keep clean and protected.

The Leather Repair Company has developed in house a complete range of cleaning, protection, and repair products, they are easy to use with a few simple tools.

Most of our leather repair products are environmentally friendly as they are water based. All products should be kept frost free.

Leather Repair Company

Unit 22

Argyle Street Factory Estate,

Hull, East Yorkshire HU3 1HD

England

44 (0) 1482 606864

help@leatherrepaircompany.com

www.leatherrepaircompany.com

Restorers Limited Co Reg Number 05618265



Leather Repair
Company. ®

What Type Of Leather?

Before pricing or starting a repair you must decide if you can repair the damage. What is extremely important is knowing what type of leather you are dealing with. You can test this by using the Water Test, drop a small amount of water on the leather in a hidden area, the amount of time this stays on the surface will determine the type of leather you are dealing with. We have listed some leather types below.

Corrected grain leathers

This type of leather is the easiest to repair, as the colour coating is applied to the leather and then a clear coat lacquer finish is applied to seal in the colourant.

Pure Aniline (Suede & Nubuck)

These are the most expensive leathers around and the hardest to clean and repair. With this leather the colour is in the leather with no protection coating at all. It's the finest quality leather offering a nice luxury warm feeling that is soft to touch.

Semi Aniline

Very similar in manufacture but this leather has a fine coating of sealant applied. With this type of leather in a lot of cases it's best to spray the full panel to perfect repairs as it can look different from different positions. Again, the colour is in the leather with the thin protector coat applied so it's semi absorbent.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Wax Pull Up.

This type of leather is like a pure aniline but treated with a wax finish so that it is given some protection and produces colour variations over the leather surface. This can be repaired but proceed with caution.

Antique Leathers (rub off)

This leather in most cases is a corrected grain leather, sprayed just a couple of times and then given an extremely thin protective clear coating. First of all, a brighter base colour is applied, this is then dried, and a much darker colourant is applied as the topcoat colour. The raised areas are then rubbed off with a solvent-based product to remove or reduce the darker colour showing the lighter colour below.

Bicast

This is very modern finish leather, like a patent leather, that is used on shoes, handbags, and fashionable items. This is manmade leather with a very thick plastic coating applied to the surface, this leather can generally cause issues with it peeling off and bubbles appearing, very difficult to repair, again full panel colouring is required.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Assessing the Damage and Your Options.

The list of leathers we have just given you, will help with your repairs. Coated / sealed leathers, Antique (rub off) will give you the best possible repairs. Then its Semi Aniline leathers, Bicast is the next leather in line, but Pure Anilines are the hardest to repair in some cases you will be required to replace panels to perfect a repair.

It may not always be possible to know your client's history of complaints with the leather, so be very professional and diplomatic. It is best to always advise your customer of how the leather may look so they know what to expect from the repair, as the last thing you want them to expect is pure invisible repairs. In a lot of cases, it's best to advise that scratches and rips will end up looking like scars that you get in leather that are very natural looking.

Getting the Leather Ready For Repair.

Irrespective of the leather type it's essential that all grease, dirt, wax, and silicones are removed first, and the leather is fully dried before proceeding. It is best to find out the history of the leather cleaning and protection used in the past if they know this. Without the leather being cleaned fully, things like fillers, glues, colourants, and sealers may not adhere to the surface correctly and cause issues down the line. Stains like clothing dye are very difficult to remove and, in a lot, of cases customers mistake this for dirt build up in the grain structure.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

If you think it is dye transfer that has built up, use the leather prep first of all.

The first step is to clean the leathers surface with the Leather Cleaner, you can use for best results a Brucele brush. Then remove all the dirt and cleaning solution with a clean white terry towel. You can speed up the drying with a hair dryer staying about 8 inches away from the leather surface not getting the leather too hot. The next stage is to wipe over the leather with the leather prep to break down the surface coating getting it ready for the repair and re- colouring processes.

Grease from pets and humans will penetrate the leather surface breaking it down, getting deep down in the leathers skin. With this type of damage use the leather degreaser gel cleaner. If you don't remove as much of this as possible the dye you apply will just lift off again. Apply the degreaser until the gel turns green / white, the green is the grease being lifted out then fully Hoover this area to pull out all of the grease. It is best to advise the customer that with this type of damage that the repair may not be as successful as you would wish it to be, and the problem may re appear again in the future.

The reason for this is when it's warmer weather, grease and body oils return to the top surface again which may cause the repair to go wrong and fail.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Glues and Fillers.

Leather Glue is applied to the back side of the leather and then sub patches applied using a strong thin fabric or very fine thin leather.

Fillers are used to repair holes, grazes, scratches and impressions in the leather, it's best applied in several thin coatings, drying between each layer to ensure they are fully settled and bonded to the leather, all our fillers are very flexible and will not crack or fall out.

We have several types of fillers all for different repairs and applications, The Heavy Filler is used to fill deep areas it's a paste filler, Leather Binder is a very thin product with gluing properties to make sure that leather fibres that are sitting proud and looking like suede are glued back down to give a sound base for a repair to take place. Light Filler is slightly thicker filler than the Binder to help build up repairs and can be spread very easily over large areas with a palette knife. Flexi filler is an amazing product designed to fill large areas of cracking in the leathers colour coating, making the surface perfect for re-colouring. Just remember with any filler less is more and requires less sanding which is always much better.

Heavy Filler has to be applied in thin layers sanding between each layer to ensure it's smooth, over application will cause sinkage to happen.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Re Colouring

Now all the preparation has been completed and the leather is fully dry, you can now start to apply the colour. Do make sure all jobs are started off with leather prep, to ensure the surface is free of grease, waxes, and silicones. All The Leather Repair Companies colours are water based so can be applied by sponge or via spraying equipment like an airbrush. Always filter the dye if you don't have filters then tights are perfect as a filter. If it's a large re-colour you're doing, and a lot of the original dye has been removed start off first of all with a sponge dabbing this on to make sure you get a good base coat layer almost like a primer coat. Then this can be followed up with an additional three or four coats via spraying equipment.

We have 16 standard colours in our range so from that you can make almost any colour in the world. You may notice that some of our paints have settled, and pigments separate, this is due to the weight of some pigments. Before use always give them a gentle shake just rocking them side to side to mix them back up again.

The shelf life of The Leather Repair Company dyes is around 3 years, but in most cases a lot more due to the preserves we put in our dyes in manufacture, we have had some dyes in our workshop for over 7 years and they still work perfectly fine as long as they are kept cool and frost free, also do not allow to get too hot.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Coloured Finishes

If you have had a special mix made by us, then we will try our best to mix the colour as close as possible, it's always best to have some tinters in so you can make final adjustments at your end to perfect your colour mix. As the sample you supply will be in most cases clean and free from dirt it will always be a slightly different shade to what is on the top surface that has had wear and tear taking place and been in direct sun light.

If your colour mix is too shiny you can reduce this down by spraying over the colour with a matt or gloss finish, both types of clear finish can be mixed together to get any sheen level you require. The more clear coats you apply the lower the brightness of the colour, it's best to apply at least 4 coats of sealer sand with 1200 grit before your final coat to ensure the finish is smooth and feels perfect.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Using Our Colouring Mixing Service

The Leather repair company offer a full in-house mixing service from 50ml to 10,000ml. Depending on the size of your job we can mix any amount you need and keep mixing formulas on file for future orders. A 250ml mix will be enough to cover the front facing of two car seats, 500ml will spray the front facing of the two front seats and the back seat, 1 litre will be enough to re spray a full car interior including door cards and gear stick and steering wheel. As we mix by eye it's far better as computerised mixing causes issues as it will give you a colour mix of when the leather was brand new and if you're just doing a touch up job this means your colour will be way out.

Samples are always better the bigger you can supply a small sample the size of a 50p will result in a 85% correct colour mix, the bigger the sample the more perfect we can make a mix.

So if you can supply a full size colour swatch then we can make a perfect mix to what you supply, you have to understand that any leather exposed to light and sun will be slightly different to the sample you have mixed.

If your contract is with a large furniture shop or car dealership, always ask for a shop floor leather sample as these can be about a foot square and are a perfect guide for us to do colour mixes to perfection for you, making your repair quicker, saving you a great deal of time mixing colours on site.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

If your sample is from the underside of your item, it will not match the surface on top your repairing, so our leather colourant kits are the perfect way forward as they all contain tints so you can do a final colour adjust with ease, at your end.

Suite Re Colouring

This service is something that you may be asked to do on a regular basis, it's advised the suite is removed from the customers property and taken back to your work shop to complete or you can do this in the customer's garage if they have one. Make sure you clean the suite properly using the Leather Cleaner and the Brucle brush, this will make sure the leather is fully clean and nice and soft again.

Once the suite is fully cleaned, you will then need to go over the leather surface with the leather prep to remove all grease, dirt, waxes, and silicones on the leathers surface. The final stage is to wipe the surface over with alcohol cleaner after that do not touch the leather again with your hands.

Some leather suites are easy to re-spray as they are flat panels and in sections, suites that have folds are not easy to do at all, it's advised you spray these areas first using a very flat matt finish ensuring they are 100% dry before letting them touch together again.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Now you can proceed to spraying all other areas, if you have to use masking tapes it's advised that you buy our unique plastic leather masking tape as this will stop the tape lifting colour and paint bleeding through on the underside of the tape.

Car and Boat Seat Repairs

Use the exact same products and methods as the furniture repairs and re colouring processes. In boats it's advised to spray over the boat seats with a waterproofing product to ensure they stay perfect.

Removing Ink

The Leather Repair Company ink and stain remover is perfect for fresh inks on sealed leather finishes. The older the ink stains the harder it is to be removed and in most cases with any ink stain, colour restoration will be required. You will need to use leather prep to remove the balance of the ink stain as it will bleed through the colour if you don't.

Removing Paint Spills

Big lumps of paints can be carefully removed with a scalpel, smudges of paint can be removed with the leather prep or alcohol cleaner, but not all paints will come off so re-colouring is the only option as you can cause more damage trying to remove the paint than you had before.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Removing Glue

Leather prep is the first product to use or alcohol cleaner, do test areas first of all. With super glue you will have to use the prep and sand back with 320 grit and finish off with 1200 grit being careful not to remove the grain pattern.

Curry Stains

You will need to use the leather prep to remove the clear coat, not all the clear coat may be needed to be removed. Make sure you dry between applications, do not try to remove the stain in one go. Use several attempts to remove it. You then may only need to re-apply the clear coat, in some cases it may need re-colouring and then sealing.

Aniline Leathers

Use a pump sprayer with our Leather Cleaner, spraying on the surface and leaving for around 30 seconds, then wipe off with a white terry towel. You can use the alcohol cleaner and the leather prep on aniline, but it will make the aniline lighter in colour and this can be restored using our leather re-colouring balm or aniline dyes.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Solving Problems

If your repair looks darker after a period of time, this can be caused due to too much black in your mix. You will need to re mix your colour and re-colour again.

Dye transfer has come to the top again through your colourant, you will have to re colour again and ensure that all dye transfer is removed fully before re colouring again.

The customer has transferred dye from jeans after your repair was done. If you have applied a lot of colour coats, this may cause an issue as it will have gone deep down in the colour repair. Make sure your customer is told that water-based colourants can take up to 4 days to cure fully and advise them to be very careful of the item during this curing period and not to wear denim / jeans for a good 14 days. Where this has happened, it will require a complete re colour again.

The customer has applied a protection cream and leather surface is peeling off, again this will be because they have not used a compatible product and it's been applied too quickly after the repair.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Colour Peeling You Applied

This is due to lack of preparation on your part. Customers will use items like wood polish on leather as they think it's great, it's a killer for leather.

Always ask the customer what they have used to clean and protect the leather, in the past the customer may not want to admit some items, so ask as many questions as you can to make them feel easy about talking about it.

When this happens, you will need to make sure you prepare the surface correctly, you can use a scotch pad with leather prep to ensure all dirt and cleaners that have penetrated the colour are fully removed.

Peeling and cracking can also be caused by your colourants where frost has got to them as they are water based it will destroy the colour making it unstable to use.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Making Colours Yourself

This is the hard part!! Trying to mix a colour while the customer is looking over your shoulder is very hard as they will always try to suggest ideas to you making the mixing very hard and sometimes impossible.

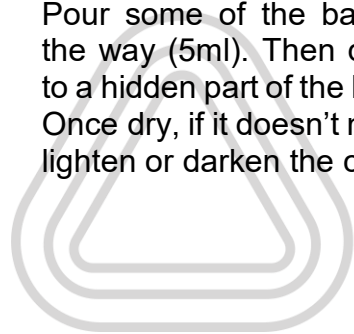
You either have a colour mixing eye or you will learn slowly, you have to try to work out what is in the colour, sometimes a drop of red in creams and beiges can make a colour perfect, our colours are very powerful so a small drop can make a huge difference.

In greys they sometimes can be achieved by adding a small drop of oxide yellow, as a lot of Porsche colours, we have found them to get perfect matches using this method, some browns you need orange. We do have full colour mixing cards you can get from us with formulas on them.

We also supply formula papers so you can keep records for life of any colour you mix.

Matching the colour, shake all the bottles of colour and tints very well.

Pour some of the base colour into the small mixing cup. Fill it about quarter of the way (5ml). Then dip a cotton wool bud into the colour and apply a tiny amount to a hidden part of the leather. Dry with a hair drier or let it dry naturally for 5 minutes. Once dry, if it doesn't match the colour of your leather follow the instructions to either lighten or darken the colour so that it is a perfect match.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

How this system works is, you will add (as instructed) a small quantity of the tint(s) to the base colour and mix it together, you then re-apply a small amount of colour with a cotton wool bud to the leather and let it dry. If it matches, use this colour to make the repair, if it doesn't, keep following the colour matching instructions and re-apply the new colour to the leather until it matches. Also, see the heading '**adjusting the sheen**' to help match the sheen of the leather as well as the colour.

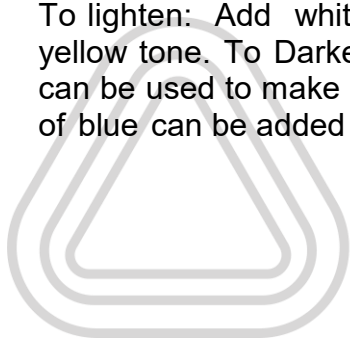
Follow the instructions for your leather colour as shown below. Once you have matched the colour, you're ready for this to be applied.

CREAM - light-dark, yellow cream -peach cream

To lighten: Add white in small amounts to make the colour paler or yellow to lighten with a yellow tone. To Darken: Add umber in small amounts to darken the colour. If you add too much, the colour may go slightly green, this can be corrected by adding a drop of red. Black can be used to make a very dark cream, only add a small amount. To make more Red/Peachy: Add small amounts of red or orange. To make more Golden: Slowly mix in oxide yellow to add a golden tone.

IVORY - light-dark

To lighten: Add white to make the colour paler, or yellow to lighten, with a yellow tone. To Darken: Add umber in small amounts to darken the colour. Black can be used to make a very dark ivory, only add a small amount. Small amounts of blue can be added to add a slight greenish tint.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

MEDIUM BROWN, light brown, dark brown -maroon brown

To lighten: Add yellow, this will lighten the colour but may take the red tone away. Add red to correct this. Adding white will also lighten but may create a more pale dusty colour if too much is added. To Darken: Add black, this may add a slight green tone, adding red will return the red tone. For darker browns, the colour can be darkened by adding violet.

RED - light red, dark red – maroon

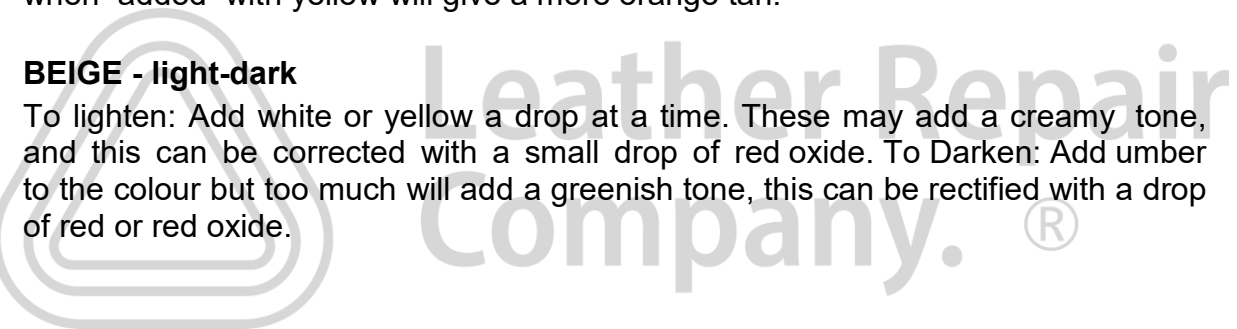
To lighten: Add yellow, this will give a more orange tone. Adding white will also lighten but will make the colour more pink. Often a combination of both colours added together is best. To Darken: Add black, this may add a brown tone so combat this with magenta. Violet can also be used to darken the colour to give it a more purple tone. Adding blue will also darken without adding a brown tone to the colour but will also give it a purple tone if too much is added.

TAN - light tan, yellow tan - red tan

To lighten: Add white a little at a time or yellow to add a golden tone to the tan. To Darken: Add black. To darken and retain a red tone add violet. To make a golden orange tan: Add blue in small amounts this will also darken the colour and when added with yellow will give a more orange tan.

BEIGE - light-dark

To lighten: Add white or yellow a drop at a time. These may add a creamy tone, and this can be corrected with a small drop of red oxide. To Darken: Add umber to the colour but too much will add a greenish tone, this can be rectified with a drop of red or red oxide.



BLUE - light -dark, purple blue

To lighten: Add white to make a pale blue or a small amount of yellow to just lighten the blue, too much Yellow will make a green, so adding a drop of red will help remove the green tint. To Darken: Add small drops of black or umber. These may add a slight green tint, adding magenta or red will help combat this. To make Purple: Add red, magenta, or violet with black if a darker purple is required.

DARK BROWN

To Lighten: Add yellow and red in equal quantities. This lightens, keeping the brown tone. Adding yellow on its own kills the red tone of the brown. To Darken: Add black with magenta or black with violet in equal quantities. This keeps the brown tone and darkens the colour. Black and violet will make a darker brown than black and magenta.

BLACK

To lighten, add small amounts of white, just be careful with white as it can overpower the black, sometimes it's far better to add light brown to lighten, red will give it a slightly darker richer colour and dark blue can darken the colour mix. Purple will darken it even deeper, light brown will also lighten blacks.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Colours What They Do!

Red:- Lightens dark colours and changes tone.

Blue:- Darkens light colours and changes tone.

Yellow:- Lightens quite dark colours and changes tone.

Green:- Darkens light colours and changes tone.

Adjusting The Sheen

To adjust the sheen level, you can do this by adding matting agent to the colour mix. If it's too matt, you can adjust this by adding gloss clear finish to the colour to bring the sheen level back up a step or two.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

These are basic colours you will be working with; you may also have other colours that are specific to your base. Mix the colours together to achieve the colour of your leather. **REMEMBER:** always use small amounts

TONE:- The dominant primary colour in a mix.

Black:- Darkens any colour, but may also kill the brightness.

White:- Lightens any colour.

When mixing colours always allow it to dry fully, and look from every angle possible to ensure you get no shadowing and that the colour has blended perfectly. To test, rub a small amount in to the leather the size of a 10p on the end of your finger keeping it thin, and then dry, do this in an area that is not seen, once happy, just use the Leather Cleaner to remove.

If you need any colour mixing help you can always visit www.leathercolours.com

Or contact us via email help@leatherrepaircompany.com



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Two Tone and Mottled Finishes

A lot of leathers today are a two-tone finish and are impossible to achieve with a single colour finish. To achieve this, you have to use two colours normally a lighter colour first, then a darker shade applied sparingly over the top, like misting the second coating on.

You can have problems when you stray with your spraying and go on to areas that are perfect, it means your repair is going to grow!!

You can use a large bit of paper, and cut a hole in it, so you can carry out a local repair, without causing the topcoat to make good areas even darker.

You may find where the leather topcoat is in streaks or blobs you can use a pure sea sponge to help replicate this or even some artist brushes, or even a feather can help. You can always achieve this with a mouth atomizer diffuser, to spray on the colour sparingly, this method is perfect for two tones, but takes practice to make it perfect, but it can make the repair look as good as the old one, once you perfect your technique.

What Spraying Equipment Do I Need?

All The Leather Repair Company colours can be applied by sponge, diffuser, spray gun or for a truly professional result an air



brush or small gravity fed panel repair gun, again all these items can be purchased from our shop www.leatherrepaircompany.com

The best airbrushes for extremely fine detailed work we have found are the Paasche H Set with a number 5 needle.

The best guns for spraying leather colourant on and leather topcoat finish is the HVLP gravity fed air gun, they are by far the best gun overall and up and above that of the Paasche.

They are easy to clean and very rarely go wrong, if they do, they are simple and cheap to repair yourself. Spare parts are also available off the shelf for these type of airbrushes.

You don't always need a compressor when using an airbrush as we manufacture air propellant cans so they can be quickly connected to your airbrush, they are perfect for quick repairs in someone's house, or on the 25th floor of a block of flats where you have no lift and you have to carry everything up the stairs !!!!!

Applying The Finish Clear Coat

Once the colour is dry. Sponge the finish onto the leather. You will need to mix it first, to match the sheen of your leather. Very shiny leather: Apply the gloss. Very dull leather: Apply the matt on its own. Satin finish (in between the above): Mix the matt and gloss 50/50.

The leather touch up kit has been designed as a DIY repair kit in which you get a base colour and several colour tints. You then tint the base colour to make it match your leather

exactly, e.g. if your leather is cream, you will get a cream base colour plus various tints, which cover the whole colour spectrum of cream. This allows you to get an exact colour match to your leather. Once you have the colour, you can then repair the damages.

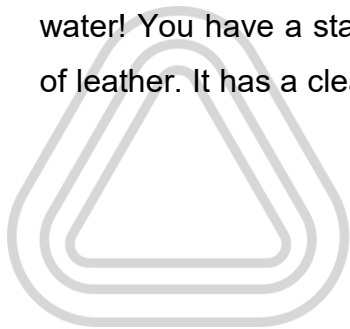
Scuffs & Scratches: For scratches just colour them in with a paint brush or cotton wool bud. For scuffs, gently sand the leather to make smooth, then dab the colour on with a sponge.

Faded & Worn: If the leather is rough, gently sand it down to make smooth. Then dab the colour onto the area and allow to dry.

Stains & Spills: Nail varnish remover and other strong solvents sometimes remove colour from leather, easily touch it up with a sponge or cover nasty hard to remove stains.

How To Repair Water Stains On Leather.

Clean water stains such as condensation from a glass, is easily treated with clean water! You have a stain because the water drop has dried in the middle of a piece of leather. It has a clear point of demarcation to the rest of the leather.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

What you need to do is reduce that point of demarcation by wetting the entire area out to a seam or edge. Take a bowl of room temp water and a new sponge. Soak the sponge, wring it as dry as possible and starting at the spot dampen the leather and move the sponge to the edges of the leather item.

Allowing the moisture to become less and less as you get further from the spot. Do not scrub, just wipe. You do not want to soak the leather just get it damp enough at the stain to release the stain and wet the rest of the leather so that the entire area can dry uniformly across the cushion rather than in that one spot.

Water has a tendency to dry leather's natural "oils" so it is best to condition the leather after getting rid of the stain with "The Leather Protection Cream, Conditioner and Protector. Dirty water or tea, coffee, soda can be treated the same way but may leave its own mark. That requires professional care.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Stain Removal

This is a big topic, and we cover this in a separate stain removal guide.

If you require this, please ask us.

But in short if you have a water stain on water-based product simply apply more water and slowly dry, this will get you 50% of the way to repairing the issues.

We also have the ink and stain remover to help with a lot of issues.

If neither of these work, it's back to basics with leather prep to strip the surface coatings and alcohol cleaner and then carry out full re colour restorations again.

You may also find our problem solver guide helpful again, ask for details of this and we can get this sent to you.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Require help?

If you need help with any issue please don't hesitate to contact us first we are open most weeks 7 days from early morning to late at night.

Contact us 01482 606864

help@leatherrepaircompany.com or visit
www.leatherrepaircompany.com

Sending samples to us

Leather Repair Company
Unit 22
Argyle Street Factory Estate
Hull, East Yorkshire
HU3 1HD England

When sending samples, we need your name and address and as much detail about the item as you can provide. Also the amount required etc.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Notes



**Leather Repair
Company. ®**



Leather Repair Company.



Leather Repair Company
Unit 22

Argyle Street Factory Estate

Hull, East Yorkshire,

HU3 1HD, England

T: 01482 606864

www.LRCUK.com

help@leatherrepaircompany.com

Company Reg No 05618265

www.LRCUK.com



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

Leather Repair
Company. ®

SECTION 7

Stain Removal & Cleaning Of Leather

Leather Cleaning Tools

Leather cleaning tools, what do you need ?

- 1/ Microscope
- 2/ Vacuum
- 3/ Bruclé Brush
- 4/ Soft White Sponges
- 5/ Soft White Terry Towels

The best item we have found to use is a Bruclé brush, the Bruclé brush is a porous fibre from the Mexican agave plant that is heat, alkali and acid resistant. Works well on leather when used in conjunction with the Leather Cleaner.

The Bruclé brush is anti static and heat tolerant up to 280°F

The Bruclé brush is used to clean deep down into the leather's natural grains and texture. The Bruclé brush special fibres lift dirt quickly, easily and safely away from the leather.

Where you have light coloured leathers and the dirt has got deep down in the grain this is the best type of brush you can ever have in your cleaning kit to deep clean your leather.

This specialist Natural Fibre Bruclé Brush makes cleaning leather easy and extremely simple.

The Bruclé is a durable brush that cleans deep into the leather grain structure to remove all the dirt and grime than normal cleaning would just not even touch.

The Bruclé is ideal for stain removal as it works into the leather the pull the stain out of the grain and pores.

You can use the Bruclé on fabrics and carpets to agitate them when doing spot cleaning.

Leather Cleaning techniques and methods

Leather is a very durable product but does require special care when it comes to cleaning methods and products you use to clean this.

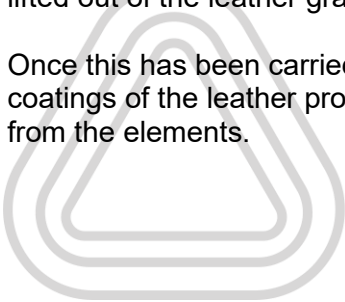
Using household cleaner will only result in damaging your leather goods, it's advised that you use products designed specifically for leather that has a gentle but effective cleaning action.

The first stage with any cleaning is identification of the leather (see leather identification)

You can then use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush attachment and gently vacuum off the loose debris that is on the leather, if this is not done this will result in an abrasive cleaning action causing damage to the leather surface and in time breaking down the coatings exposing the leather structure below.

You can spray the leather cleaner directly onto the leather surface and then use a special Brucler brush to agitate the leather surface to break down the dirt that is imbedded within the grain pattern. You may find that you have to repeat this process several times depending on how dirty the leather is, during each process it's advised to wipe down with a clean soft terry towel to ensure all dirt that has been lifted out of the grain pattern has been removed, it is also worth using the vacuum between applications to remove any particles / debris that have been lifted out of the leather grain to make sure they are not acting as an abrasive cleaner.

Once this has been carried out and all dirt has been removed you can then apply very thin coatings of the leather protection cream to ensure the leather surface is fully protected again from the elements.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Steam Cleaning Leather

Steam cleaning leather may appear to be a good method of cleaning, it may also be very affective. **BUT DON'T DO IT.**

We have been asked a few times about this and if it's safe, we have always said we have never done it so I can't say for sure,

So decided to carry out some tests to give you some feedback on the pros and cons.

But we have been doing some very extensive testing on leather and it's a killer.

We have carried out tests on many different types and styles.

Car interiors should not be cleaned in this way at all by Detailers & Valeters

Couches should not be cleaned in this way for all your Cleaners

Period NO LEATHER SHOULD BE CLEANED THIS WAY THE DAMAGE IT CAUSES IS AMAZING.

Some of The Results We Found Were As Follows.

1/ It added too much moisture into the leather causing it to swell

2/ When dried out it went hard

3/ Caused damage to the painted surface, breaking down the surface topcoat colour

4/ Caused mold and bacteria to grow within the leather as its trap's moisture

5/ Bacteria grows and causes a bad odour and smell.

You will find using a professional cleaner like our Leather Cleaner and our Premium Foam Cleaner well be far more beneficial than anything else on the market. It's imperative you use the correct products on leather, steam cleaning is not the way forward at all.

We found after doing a great deal of testing that it even took off the coloured surface on some car interiors leather and some couches got so badly damaged you would not believe your eyes. If you are looking for advice on leather care and cleaning, please do get in touch and share this around as much as you can as a lot of people are going to get big problems using a steam cleaner on leather.

What can go wrong with steam cleaning leather?

Steam Cleaning – Leather is made by chemically cross-linking the protein collagen in hides & skins.

This is done in many different ways, using different chemistry and approach. The results from the different tanning systems improve the hydrothermal stability of the tanned collagen matrix so that it will not denature / deteriorate at elevated temperatures and will stand a cycle of drying / re-wetting / drying with no significant bad results.

The degree of hydrothermal stability is determined by the type of tanning system and how strong are the bonds chemically between the tanning agent and the protein molecules of the collagen. At the low end of stability, you get vegetable tanned and oil tanned leather and at the upper end, the mineral tans such as chrome, aluminium, and zirconium.

Each tanning agent imparts a significant amount of the final character to the leather that it makes (flexibility / firmness, density, hardness etc).

Chrome tanned leather in the tannery will stand a boiling test without shrinkage – this is one of the production measures used to verify the process is complete. Why in footwear? Chrome is still the preferred leather to remain flexible after all of the heat treatments that occur during shoe making. Other mineral tans will not produce as high as a performance as chrome.

With very heavily finished leather (effectively fully pigmented – plastic coated if you like) it may be possible to get away with a surface steaming, but there's no guarantees with that since you don't actually know what's underneath and you don't know it's chemical constituents...

If you take the approach that wet heat is potentially damaging..... you'll be about right, it's always advised to use water-based products made from the finest natural soap flakes, failing that a slightly damp cloth is better than steam cleaning or using harsh house hold chemicals.

Leather Cleaning - How To Clean Leather Professionally

To clean leather you need to use the Leather Cleaner.

The Leather Cleaner is a very effective cleaner that deep cleans into the grain removing all dirt and grime.

Spray the Leather Cleaner onto a sponge and work into the leather in a circular motion, creating a foam as it cleans. This will lift all the dirt and grime away from the leather as it deep cleans into the grain structure.

If your leather is extremely dirty then you can use a Brucle Brush to agitate the dirt and grime lifting it from deep down in the grain, creating a beautiful luxurious finish.

Predominantly leather that has a sheen to it is generally dirty, the sheen is created due to grease and grime on the leather that becomes shiny, in a great deal of cases leather has a semi matt finish to it, but when it's gone shiny it's the dirt and grime creating the shine, causing further damage to your leather surface.

It all depends on the type of leather that you want to be cleaned if it's a car interior or standard leather furniture then it's most likely to be pigmented leather.

We have given below a guide to cleaning pigmented leather.

The first stages of cleaning is to lightly vacuum off your leather item with a soft brush attachment to remove all dirt and debris from the leather, this will avoid scratching the leather when the cleaning process starts.



Leather Cleaning Step vacuum off the debris

The next stage is to use a microscope if you have one to access any damage that may be on the leather where you have to proceed with caution.

To the naked eye a great deal of damage on the leather surface can not be seen unless you use a microscope to view this correctly, see the picture below of damage viewed via a microscope, that normally would not be seen.



When you start to clean leather the first part of this is looking at the leather through a microscope to ensure there is no damage on the leather item that could become worse with deep cleaning, this will as in this picture highlight potential issues meaning the seats require a restoration being carried out as they are all cracked. To the naked eye this was not possible to be seen, only through the microscope.

Leather cleaning damage through a microscope

Once you have passed this stage you can proceed to use the Leather Cleaner, this can be sprayed directly onto a sponge and be worked in to the leather in a circular motion creating a foam as you go, lifting all dirt and grime away.

If the leather is particularly dirty, then you can spray directly on to the leather and agitate this with a Brucle brush to get deep down within the grains structure to lift all the dirt and grime away.

Once you have cleaned the area you are working on, lift all dirt away with a soft terry towel, turning the terry towel to a clean side as you go.

These pictures show how clean leather can be using the correct products and methods of cleaning.



Leather Cleaning 50 - 50 picture

Leather Furniture Half Cleaned
This picture shows a 50/50 shot of the leather half cleaned and if carried out correctly how much of a transformation it can achieve.



Leather cleaning half done car seat base

Bentley Front Seat Base Half Cleaned
This picture shows a 50/50 shot of the leather half cleaned and if carried out correctly how much of a transformation it can achieve.



Leather cleaning Mercedes seat

Mercedes back seat base half cleaned correctly
This picture shows a 50/50 shot of the leather half cleaned and if carried out correctly how much of a transformation it can achieve.

You can then check the area again with a microscope if you wish.

Once you have fully cleaned the full item, you should be left with a beautiful clean surface if you happen to have any shading left on the surface this could be wear areas that will need attention very quickly before they break down fully and requires a full restoration.

After cleaning you will need to protect your leather with two good coatings of Leather Protection Cream with built in intelligent protection barriers.

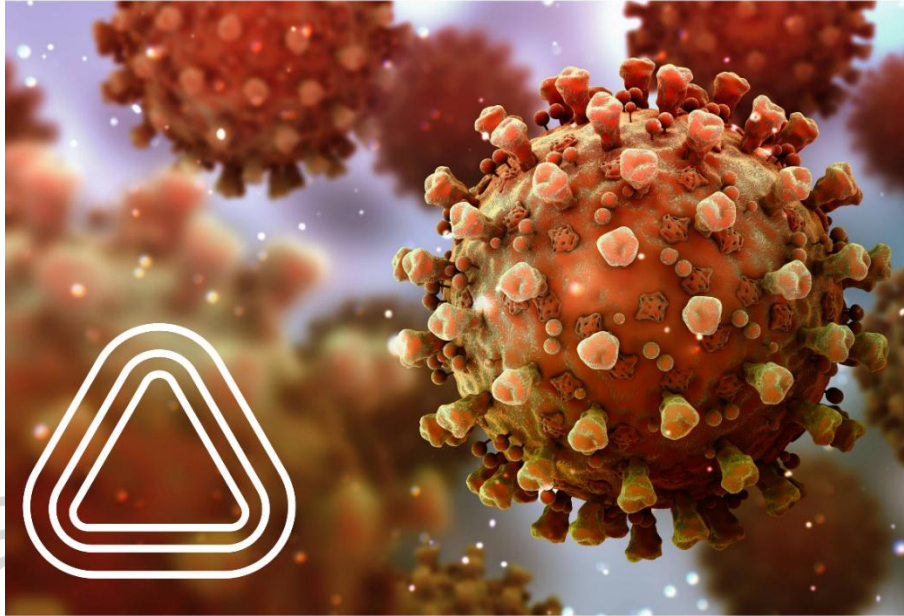
If you require any help and further guidance don't hesitate to contact us help@leatherrepaircompany.com



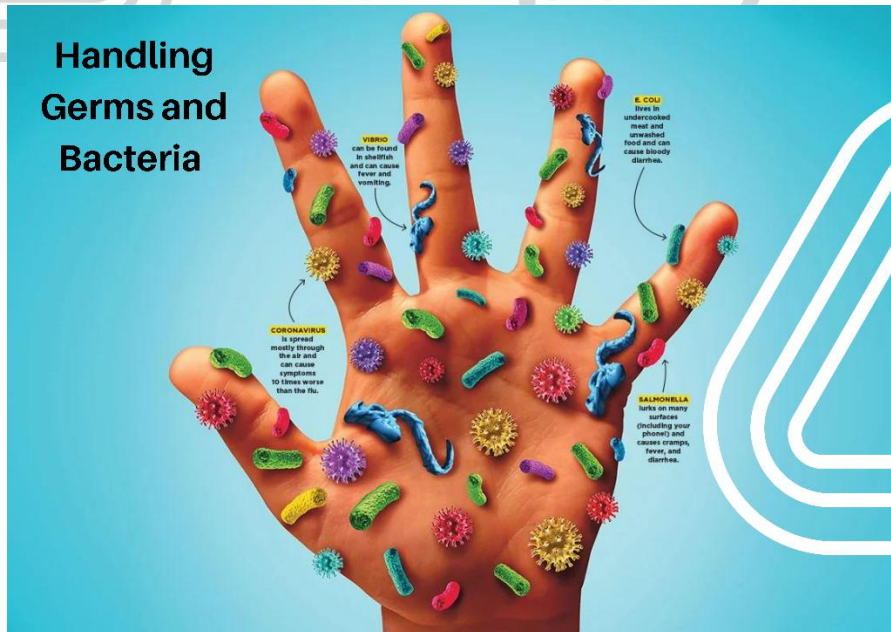
Leather Repair
Company. ®

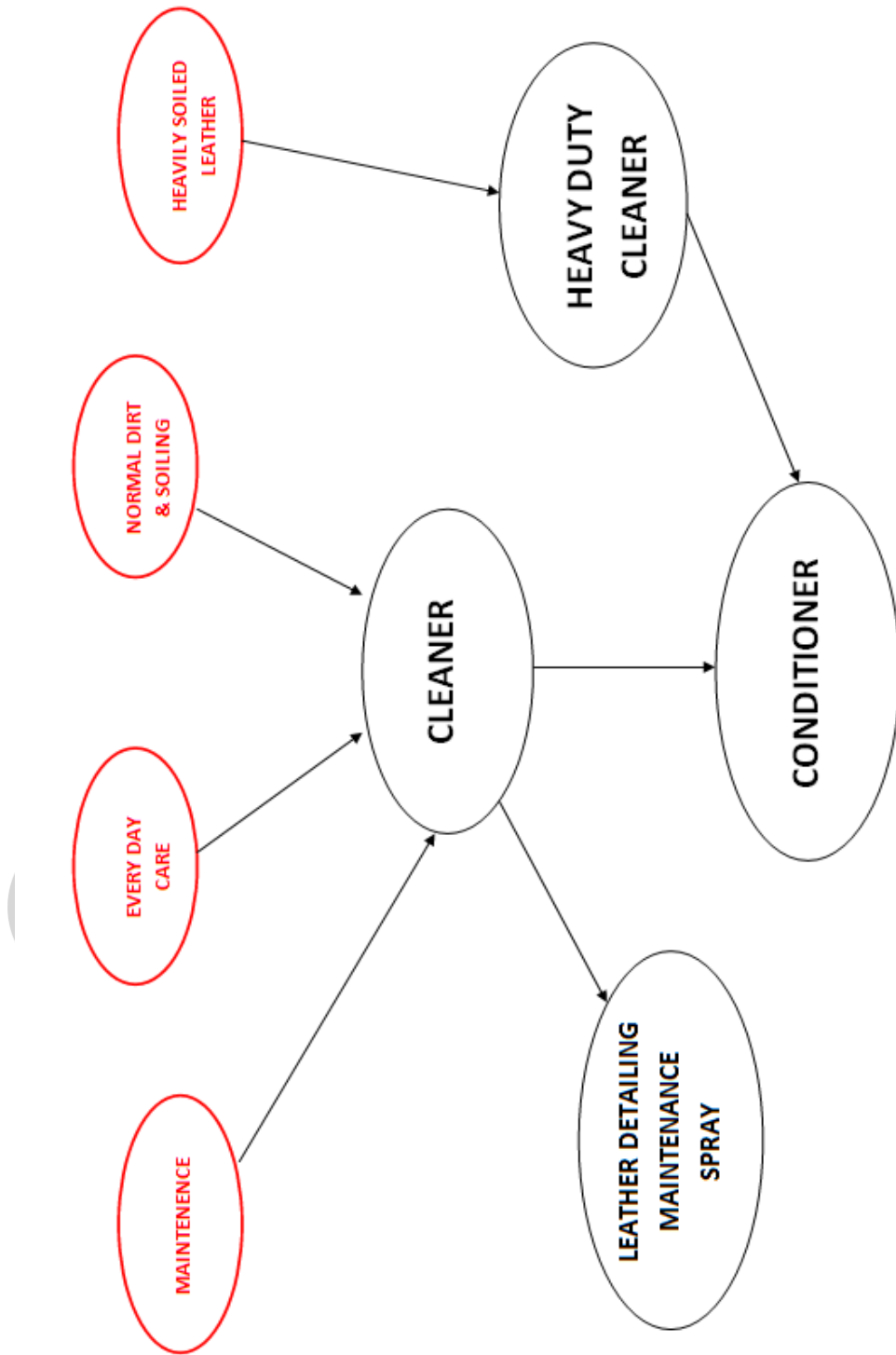
Dirty Interiors

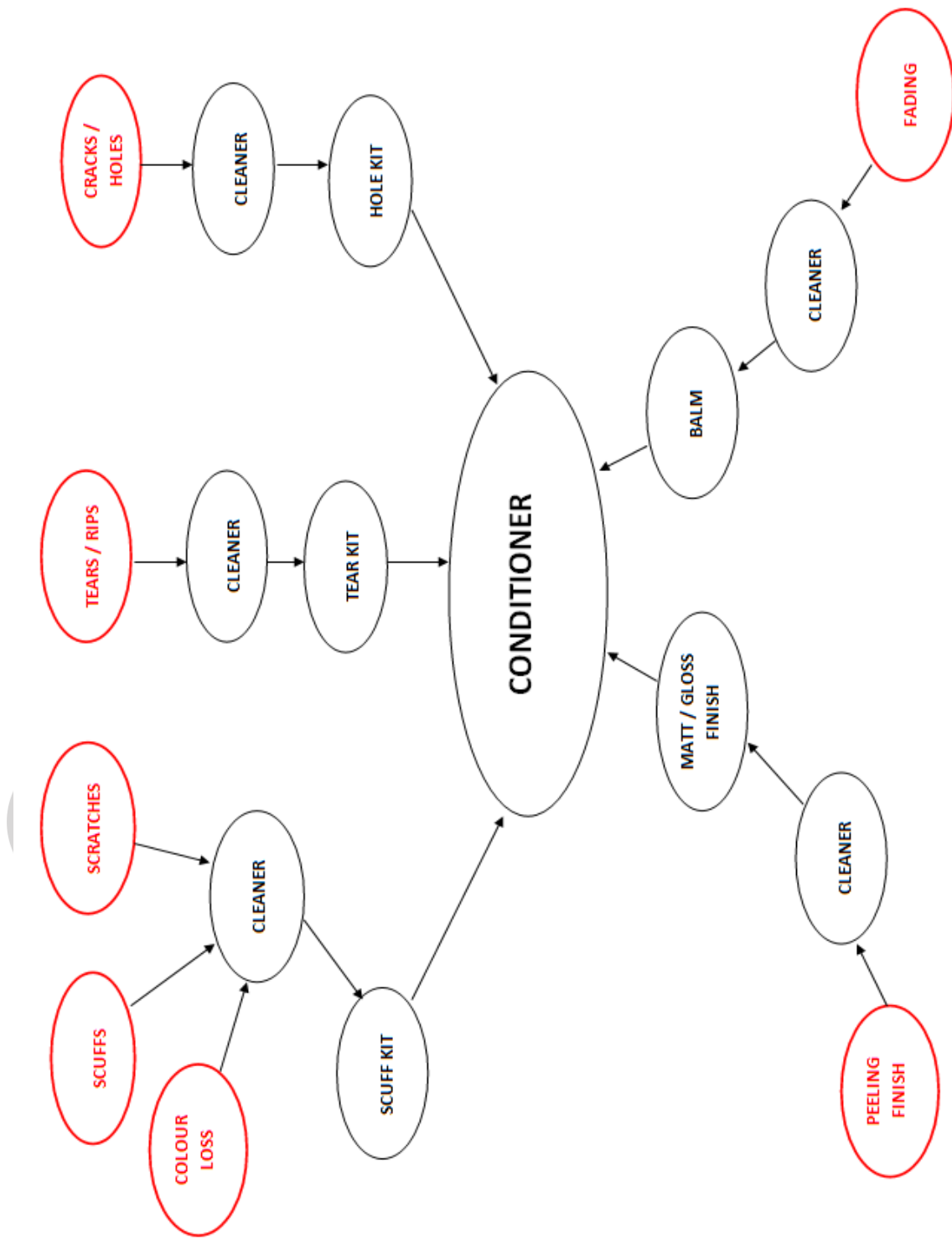
Vehicle Interiors Contain More Germs Than A Public Toilet

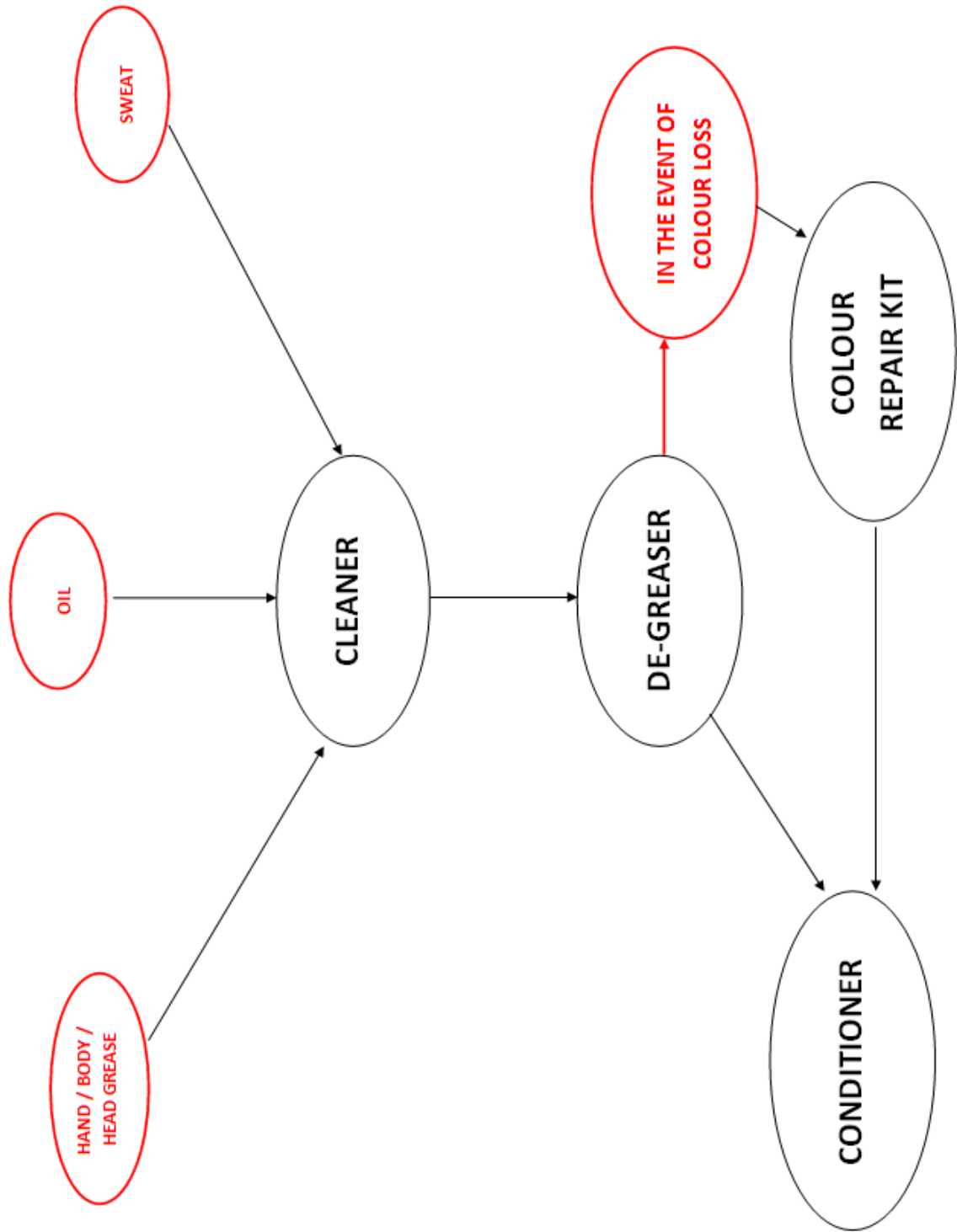


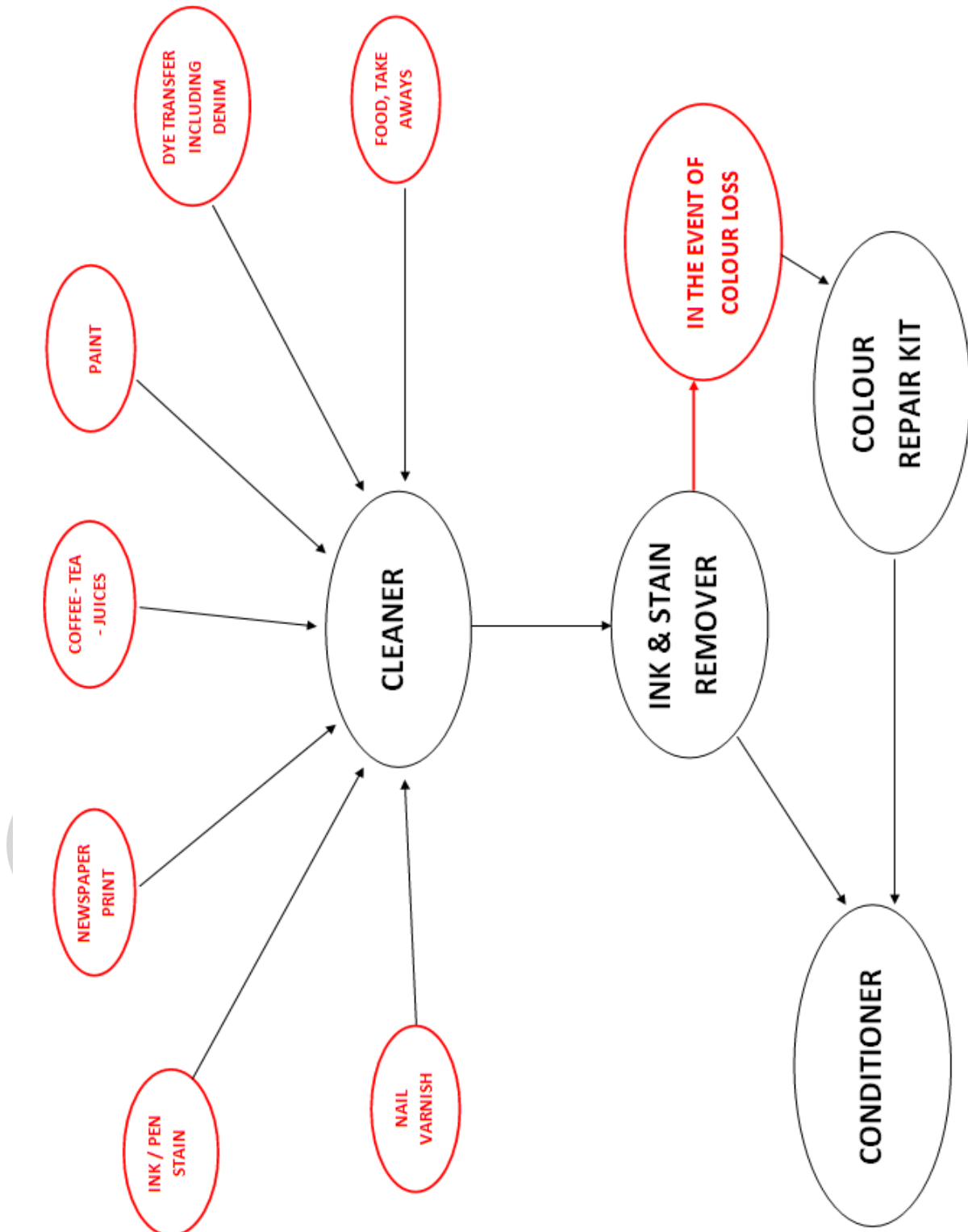
Handling Germs and Bacteria











Leather Protection

Leather Protection is essential, understanding different levels of protection is crucial.

Different leather require different care also.

Leather Protection

DIRT & GRIME

LEATHER GRAIN

LEATHER GRAIN

WATER & LIQUIDS

LEATHER GRAIN

CRACKED & DRIED OUT LEATHER

LEATHER GRAIN

UV RAYS & NATURAL ELEMENTS

LEATHER GRAIN

PROTECTION CREAM ✓

If you want to help protect your leather. Our protection & conditioning cream offers outstanding protection against an array of possible threats, including:

- Dirt
- Grime
- Pen marks
- Juice
- Food stains
- Jeans dye
- UV damage
- Stains
- Grease
- Body oils.

If left unprotected, over time your leather will become dry, it will slowly crack, it will lose its colour. It will be damaged. This applies to your leather sofas, leather car interior, motorbike suits, jackets, and even shoes.

With its built-in advanced, intelligent protection system. The Leather Repair Companies, Leather Protection Cream will help care for your leather, making it last longer.

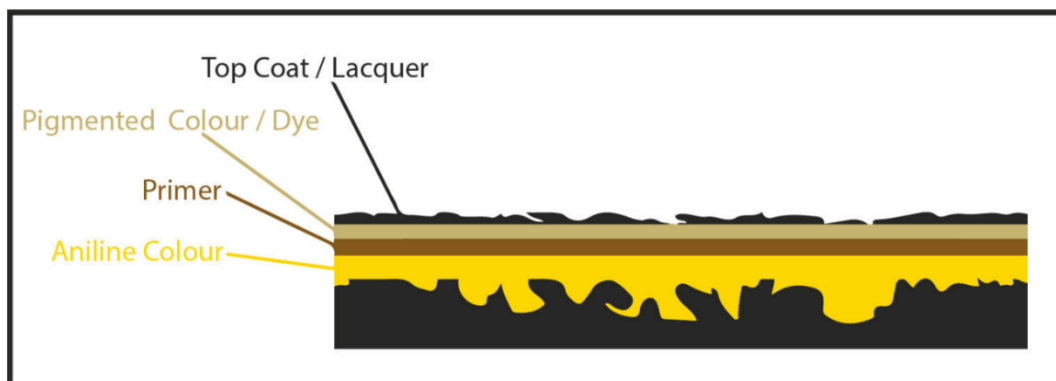
Other benefits of the leather protection & conditioning cream are it feeds, nourishes, and conditions your leather. This helps keep the moisture locked in. This helps keep your leather nice and supple.

When used in partnership with the Leather Cleaner, you will find you have brighter, fresher, newer looking leather items.



Leather Repair Company. ®

Understanding Surface Coatings



Grease On Painted Finish Leather Items

Removal / Repair Processes

Where your head lays and your hands are always placed on leather, you will always have grease, in some cases you can't even see it.

Prior to carrying out any colouring process it's always best to carry out a grease removal system to ensure it's safe and will not cause further issues down the line.

Due to this type of finish being a painted finish, it's extremely hard to break down the grease for its removal so, it may be best to repeat the processes below a few times to ensure its fully removed.

For areas that are just lightly soiled

- A. Clean down first of all with the Leather Cleaner, use a Brucler brush to agitate, and dry with a clean cloth.
- B. Then use leather prep to wipe over the surface to help break down the grease and dirt.
- C. Apply a fine layer of degrease to the affected areas, this can be done with a pallet knife then allow this to dry fully absorbing the grease.
- D. Then follow this by vacuuming off the powder, if it has grease in the leather this will change colour slightly to a greeny yellow colour.

Keep repeating this process until the powder when dry is fully turned white, this ensures all grease has then been removed.

For very heavily soiled leather follow the above A, B, C and D steps, plus 1 and 2 below.

1. But this time when you get to step B, use an abrasive pad and put inside the pad some terry towel to soak in the leather prep so you can work on the leather for a great deal longer than normal.
2. Then when this has been done, repeat the same process with an abrasive pad but with Alcohol cleaner.

The above steps A, B, C and D want to be done a few times as well as these steps 1 and 2 above

Examples of indications that grease may be on your leather

- ❖ On light coloured leathers that have grease on them it can produce a horrible black look this is the leathers fibres almost like a suede type finish has been left / exposed this is because the colour has worn away fully. This requires immediate attention before it's too late and this starts to generate weak areas causing a hole to appear.
Common areas for this to happen are the seat base areas if you wear shorts a lot or the folds in leather, arm areas, back areas where your head would rest.
- ❖ Another sign is where grease has affected the leather it will become sticky, tacky, dull, and sometimes very dark patches appear almost like the leather is wet.

How To Repair Water Stains On Leather

Clean water stains such as condensation from a glass is easily treated with clean water! You have a stain because the water drop has dried in the middle of a piece of leather. It has a clear point of demarcation to the rest of the leather.

What you want to do is reduce that point of demarcation by wetting the entire area out to a seam or edge. Take a bowl of room temp water and a new sponge. Soak the sponge wring it as dry as possible and starting at the spot dampen the leather and move the sponge to the edges of the leather item. Allowing the moisture to become less and less as you get further from the spot. Do not scrub, just wipe. You do not want to soak the leather just get it damp enough at the stain to release the stain and wet the rest of the leather so that the entire area can dry uniformly across the cushion rather than in that one spot.

Water has a tendency to dry leather's natural "oils" so it is best to condition the leather after getting rid of the stain with The Leather Protection Cream, Conditioner and Protector. Dirty water or tea, coffee, soda can be treated the same way but may leave its own mark. That requires professional care.



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 8



Leather Repair
Company. ®

**Leather Repairs
&
Leather Restorations**

Types Of Leather Repairs

There are many different types of repairs that can be carried out to leather, below we have listed some of the most common problems we face on a day-to-day basis.

These will be explained in much greater detail in the relevant sections for each method of repair in the training manual, mainly under “Leather Repair & Restoration Guides”

Tears / Rips

Colour Loss (applying Colour)

Scuffs On Leather

Holes / Burns In Leather

Grain Copying

Scratches In Leather

Cat Scratches

Colour Changes To Leather

Softening Leather

Sun Damaged

Car Seat Restoration



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Types of other help you gain, visit the leather wiki site www.prorestorers.co.uk

What Products Do.....

Leather Prep

Leather prep is used to remove the surface colour from the leather and prepare the leather ready for a repair to be carried out. To carry out a full colour restoration it's important that all the colour is removed from the surface as the leather needs to be absorbent again to take the new colourant.

Alcohol Cleaner

Alcohol cleaner is used in the prep stages of a repair or to clean down an area that has a tear to enable to tear or even a hole repair to take place, it's designed to remove final layers and spots of grease, grime, dirt and sweat.

Leather Colourant

The PU Leather Colourants have been designed for us on colour restoration and jobs where a re-colour or a complete colour change is required. We have manufactured them with a high pigment content allowing the coverage to be far better than any other on the market place. All colourants must be shaken well and be filtered prior to use.

- Fantastic UV Protection
- Brilliant Waterproof Protection
- Extremely Flexible
- Great Adhesion
- Luxurious Feel & Look

Clear Coat Lacquers

Gloss Lacquer Leather finish is a clear coat sealer / lacquer designed to be applied over the top of the Leather colourant, to seal in the topcoat, giving the finish an extremely hard wearing surface, protecting it from grime, stains and dirt.

The clear coat Gloss Lacquer Leather Finish is an ideal partner for manufacturers of antique finished leathers. Where the coloured finish is rubbed off to create a two-tone effect coloured look and finish.

Fibre Binder

Ideal for leather that has worn through and gone to a suede look, where the fibres of the leather have been exposed, the Fibre Binder will bind this together for a strong repair.

Used to help repair scuffs, and badly cracked leather. It's a watery liquid filler, used to bind very weak areas back together giving them an extremely strong base to carry out repairs. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

Flexi Filler

Designed to fill in badly cracked leather, flexi filler has immense elastic characteristics, wont crack, fall out or break up.

Perfect for application in heavy use areas like seat bases or car seat bolsters.

The flexi filler has amazing elastic properties meaning it will never crack or fall out of any cracks it's been used to repair. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

Heavy Filler

Heavy Filler – Is Flexible – Hard Wearing. It's designed to fill in scuffs, scrapes and holes in leather, being colour charged it enables a perfect repair to be carried each and every time.

Coloured heavy filler is the same as the standard white heavy filler.

Dries quickly and you can speed this up by using a hair dryer. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

Quick Dry Filler

Quick Dry Filler is a perfect product for those on the road jobs that require to have a filler used, this can be applied in thin layers and it's very quick drying speeding up your jobs and less time spent on each as well. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

Heat Cure Graining Fillers

Heat cure grain fillers, to re produce grain that's lost in leather or to replace grain where there are burn holes. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

Protection Cream

This gives a protective layer to leather after cleaning or restoring and feeds older leathers

The Restoration Process and Order Of Works

1/ The first and most important part is getting to know the leather / material, do your tests, look through a microscope, touch, feel, warmth, cold get to understand it before you give prices or tell the client what you're going to do.

To conduct a restoration you have to know the leather and understand its present condition, if the leather is very dry and hard, then it's a different approach to a standard restoration, you will need to clean all the leather first of all to remove all the dirt possible, then carry out a leather softening crème process to get the leather soft and supple again before you can begin a leather prep process, look at the videos for practical classics the Riley Pathfinder on YouTube, you would clean, apply softening crème, wipe over with alcohol cleaner

2/ The next stage would be to conduct a cleaning process to ensure the leather is cleaned, only clean the parts that wont be coloured, if you are colouring all of it then don't bother cleaning with a leather cleaner, it's a waste of money and time.

3/ After cleaning the leather to reveal the true colour of the leather opposite what requires repair and repainting, this is when you would carry out your colour matching process, match the colour to the panel next to the repair to ensure you deliver a good colour match. When you colour match only a apply a small amount on a sponge and we mean a small amount and dab in and dry, if you overapply then the colour match would give you a false impression, if the sample applied is too thick then it will look wrong.

4/ The next stage would be to carry out the leather prep stage, this is where you remove the surface colour, obviously you're not removing every ounce of colour, you are removing sufficient to give a bond to the surface, leaving some colour behind, as you don't want to remove all of it, unless you're changing the colour, ideally you want to remove a little amount of colour only, the new water based green prep is perfect for this process now, not only does it remove colour, it degreases as it goes. Once you have the prep stages done, if the leather is still in need of softening this is when you soften the leather again, after a few days remove the covers and then clean down with alcohol cleaner.

5/ Once the prep stages are completed, this is when you would carry out any tear repairs, fix the tears using the backing fabric and glue, apply any fillers as required, with heat cured grain copier fillers, always use a solvent-based glue like bostik / evostick use thin gloving leather for heat cured filler repairs. Once all the filler has been applied and sanded then it's on to the colouring stages. Leather that has fibres sticking up where its very worn like on bolster where its almost at a suede stage you use fibre binder, this is also done at this stage of the restoration.

6/ Once all fillers have been applied and sanded you can begin the colouring stages, first apply a very thin base layer by hand with a sponge, this can be applied in a haphazard method this is just to get you a base to see if any more filler is required, if so, this can be applied again now before proceeding to full colour application. If you are applying reds, yellows, greens etc always apply a base colour first, with oranges, yellows, reds etc you want a light to mid grey base, with maroon a dark grey / black, greens again a mid-grey base colour, the purpose of this is to avoid over applying the main colour and using less paint, saving time and money. Lightly sand with 320 or 1200 during applying coats of paint to always keep the surface smooth, you don't sand in a rough fashion you lightly pull the paper over the surface to sand.

7/ Applying the lacquers now the paint is dried, at this stage you can apply the clear coat lacquer, 3 to 4 coats is all that's required, each spray coat application sand very lightly with 1200 grade paper, this is where you pull / drag the paper over the lacquer surface to sand rather than sanding as you would filler. Sand between each coating of lacquer, then the final coat wants sanding with 3000 grit paper, it's what we call the polishing stages.

8/ Now the job is completed, you can apply the protection cream at this stage, again carefully as its fresh paint and lacquer.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

Leather Softening Process

Most people think that softening leather is an almost impossible task, using the correct products its simple in fact, Leather Softening Crème is the perfect solution to the problem.

Due to temperature fluctuations this causes Leather car seats to dry out. During the day and in the height of the hotter months an interior can become extremely hot and then cool right down in some cases rapidly at night-time.

With this repeated action taking place all natural oils are stiffened and evaporated from the leathers skin.

Furniture can suffer from the exact same effects where the sun shines on the leather. Leather that is placed next to sources of heat will also suffer from dryness and cracking. All types of leather goods suffer, from car seats to luxury leather goods and designer handbags, Garments (Jackets / Clothing), shoes, and trousers all suffer from this type of drying out.

Leather Softening Crème With Natural Oils To Soften Leather

- A. The first stage is to deep clean the leather surface. This will help in the softening process. For the Leather Softening Crème to work, you need to make sure the leather is fully deep cleaned, it may be worth lightly vacuuming off the leather to remove small particles of dirt. You're advised to use the Leather Cleaner for professional results.

B. Leather Repair Company produces an outstanding Leather Softening Crème with natural Oils. The purpose of this is to aid in the restoration process of old worn dried out and cracked leather. This can be used as a standalone product if you wish without the need to carry out a restoration process as it's designed with a professional result in mind to soften old dry leather and can be used just to do that without any further restoration required.

C. You can either apply the Leather Softening Crème to a sponge, allow this to be massaged in or apply directly to the leather and massage in with your hands to ensure it perfectly penetrates every single time. During this process it's very important that you massage this Softening Crème in as much as possible moving / flexing the leather to ensure it gets deep down into the dried-out leather pores and cracks. This will give a professional result every time making sure it's covered perfectly.

D. If you wanted, for serious cracking on extremely rare objects you can apply an additional generous coating of the Leather Softening crème and allow this to sit on the surface to penetrate over a period of time.

E. Once you're happy that the leather has been softened sufficiently you can use a damp cloth and wipe over the surface. If you don't want to remove any products to carry out a restoration process then you can just simply apply the Leather Protection Cream over the top of this, softening the leather even further with this process. If you are restoring the leather, wipe with a damp cloth as above and then clean down with alcohol cleaner.

Following the above steps will produce a super soft leather surface once again and with this being natural products and not containing any nasty oils it's the perfect solution for your leather items.

How To Repair a Tear or Fag Burn / Hole In Leather

This guide will show you how to fix a tear in leather. The same procedure applies to tears in all type of leather; furniture, car interior, clothes and all other leathers.

Products needed to carry out a repair to a tear or to a hole

- Fabric sub patch or leather sub patch
- Scissors
- Pin
- Leather Glue
- Low Tack Clear Tape
- Glue Stick
- Spatula

The very first item you need in any repair you're going to carry out to a tear/ rip / hole or fag burn is the backing fabric. This can either be poly cotton or leather, but the leather must be very thin fine nappa leather.

If the tear or split has a very rough edge to it with fibres sticking out, it's advised that these are trimmed off to give a cleaner repair line. This can be done using a good sharp pair of scissors. Do not cut into the leather, just trim the fibres that are sticking out.

Once you have cleaned up the tear, you can then start to feed your sub patch behind the leather.

Here are some pictures with captions of what they refer to.



This is a typical tear in leather, this one happens to be in a leather jacket. Same principals apply to carrying out the repair, no matter if it's on car seats, furniture, handbags and other leather goods.



Here we have the sub patch, cut to shape with rounded ends. The reason for this is so that when you're working in tight areas & the sub patch is put in place, it does not get curled up as it would do if you had cut this in a standard oblong with pointed corners.



This is the tear with the sub patch cut ready to be placed in fully behind the tear.

We have used leather in this picture. Make sure the rough side of the skin is facing the rough side of the item being repaired. This way you form a better stronger bond.



The sub patch is now in place and being held with a pin to stop it from moving around while you glue one side of the tear to secure the sub patch in place. Once one side is glued the pin can be removed.

Once the sub patch is in place fully you can then apply the leather glue to one side of the tear. Apply this to the leather and not the sub patch, then very gently pull the side of the tear that is glued over and push down to secure in place to the sub patch.

Then repeat the same process for the other side. This time also add a small amount of leather glue to the join line itself before securing in place fully, this way the glue can act as a filler and can be lightly sanded if required and coloured over.

At this stage get your clear tape ready. This is for when you have applied the leather glue to the other side and you can use the tape to pull the two half's together, creating a perfect hair line repair, that will almost be invisible.

To see how a repair is carried out in action take a look at this video link;
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhQpSrl2iH4

If the repair happens to be to a hole, you can cut some leather to the same shape as the hole and thin down the outside edges on the underside. Once your patch is in place, glue it in position, making sure that the grain pattern is very similar before applying.

This will then leave a fine line around the edge of the patch. Once the patch is fully dry and the glue is fully set, you can fill with either flexi filler or heavy filler. Once all the filler is dry this can then be sanded back. **DO NOT OVER APPLY THE FILLERS.** When sanded back you can colour the leather as normal to blend in and make a perfect repair.

Heat cure grain fillers can also be used to repair cigarette burns in leather, as well as plastic trim and dashboard holes, the heat cure fillers are great on plastic door cards and plastic trim as well as leather.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

How To Repair A Scratch In Leather.

It's not that hard to scratch leather, it's easy to do with sharp objects like a pen in your back pocket or even from a buckle on a jacket or studs on jeans.

Tools required

- Leather Prep
- Heavy Filler or Flexi Filler
- 320 Sand Paper
- Leather Colourant
- Clear Coat Finish

When you scratch leather the best thing to do is to observe this via a microscope so you can see what direction the scratch has happened, the reason for finding this out is that we want to pull the scratched fibres back up in the air in that direction.

Once all the fibres are lifted up in the air, you can use the 320 grit sand paper and lightly sand them away smoothing out the scratch, don't go too far with the sanding as you don't want to cause a smooth area.

Once you happy with the sanding, then fully prep the area to remove dirt, grease and grime and removing some of the surface colour again, ready for applying the new colour.

After using the prep, you can start to apply the filler, depending on how deep the scratch is this will depend on what type of filler is used, either flexi filler or heavy filler.

Apply the filler directly to the scratch only, trying not to get too much filler on the surrounding areas as this will just cause the leathers grain to fill up making the repair more visible and unsightly.

If you wanted to gain some form of a grain pattern back into the leather, once the filler is almost dry, you can lightly score the filler with a sharp object causing a line in the filler to help represent a grain pattern.

Getting grain patterns can be done in many ways, you can also use a toothpick and place small drops of colourant directly on to the filler wait for this to dry and then colour in the normal way, this will then cause the drops to be raised again giving you the same effect as leather a raised grain structure.

Another method is turning down the paint flow on your airbrush and lowering the pressure so that the paint spits out of the airbrush causing tiny droplets on the leathers surface.

When you have reached your desired grain patterns, apply some colour around the surrounding area to blend in the colour, making the repair perfect and almost invisible.

Once the colour has been dried which can be speeded up using a hair drier, you can then apply some clear coat top sealers to finish off the repair perfectly.

Leather Car Interior Repair & Restoration

Using professional techniques developed and used uniquely by us, we bring to you a guaranteed restoration service for all leather & vinyl car interiors.

"Restore or change the colour of all leather car interiors"

Range Rover Before Pictures



Range Rover After Pictures



The products used have been developed with years of knowledge and experience in the leather industry. We guarantee a top quality result each time.

"We use the same products to re-colour your leather that are used when the leather is first manufactured"

When we restore the colour or change the colour of your leather interior, we guarantee that it won't ever fade, flake, peel, crack or wear away.

The product and technique we use is tried and tested and we are 100% confident that it will last!

We use hard wearing water-based finishes, which have excellent coverage of colour and are superior with rub fastness (wear & tear), adhesion of colour and life span.

Designed to feel soft, silky & natural.

"Guaranteed not to fade, flake, peel or crack, we manufacture professional products & guarantee all jobs"

Leather Repair & Restoration Process: How it works

The methods and we use are traditional and offer you a lovely, finished job that will look and feel like natural leather. The process we use is similar to colouring however we have far improved on this outdated method with the use of new uniquely developed products, manufactured by us.

We thoroughly prepare the leather for colouring. We clean and remove all dirt from cracks and creases and then apply special chemicals to remove the manufactured finish. This opens the leather up allowing it to absorb and take the colouring in a better fashion.

At this stage we make any repairs to the leather. Worn, cracked and weak leather would now be either replaced or strengthened and we'd fix and re-grain any cuts, rips, tears burns or holes.

Colour is then applied. The first coat is applied by hand working it into all natural creases and hard to reach areas. A second coat is then applied using a spray gun for a natural and even finish.

That is where most companies stop, however, we have developed an extremely hard wearing topcoat lacquer. This lacquer we manufacture provides superior strength to the leather. After colouring your leather, we then spray this lacquer on top. This seals in the colour and greatly increases the life span you would expect to get from the leather. The lacquer also improves the texture of the leather giving it a smooth, soft & silky feel.

"Ensures a soft, smooth & silky feel. Achieved every time "

How To Repair Cat Scratches On Leather

Cats scratch sofas by either scratching at the sides which causes the fibres to lift and in some cases bits of leather are removed by the claws causing holes in the leather. The other type is usually on seat cushions which are shallower straight scratches across the leather.

The small shallow scratches can be disguised using our re-colouring balm but only if the scratch is lighter. The balm will not repair the scratch it will only blend in the colour, so it is not so visible. This is a very easy and cheap option if you just want a quick fix, the leather will look instantly revived.

If a long-term permanent repair is needed or if there is any roughness or leather missing etc you will need a **re-colouring leather repair kit** and possibly a **coloured heavy filler** and maybe a **glue kit**.

If there are areas where the cat has stuck its claws right through and the leather is torn or there are larger areas that you are able to glue down, then you can use the glue kit and a cocktail stick to push the glue under the part you wish to stick down and then smooth down using a palette knife or something similar until you are happy with the result. You can use filler as well to even out the area making sure the glue is fully dry before applying the filler.

If the area you are repairing has been damaged by the cat sticking its claws in and the area is rough and has fibres that are lifted then use the following steps.....

- First using scissors (small nail scissors are best or sewing snips) trim down the longest fibres
- Then use the sandpaper to smooth out all rough areas. You can use a heavier grade first then follow up with a finer grade
- When you are happy that you have trimmed and sanded everything on the surface to you then need to wipe the area down with alcohol cleaner, this gets rid of all the dust and cleans the area ready to take the colour
- Next you will need a **coloured heavy filler**, this is tinted slightly to your preferred colour to help with the re-colouring as you will not need as many coats of colour on top
- If you have a palette knife this will help you to smooth the filler over the scratches and any little holes left after trimming, leave this to dry before sanding again and re-applying if necessary
- Now it is time to apply the colour

- Apply the colourant using a sponge ensuring an even coverage is achieved, you may find some of the scratches now show up more so simply add more filler and sand back down when dried
- Apply another coat of the colourant, you can do this by sponge again or you can use an airbrush and dry with a hairdryer if you wish to speed up the process (ensure no dust is blown into your repair)
- Once you are happy with your colour coat allow it to dry fully
- Next stage is to apply the lacquer, this is a clear finish which comes in either matt or gloss. You can mix these together to create any degree of shine you like
- This seals the colour and makes the repair more permanent and hardwearing
- As with the colour this can be sponged on or airbrushed on, this too can be dried carefully with a hairdryer



Leather Repair
Company. ®

How To Repair A Burn In Leather

A burn causes the leather to shrink inwards creating a wrinkled effect and turning the leather hard on the edges where it has been burnt.

With a burn in leather, we have several stages in the repair process. This starts with cutting the edges of the burn out. If you have to you can cut a cross into the burn the purpose of this is to release the tightness that will have been caused when the leather was burnt, and it shrank. Once this is done you can lay the leather flat and trim the edges of the burn mark out removing all hard burnt edges.

You can use this method of cutting out burns that have not completely penetrated the leather, for those that have, cut the burn completely out of the leather as above. This will leave a hole that you can lay flat and smooth so that you can then repair the burn hole. To do this you will also require a leather glue repair kit and some grain repair plaster solution.

If your burn has not gone all of the way through the leather and you don't have to make a hole.

If you have had to make a hole or the burn has gone through fully you will require a leather glue kit, these can be purchased separately from us www.leatherrepaircompany.com

If the hole is all the way through the leather or you have had to cut the burn out fully, you will require to put in place a sub patch behind the hole using tweezers insert the fabric cloth flat behind the leather. It is important that the sub patch is flat, or you will end up with bumps in the leather, ensuring at least a 1cm overlap is surrounding all edges of the hole. Then apply the glue to the back of the leather gently pushing the leather down to the sub patch.

The glue is applied with a thin object like a toothpick, ensure that there is sufficient glue applied to firmly stick the patch to the underside of the hole.

Wait 20 minutes for the glue to set.

Now that you have a strong backing in place for the repair, you can apply some heavy filler into the hole to start to fill it.

Once you have carried out all the repairs that are required and you are at the stage of applying filler. You need to apply about 4 thin layers or more of the heavy filler. You are advised to dry this between each layer using a hair drier and lightly pressing it down with your fingertips or a pallet knife as you go. This avoids shrinkage taking place once fully dry.

If you have only made a light cut into the surface of the burn, then apply two or three thin layers of filler until the filler is level with the surface. Once that is done you can apply some leather grain plaster solutions.

Once you are ready to apply your last layer of filler, gently wipe the flexi filler or heavy filler over the hole so that the filler stays level with the leather.

If you want to re produce a grain type finish you can do this by using our special grain repair plaster solutions, by placing this on the leather and making a grain and then lift this off once dried and then place this over the offending cut / hole area and gluing into position, to perfect your repair, once that is done you can colour over the burn mark for an almost invisible repair. Heat Cure Graining is the perfect solution to repair burn holes in leather and to replace grain where needed.



Leather Repair
Company. ®

How To Change The Colour Of Leather

This is a guide on how to change the colour of leather.

You can change any colour to either lighter or darker colours anything is possible.

The leather re-colouring kit used in this guide can be used to change the colour of various types of leather including car seats, sofas, chairs etc.

Products Required

Leather Colourant Kit - Used for colouring leather and Leather Primer.

The first step is to prep the leather, using an abrasive pad wrapped in a towelling material soak this in leather prep and rub the leather finish quite vigorously to remove the old finish from the leather item, you must remove enough to make the surface absorbent again.

It is advisable to wear a mask and gloves and goggles for PPE protection.

As you rub you will notice that colour is being removed, this is good and is proof that the finish is coming off this is what you need to do to prepare the leather for re-colouring.

The leather will start to look very patchy and will be a matt finish now, this is because you are removing the surface colour and finish.

There will be a lot of residue from the colour which can be removed just by wiping with a cloth which will take off the excess prep as well.

You should now be able to see the original colour of the leather underneath, do not worry if not all the colour is removed it will cover evenly but do try to remove as much as you can. You don't want to remove all the colour as this can cause drying out of the fat liquors in the skin and cause further issues.

The purpose of this stage is to just remove almost all the colour off the surface, by doing this it will show the skin of the hide, this also means all clear coat sealer has been removed and almost all paint.

As long as you have removed almost all the old paint from the surface, you should be ok to carry on to the next step.

Please Note..... Leather is coloured in the manufacturing of the skins.

When the leather gets old and dries out the leather looks cracked but actually most of the time it is only the top surface of colour that is cracked.

Using the leather prep breaks down or removes fully that colour coat therefore evening out the “cracking” that is in the top surface.

The leather then looks much smoother as the cracking that was in the colour has been removed by the leather prep. There may be some cracking in the leather which we will deal with at a later step.

Using a new towel and the alcohol cleaner continue wiping down the leather to clean any residue of colour or dirt and grease leftover.

This prepares the surface and makes it better for applying the colour.

Preparation is the key point in colour changing **do not skip these steps** it will not work and rectifying it will take time.

At this stage there may be a few cracks in the surface of the leather that you would like to sort out.

Using the **coloured heavy filler** and a palette knife smooth the filler into the cracking and leave to dry.

Once this is dry you can sand any excess with a 320-grade sandpaper to smooth the area.

Give the area another wipe with the alcohol cleaner to ensure it is dust and dirt free.

Next stage with a complete colour change is to apply a **Leather Primer**, this must be done on leather where you have removed all the colour or the new paint wont bond very well.

When all this is completed, you are ready to start applying the colour.

Start by using a sponge and apply a coat of colour over the whole area to be re-coloured, this is like a primer coat so do not worry if it is a bit thin or not even.

Try to get colour into hard-to-reach areas like between cushions and tight gaps you can dry with a hairdryer in these areas hold the cushions apart until dry if possible, the thinner you do the colour the quicker this will dry.

If you do these areas first it will save time later and you will find the spraying much easier to achieve if the difficult areas are out of the way first.

It should only take a few minutes for the first coat to dry thoroughly. Enabling you to apply the next coat quite quickly.

The next step is to spray on the leather colourant with an airbrush, you may find the easiest way to do this is in straight lines stopping the flow of air at each stroke end..

You can then proceed to re-colour the whole area ensuring even coverage is gained.

You can apply as many coats as required but usually 3 or 4 are sufficient ensuring you fully dry each coat before you apply the next one.

Once you are happy with the colour you are ready to seal it in.

This is done with the clear lacquer.

There is a satin finish, gloss finish and a matt finish, these can be mixed together to create any kind of sheen you prefer.

This can be applied in the exact same way as the colourant, by airbrush in thin coats, and fully dry in between each coat with a hairdryer before applying the next coat.

Ideally 3 or 4 coats will form a hardwearing finish that will last.

Avoid A Dry Line Edge

- Note; when spraying colour or lacquer make sure you overlap the spray lines by at least 50% to make sure you don't end up with a dry line edge, what this means is that when you're spraying if you don't overlap each time you will miss small sections causing the paint to look and feel dry like sandpaper.

Spraying Colourants

- It's best to spray colourants at a distance of approx 12 to 15 inches away from the object spraying at approx 20psi for colourants. To adjust the colour sheen level you can use matting agents to dull down the paints shine.

Spraying Lacquers

- When spraying lacquer try to reduce the nozzle slightly and spray at about 18 inches away and reduce the pressure to about 15psi to 18psi.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PREPING THE LEATHER FOR A COLOUR CHANGE / REPAIR

Any job that requires a recolour it's important that the leather surface is prepped correctly. You have to make sure that you take off enough top coating / colour to make the leather absorbent again.

To test this its best to place a ten pence size drop of water on to the surface for around a minute and then wipe this off if it's gone darker and soaked in to the leather surface then that's the perfect situation to carry out a repair to the colour of the leather.

If you imagine a car body that has been painted and they have just sprayed over the top of the old colour in time this will flake off and come away, this is what will happen to the leather coating you are applying if you don't prep the surface correctly.

Once all the colour is removed and fillers have been applied you apply the Leather Primer.

Applying Leather Colourants & Lacquers.

If you have applied any form of filler to holes or cracks on the leather you will need to change the colour of these first before applying any colourants, to do this match your colour first then for small areas use a paint brush and apply to the fillers this way, for much larger areas apply using a sponge. This can then be dried with a hair dryer.

By doing this you are making the fillers blend better with the colour of the leather and this means less colour will be needed to complete your job fully. We do manufacture special coloured filler which is an even better way of repairing holes and cracks and gives better result than just colouring the white filler as above.

BEFORE APPLYING COLOURANT, YOU MUST FILTER THE COLOUR FIRST OF ALL.

If you are simply re colouring an area of leather start off by sponging on a coat of colour, if you are changing the colour of leather (follow our guide “ How To Change The Colour Of Leather” first) you will need to sponge on two or three coats to begin with before applying final coats by spray application.

Once you have dried off the sponge coats, using some 1200 grit sandpaper gently sand the leather to remove any specs that may have got into the colourant or stuck to the leather.

You can then spray the colour on using an airbrush, spray on thin coats ensuring you have applied enough to colour the leather correctly. You will need to apply several coats of colour by airbrush drying between each coat and leaving to stand for 15 minutes once dry between each coat. When you are happy with the colour you can lightly sand this with 1200 grit sandpaper to smooth out any imperfections you may have in the final-coloured finish.

Before proceeding to the final steps of applying the clear coat sealers, get your tack cloth and gently move this over the surface to remove any dust particles to enable a perfect end results to be obtained.

The next stage is to spray on the finish coats. You will need to apply between two to five coats of clear finish to the colour to seal this in making it extremely strong and very durable.

Don't forget to sand and what grade of sandpaper do you require at these stages?

Before spraying on your final coat of clear finish, you can sand over the areas with 1200 grit sandpaper again before applying your final coat. When sanding DO NOT rub hard, all you will be doing at this stage is lightly sanding over the surface almost hardly touching the leathers surface.

The finish takes around three to seven days to fully set and cure to a very durable finish, which in most cases is stronger than the leather's original finish. But the item can be used after 24 hours safely.

Finishing & Polishing with fine grade polishing papers

The final stage of the repair is to perfect, it is to go over the full item with 3000 grit paper first of all and then follow that up with 7000 grit paper if you have paper that fine. These two grades of grit paper are so fine they are like paper but will give you the ultimate finish on leather and make it feel luxurious and brand new.

If you need to use the item after you carry out the work, use it gently.

After 24 hours have passed you can wipe the leather down with a lightly dampened cloth to remove any fine particles of roughness or dust that may have settled in the very final coat, once this is done you can then apply several coats of Leather Protection Cream for a very soft supple feeling leather finish and to help protect your leather for the future from wear and tear and UV rays.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PREPING THE LEATHER

Any job that requires a recolour it's important that the leather surface is prepped correctly. You have to make sure that you take off enough top coating / colour to make the leather absorbent again.

Be careful not to over prepare. This is when you remove the grain and turn the leather to a suede effect.

To test this, it's best to place a ten pence size drop of water on to the surface for around a minute and then wipe this off if it's gone darker and soaked into the leather surface then that's the perfect situation to carry out a repair to the colour of the leather.

If you imagine a car body that has been painted and they have just sprayed over the top of the old colour in time this will flake off and come away, this is what will happen to the leather coating you are applying if you don't prep the surface correctly.

Important note about mixing leather colours.

When you are mixing colours you may wish to adjust the sheen levels this can be done with a product called matting agent LRC56. You don't need to add a great deal just a couple of drops at a time depending on how much paint you are mixing.

Preparing The Leather For Repair

NOTE:- DO NOT PREP ANILINE OR PULL UP LEATHERS.

It doesn't matter what repair you do; at some stage you will need to apply colour. The colour application is generally the turning point in a repair as without it the repair would not blend into the leathers finish. The preparation stage is extremely important it's done correctly as it ensures the colour sticks!

Using a sponge or Bruclé Brush and the Leather Cleaner give the area you are repairing a thorough clean. Don't just clean the area you're going to repair, clean the full panel. If it's the base of a car seat or a chair clean all the facing leather to the sides and the upper sections of the seat or chair. If you are going to restore a complete car interior and or full suite, use the Leather Cleaner to clean all areas of leather. By doing this it will help to blend in your repair much better.

The areas you are repairing if they remain creased and dirty, you can use the leather prep at this stage along with an abrasive pad to remove any dirt or to thin down any creases. By doing this it will help improve the appearance of the leather.

If a leather surface feels stiff or hard you should also prep this area, the Leather Prep thins down the surface coating, making the leather softer and feel much better already, giving a much better end result once colour has been applied. With all prep stages, you have to remove all the old surface colour to allow the new colour to absorb into the leather hide if the old colour is not removed then the new colour will not adhere correctly and may come off in the future.

With classic car seats (painted Connolly leather) they can look very badly cracked, this cracking is in fact in the top surface coating and rarely in the leather itself, using the Leather Prep on this will remove it. This same process also applies to modern car interiors and furniture, use the prep to thin the coat rather than fill the cracks.

If you are going to re colour a pigmented leather that has got grease marks, make sure you prep the leather first with the abrasive pad. The prep will break down the surface coating making the removal of any grease patch areas much better and more affective.

It is not necessary to prep anilines or pull up leathers it's a waste of products, money, and time, you would only prep these if you're doing colour repairs where it's stained and dirty. But if you plan to change the colour of pull up leathers then it's best to prep it to remove the waxy oily finish coating. If you just need to cover a stain, then simply clean the areas down with the Leather Cleaner and wipe with alcohol cleaner and then spray the offending areas.

If you are just wanting to fix small scuffs and scratches in leather you don't always need to use the prep and an abrasive pad, but it's always best to just wipe the area down with some prep on a cloth for good measures.

Even if you have not prepped the leather, it's very important to always wipe the area down with alcohol cleaner before putting on any colour, always use the alcohol cleaner after using the Leather Cleaner. It's best to apply the alcohol cleaner to cloth rather than directly on to the leather, then wipe the cloth over the leather with the alcohol cleaner as this takes off any final grease, grime, or dirt from the leathers surface. Once this is all done you can carry out the repairs and re colour your leather item. But if you have not prepped the leather, you run the risk of the new colour not bonding correctly.

Leather that has grease stains in it, it's best to use the grease release to remove all traces of grease before applying any colour, if this is not done the colour will not adhere to leather surface and will come off again.

If you are de greasing an area, it's always best to go over this with the Leather Cleaner after de greasing and then wipe down with alcohol cleaner.

You are now ready to continue to any type of restoration, repair, or colour change job.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PREPING THE LEATHER

Any job that requires a recolour it's important that the leather surface is prepped correctly. You have to make sure that you take off enough top coating / colour to make the leather absorbent again. But don't remove all the colour or you will cause additional issues and cause the leather to dry out as the fat liquors will be released from the hide, with the prep being a water-based solution its ultra-safe for the leather, you and your client, the prep has a unique chemical that also helps soften the leather as you prep it. Do not over wet the leather as the water-based prep can take a while to dry out if you over apply this. View our videos on YouTube or inn the help group about how to rep leather.

Be careful not to over prepare, removing the grain and turning the leather to a suede effect.

To test this, it's best to place a ten pence size drop of water on to the surface for around a minute and then wipe this off if it's gone darker and soaked into the leather surface then that's the perfect situation to carry out a repair to the colour of the leather.

If you imagine a car body that has been painted and they have just sprayed over the top of the old colour in time this will flake off and come away, this is what will happen to the leather coating you are applying if you don't prep the surface correctly.

With perforated leather, be careful not to fill the holes with paint solution as your removing the surface coating, the best approach is to use the scotch pad once to rub over the surface very lightly then swap to a terry towel and continue to remove the surface colour continue this until your happy with the results, using the red pad can damage the perforation and clog up all the holes. So, it's advised to use the red pad once just to break the lacquer then stop and use a terry towel.

Antique Furniture Restoration

This quick guide explains how to achieve an antique finish on leather. Usually these are a darker colour on top of a lighter base colour but can be the other way around as well.

You can use the normal leather colourants to do this. But the final layers will be mixed with the lacquer. This will be explained later in the guide.

First you need to clean the leather, usually on antique furniture there is a lot of dirt and grime built up especially in the studded areas. The best method is to vacuum the area thoroughly then to clean using our Leather Cleaner which will help remove grease etc from the leather.

Next you need to use the leather prep and a towelling type of cloth and gently rub the surface, this removes any contaminants and grease from the leather.

You will notice that this is removing some colour, this is fine.

Make sure you get into all the creases and around the studded areas as this is where the worst of the dirt and grease will gather.

Repeat this process again using alcohol cleaner, this prepares the surface ready for colouring.

You will notice the surface of the leather looks matt; this is correct.

Now the leather is ready to start the re-colouring.

Before you start, decide on the colours you need to use.

Apply your base coat and dry thoroughly, apply another coat if needed.

When completely dry you are ready to apply one of the topcoats.

The two tone dyes are perfect for this type of restoration process.

This next layer can be done by several different techniques.....

The first being spraying the product out almost in an uneven pattern rather than the traditional aim for an even coverage. Adjust your spraying pressure and paint output to ensure you get a fine coating built up in layers to create that two tone finish.

When you are happy with your results by whichever method you chose, you can allow it to dry and protect with a leather coating like protection cream or leather protection spray.

Aniline Restoration Process

After cleaning the aniline leather, the best practice is to use alcohol cleaner to prep the aniline leather, it's best not to use prep unless in extreme circumstances. Not to be used on suede, nubuck, aniline or absorbent materials

The purpose of this is to prepare the surface for the new aniline dyes to bond into the leathers surface. This process removes all grease and grime that the cleaning process can't remove. By doing this you open the leather ready to take the new dyes giving a perfect repair every time.

It's always best to spray the dyes on as application by hand allows too much dye to be applied and will cause the anilines to go too dark in patches.

Grease patches, like body oils are often present on anilines due to the absorbent nature of the leather. You don't have to degrease these patches for aniline restoration to be a success. The dyes are very stable when used in these areas, but it will darken these areas, degreasing anilines just causes bigger problems making it almost impossible to restore them once degreased or after using prep. Over preparing anilines can causing bleeding of colours due to the way anilines are dyed originally. Making the re colour process difficult to undertake and potentially impossible to do.

To tint an area, use a mixture of aniline dyes along with a very small touch of pigment paint no more than 5% to 10% pigment paint along with a satin leather finish 70% finish, 25% dyes and 5% pigment should be ok, but this is the final stages to seal the leather and blend off any dark patches, you wouldn't coat the dark patches with this mixture it's for going around them.

The grease could still present a problem after a re-dye, but as long as the grease was not too severe then this should be fine, it's important not to prep the aniline so not to degrade the leather natural finish as this is where the problems can be caused over prepping the leather causing the grease areas to create an even bigger problem for the future. Once restored very regular cleaning and protection should avoid any future problems with greasy areas.

Application of Aniline Dyes

Aniline dyes should always be applied by airbrush application, do not over apply or the dye will run, causing issues, if this does happen you can very very lightly dab this with a sponge to remove excess dye, you must not push this into the leather all you are doing is gently wiping this off the surface with the sponge.

Aniline dyes will naturally soak into the leather, using a sponge for application will create darker areas and patches.

Aniline dyes can be mixed together to gain different shades, but with aniline you are limited on the dyes and what aniline leathers are on the market, e.g. you can't get a white aniline, or cream.

The first coat will dry very quickly as it's absorbed into the leather, you can speed this up with the hair drier, once this is dry, you can then apply a second or third coating as is required to complete the job and blend in any darker areas.

Always start at an edge and work over the panel completing the panel with an even finish of dye, or you will end up with darker areas if you start in the middle.

The natural look of anilines creates different shades on the surface this is very natural and adds to characters of the aniline leathers look.

Further coats can be applied but remember that each coat you apply this will further darken the aniline leather taking you away from the original colour, once gone darker you can't go lighter with aniline leather as the dye will have absorbed into the skin.

Once the product has dried for several hours you can then apply a finish lacquer, normally it's best to apply a satin with some matt finish mixed into this so it's not too shiny, again it's advised to mix at a ratio of 70% satin to 30% matt lacquer finish. With aniline you don't need to apply a finish, but it will further add to the characters of the leather giving it an even stronger finish and better durability, you will only need to apply a single coat of lacquer so that the aniline still feels soft and luxurious.

Once this has also dried, it's best to apply over this several hours later a couple of coatings of leather protection cream.



Convertible – Soft Top Cleaning & Canvas Restoration

Getting The Roof Clean

With any convertible roof, the process starts by vacuuming off the roof and scrubbing with a brush to remove any loose debris, once you have used the vacuum, you can then brush the roof to loosen more of the dirt within the fibres of the roof, after using the brush give the roof a further good vacuum.

Once you have carried this out the next stage is to deep clean the roof to remove all stains, algae, moss, road film and in ground grime and dirt.

First of all, wet the roof fully, then lightly agitate this with the brush to make sure the roof is ready for the cleaner, to provide deep down cleaning actions.

Work in sections with the roof, the sections we advise to work on is all the joint lines and beading areas, making sure you pull these on one side as best as possible to ensure the brush fibres get down beside them fully.

Then start to clean a section at a time cleaning the full roof, scrubbing as you go, spraying the cleaner on working this into the roof, as you are cleaning this you will see all dirt and grime lifting out of the roof.

If the soft top has a stain on it DON'T scrub this section as it will possibly spread the stain further over the roof, the best way to clean this is spray plenty of cleaner onto the stain and then allow this to dwell for about 5 minutes and then vacuum this out lifting the stain out rather than spreading the stain.

Once you have cleaned the full roof, you can then proceed to power wash the roof to fully remove all the dirt and debris that has come out of the soft top while cleaning. Then once you have done this it's advised to vacuum the roof again to remove as much of the excess water and to remove even more grime and dirt.

Make sure the soft top is now fully dry before applying your canvas dye to the roof.

Starting the colour restoration On Canvas Materials

Before starting the process to dye the canvas roof, make sure you mask up the car or the boat painted areas.

If you do happen to get dye on the paint work don't panic as the products are water based and can simply be wiped off with damp soft cloth.

Mask up all windows including the rear plastic screen to ensure no dye gets onto these areas.

As the canvas dye is water based and a high concentration this can be thinned down for best results to ensure that the dye gets deep down into the fibres, this can be your first coating, once that has been applied you can then apply a second coating if required.

Pour your canvas dye into a separate container and start in the centre of the roof working outwards towards you brushing in the dye in nice even strokes, when applying the dye make sure you're in shaded conditions and it's not too hot as the dye could dry uneven and look streaky!

Continue to dye the full half of the roof then go to the other side of the vehicle and just overlap the centre starting point and start the process again working from the middle going outwards towards yourself.

Once the roof has been fully coated over the dye will take approx 3 hours to dry fully, then go back and inspect the roof once dry, if it requires a second coating follow the above steps and then wait another 3 hours for the roof to dry again.

Time to waterproof it!

Make sure before applying the water proofer that the roof is 100% dry.

Then pour some water proofer into a separate container and using a clean, soft brush apply a liberal coating of water proofer to the roof starting in the middle of the roof working your way out to the edges then go to the opposite side of the roof and start again.

Making sure you give a generous coating around beading and seams to ensure the water proofer penetrates deep down into all seams and joins.

Allow the water proofer to dry overnight then a second coating can be applied if desired.

Once the water proofer is fully dry you can give the roof a coating of the canvas water resistance enhancer to provide even great protection against the elements of daily use.

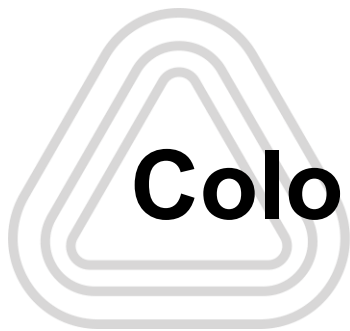
After carrying out this full process this will provide a brand-new looking roof once again that is fully waterproof and sparkling new.



**Leather Repair
Company**

leatherrepaircompany.com

SECTION 9



Colour Mixing Guides & Demos

Colour Mixing Guides

The following section has been produced to give you a guide to colour mixing steps and processes.

Picking the colour that is closest to the leathers colour or vinyl colour you can re-create the perfect match every time with these guides.

By adding different colours together, you can see exactly what happens to your colour that is being made.

The purpose of this guide is to give you some help with colour mixing and a self-teach system, allowing you to understand colours and what they do and how they can be made, we have tried to cover every aspect of colour mixing so it makes your job very easy.

By practicing you can perfect your colour mixing skills to obtain a perfect match every single time far cheaper than any machine could.

On our web site www.leathercolours.com you will find all the colour cards that you require, and we can supply you free of charge with formulas for these cards.

Colour mixing us the hardest part of the full process, repairs are simple compared to colour mixing and you will need to carry out lots of practicing to get as good as you ca.

We have invented the colour app and now have a scanning system that's designed to give you an idea of the mix, in some cases it will be perfect, but the purpose of the scanner is to get you 80 to 90% of the way there, once you have scanned the leather you mix the colour and then use the colours to lighten and darken the main colour to perfect it, when dried colours will be slightly darker.

The colour database is being updated all the time so new colours are constantly being added, this is all done free of charge, once you have purchased the system its updated free for life.

You can download the colour app from the app store for Android and iPhone, download by clicking the links below.

[Android Download](#)

[iPhone Download](#)

Colour Descriptions

Primary Colours.

- **Red:** Will lighten very dark colours while also changing the tone of the colour
- **Blue:** Will darken light colours while also changing the tone of the colour
- **Yellow:** Will lighten semi dark colours to dark colours while changing the tone of the colour
- **Green:** This is the only primary colour that can be made from mixing other primary colours together, this will darken light colours while changing the tone of the colour as well.

Shade Colours.

- **Black:** This will always darken any colour, but also kills the brightness of a colours tone, not always the best choice to darken a colour if you do not wish to change the tone
- **White:** This will always lighten any colour, can give a milky look to colours also, will not in most cases change a colours brightness drastically
- **Grey:** mixing this is 50% black – 50% white. The shade of grey will be governed by the amounts of black and white that have been used to mix your colour. White will lighten it and more black will darken it.

Will kill brightness in most cases of a colour

Can be used to control the shade of a colour

Tone.

- Dominant primary colour:
This is determined by the comparisons of primary colours, Tone may at times consist of two different primary colours example: red / yellow will equal Orange.

Shade.

- This is the lightness or darkness of any colour:
This can be controlled by white and black in most cases.

Colour Mixing Systems

Matching the colour Shake all the bottles of colour and tints very well.

Pour some of the base colour into the small mixing cup. Fill it about quarter of the way (5ml). Then dip a cotton wool bud into the colour and apply a tiny amount to a hidden part of the leather. Dry with a hair drier or let it dry naturally for 5 minutes. Once dry, if it doesn't match the colour of your leather follow the instructions to either lighten or darken the colour so that it is a perfect match.

How this system works is, you will add (as instructed) a small quantity of the tint(s) to the base colour and mix it together. You then re-apply a small amount of colour with a cotton wool bud to the leather and let it dry. If it matches, use this colour to make the repair, if it doesn't, keep following the colour matching instructions and re-apply the new colour to the leather until it matches. Also, see the heading 'adjusting the sheen' to help match the sheen of the leather as well as the colour.

Follow the instructions for your leather colour as shown below. Once you have matched the colour, proceed to step two.

CREAM - light-dark, yellow cream -peach cream

To lighten: Add white in small amounts to make the colour paler or yellow to lighten with a yellow tone. To Darken: Add umber in small amounts to darken the colour. If you add too much, the colour may go slightly green, this can be corrected by adding a drop of red. Black can be used to make a very dark cream, only add a small amount. To make more Red/Peachy: Add small amounts of red or orange. To make more golden: Slowly mix in oxide yellow to add a golden tone.

IVORY - light-dark

To lighten: Add white to make the colour paler or yellow to lighten with a yellow tone. To Darken: Add umber in small amounts to darken the colour. Black can be used to make a very dark ivory, only add a small amount. Small amounts of blue can be added to add a slight greenish tint.

MEDIUM BROWN - light brown, dark brown -maroon brown

To lighten: Add yellow, this will lighten the colour but may take the red tone away. Add red to correct this. Adding white will also lighten but may create a paler dusty colour if too much is added. To Darken: Add black this may add a slight green tone, adding red will return the red tone. For darker browns, the colour can be darkened by adding violet.

RED - light red, dark red – maroon

To lighten: Add yellow, this will give a more orange tone. Adding white will also lighten but will make the colour pinker. Often a combination of both colours added together is best. To Darken: Add black, this may add a brown tone so combat this with magenta. Violet can also be used to darken the colour to give it a more purple tone. Adding blue will also darken without adding a brown tone to the colour but will also give it a purple tone if too much is added.

TAN - light tan, yellow tan - red tan

To lighten: Add white a little at a time or yellow to add a golden tone to the tan. To Darken: Add black. To darken and retain a red tone: Add violet. To make a golden orange tan: Add blue in small amounts this will also darken the colour and when added with yellow will give a more orange tan.

BEIGE - light-dark

To lighten: Add white or yellow a drop at a time. These may add a creamy tone, and this can be corrected with a small drop of red oxide. To Darken: Add umber to the colour but too much will add a greenish tone this can be rectified with a drop of red or red oxide.

BLUE - light -dark, purple blue

To lighten: Add white to make a pale blue or a small amount of yellow to just lighten the blue, too much Yellow will make a green, so adding a drop of red will help remove the green tint. To Darken: Add small drops of black or umber. These may add a slight green tint, adding magenta or red will help combat this. To make Purple: Add red, magenta, or violet with black if a darker purple is required

DARK BROWN

To Lighten: Add yellow and red in equal quantities. This lightens keeping the brown tone. Adding yellow on its own kills the red tone of the brown. To Darken: Add black with magenta or black with violet in equal quantities. This keeps the brown tone and darkens the colour. Black and violet will make a darker brown than black and magenta.

ADJUSTING THE SHEEN

All colours are manufactured matt ready to use, if the sheen level of the item you are repairing is a high gloss or semi sheen colour or matt, this can be achieved by using the Gloss, Matt, or Satin clear coat lacquers.

The lacquers can be mixed together to gain many different levels of sheen if required.

Colours What They Do!

Red:- Lightens dark colours and changes tone.

Blue:- Darkens light colours and changes tone.

Yellow:- Lightens quite dark colours and changes tone.

Green:- Darkens light colours and changes tone.

STONE:- The dominant primary colour in a mix.

Black:- Darkens any colour, but may also kill the brightness.

White:- Lightens any colour.

These are basic colours you will be working with; you may also have other colours that are specific to your base. Mix the colours together to achieve the colour of your leather. **REMEMBER:** always use small amounts

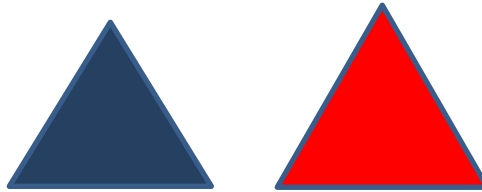
Colours can be adjusted with matting agent to make them a great deal matter or if you wish to bring the sheen level back up this can be done using the patent leather finish.

A guide to using the following section of colour sheets with the triangles

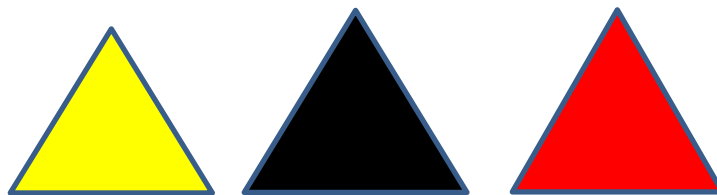
Where you have a single triangle this is to be used as the main colour, then beside each triangle we have a figure, if we take the first sheet and use the second triangle in the first column you would mix 5% green with 95% white and the colour shown is what you can expect to achieve.

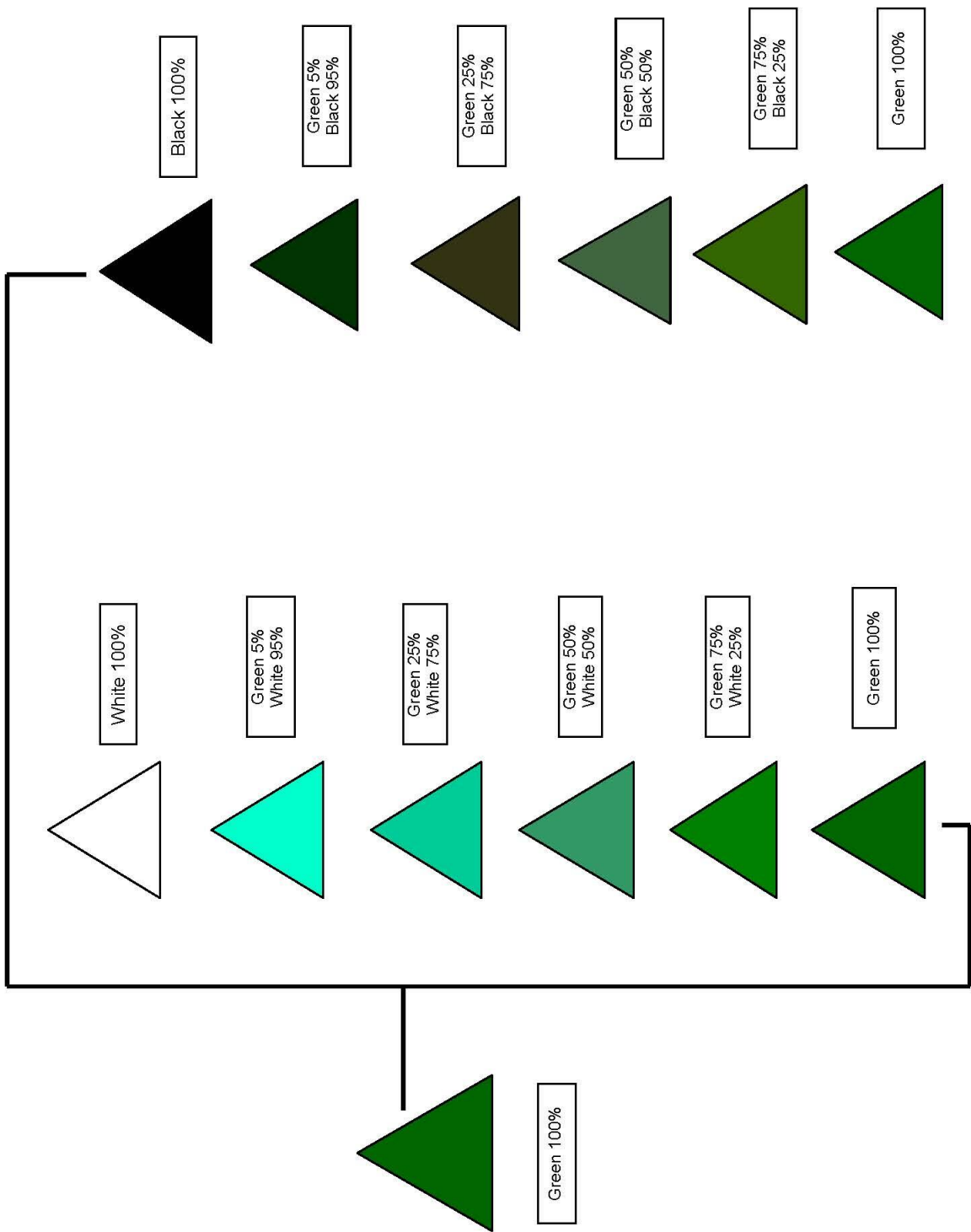


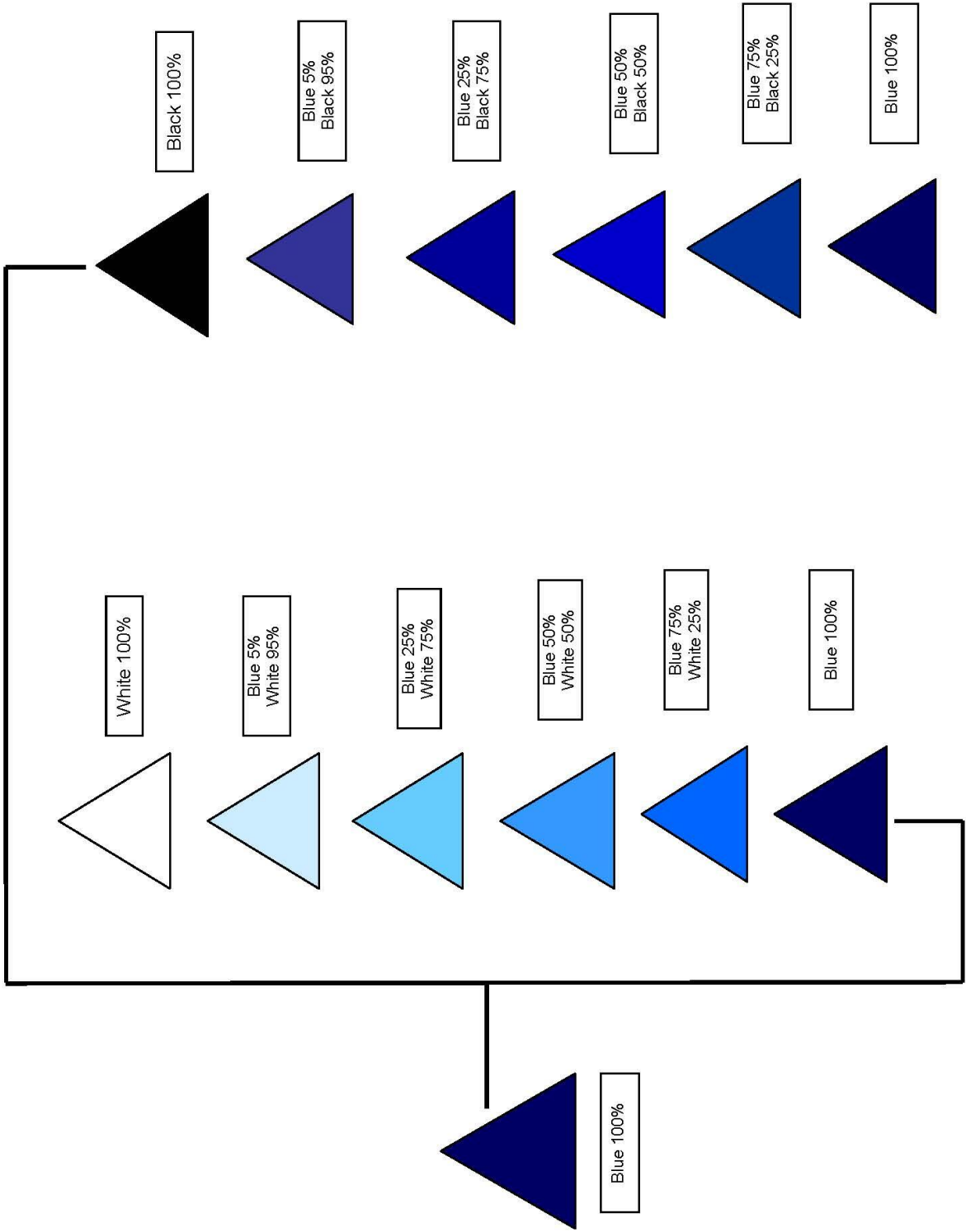
Where you have a two triangles this is to be used as the main colours, then beside each triangle we have a figure, if we take the first sheet and use the first triangle in the first column you would mix 75% blue with 25% red and the colour shown is what you can expect to achieve.

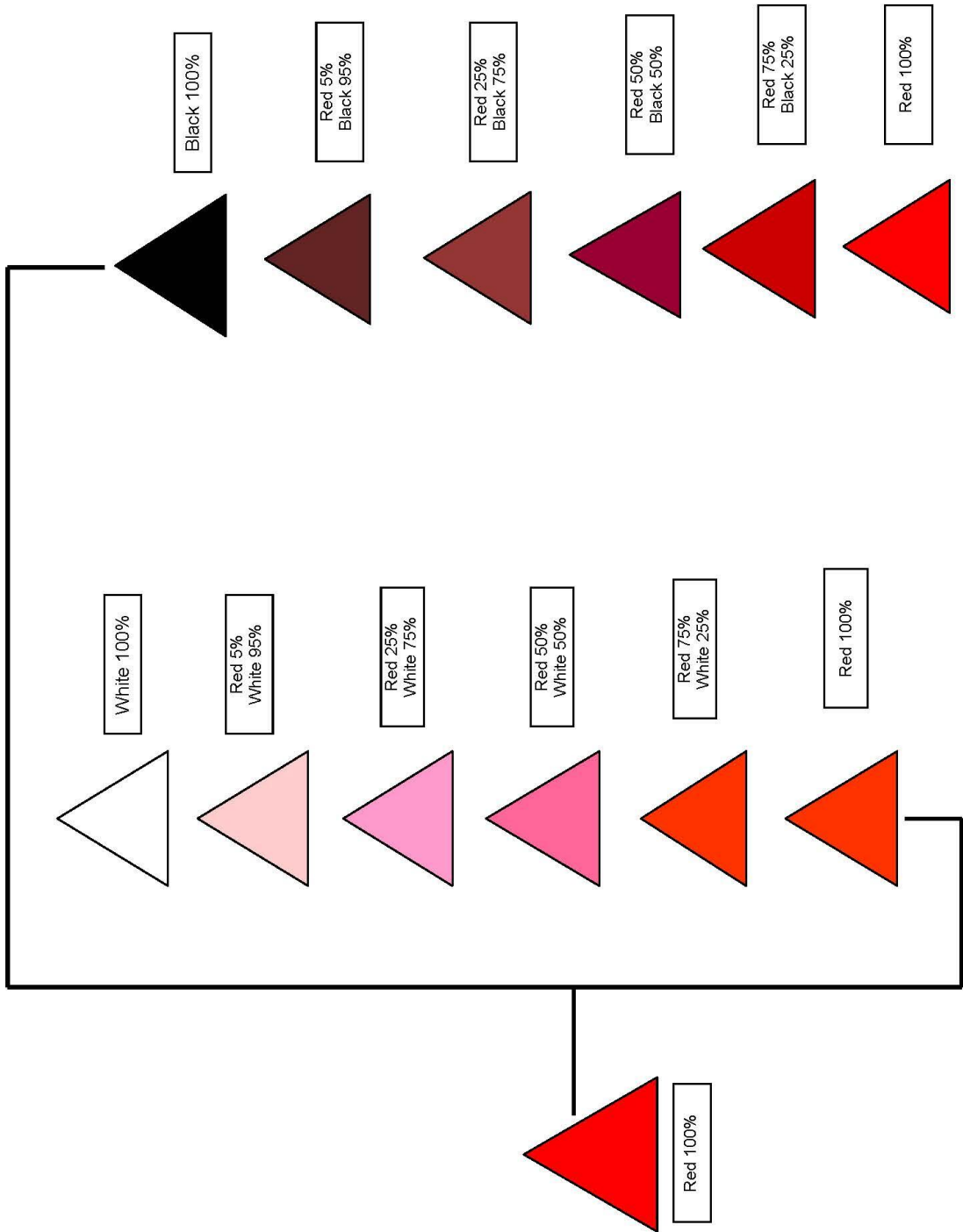


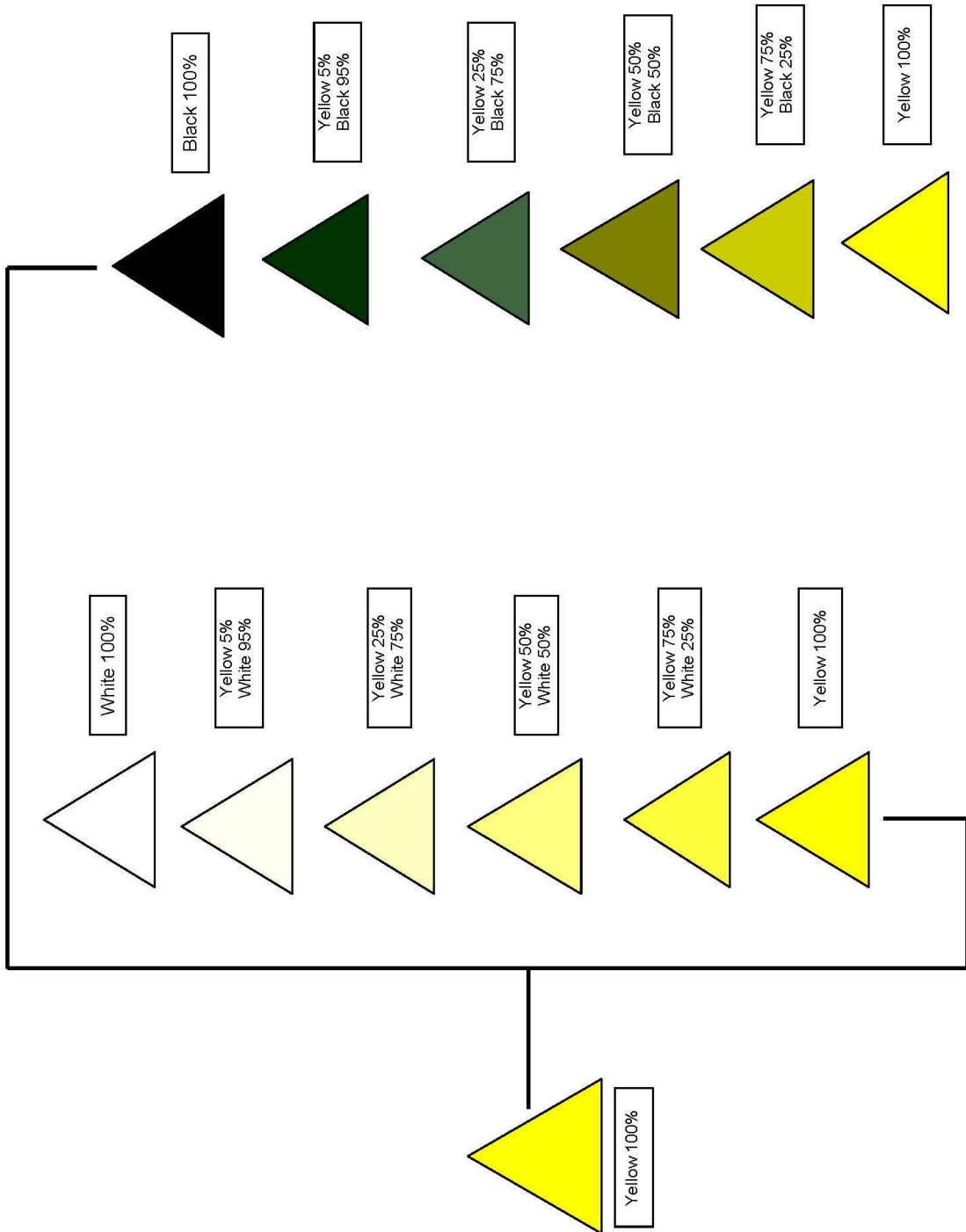
Where you have three triangles this is to be used as the main colours, then beside each triangle we have a figure, if we take the first sheet and use the first triangle in the first column you would mix 33.33% yellow with 33.33% black and 33.33% red and the colour shown is what you can expect to achieve in this case brown.

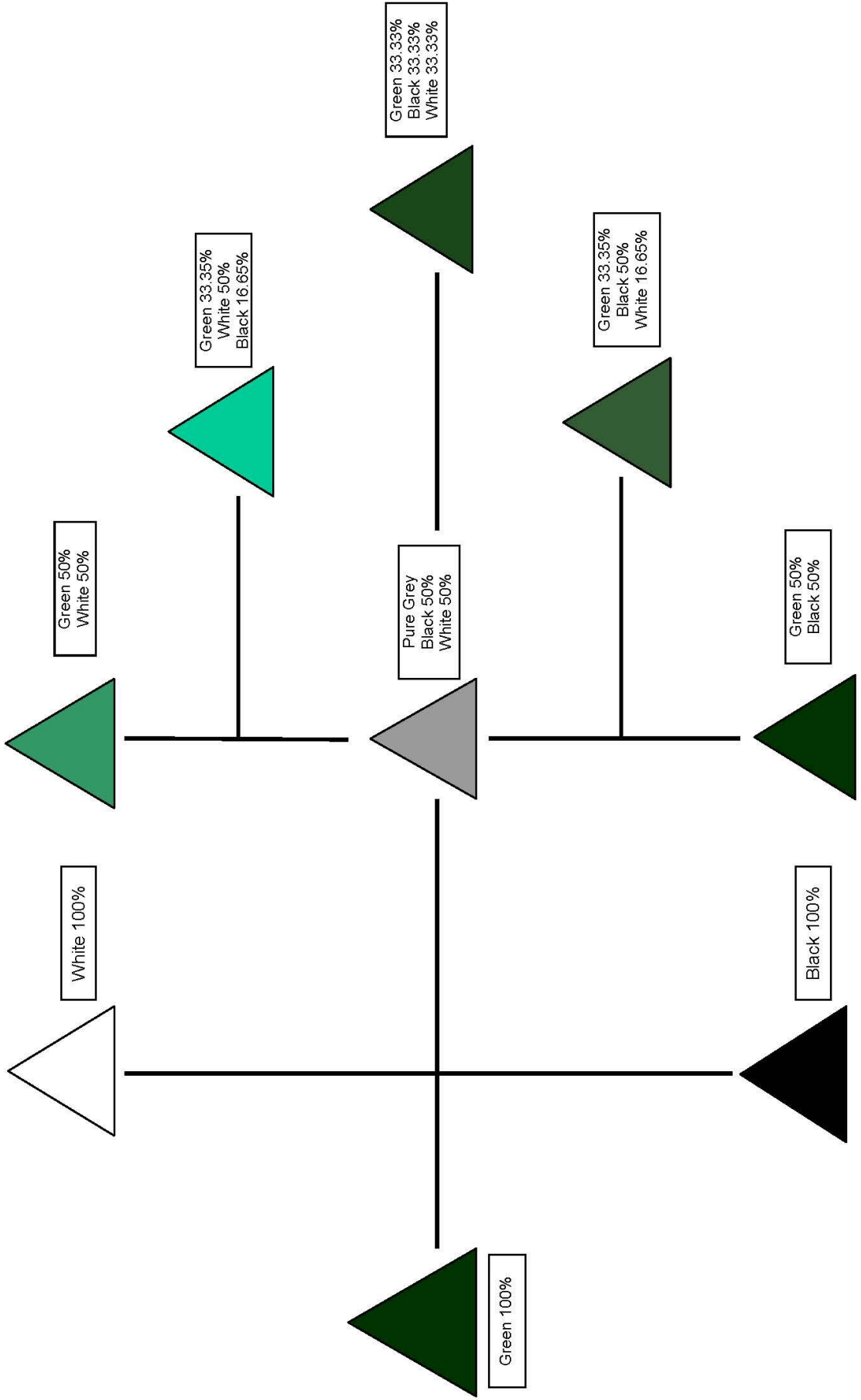


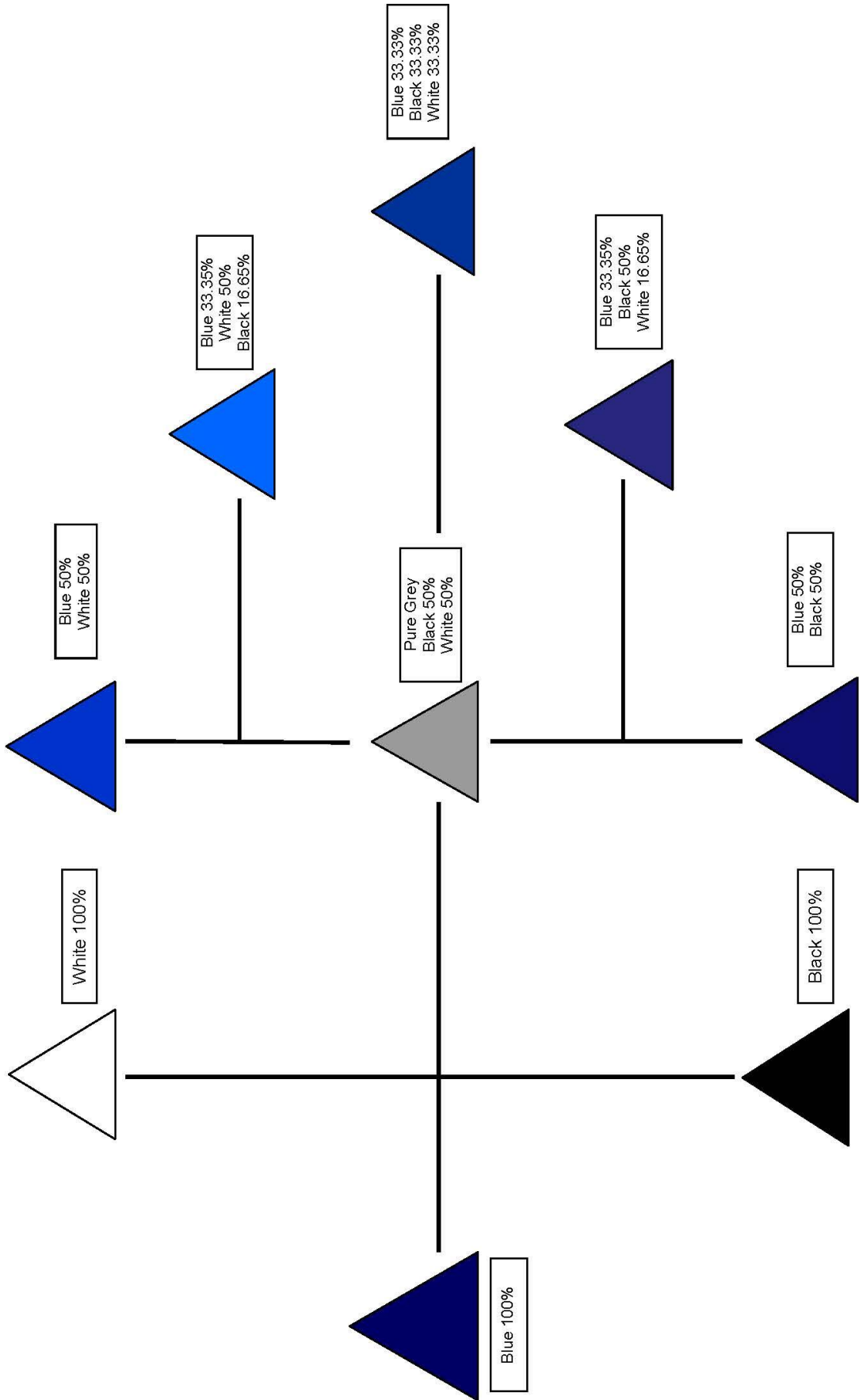


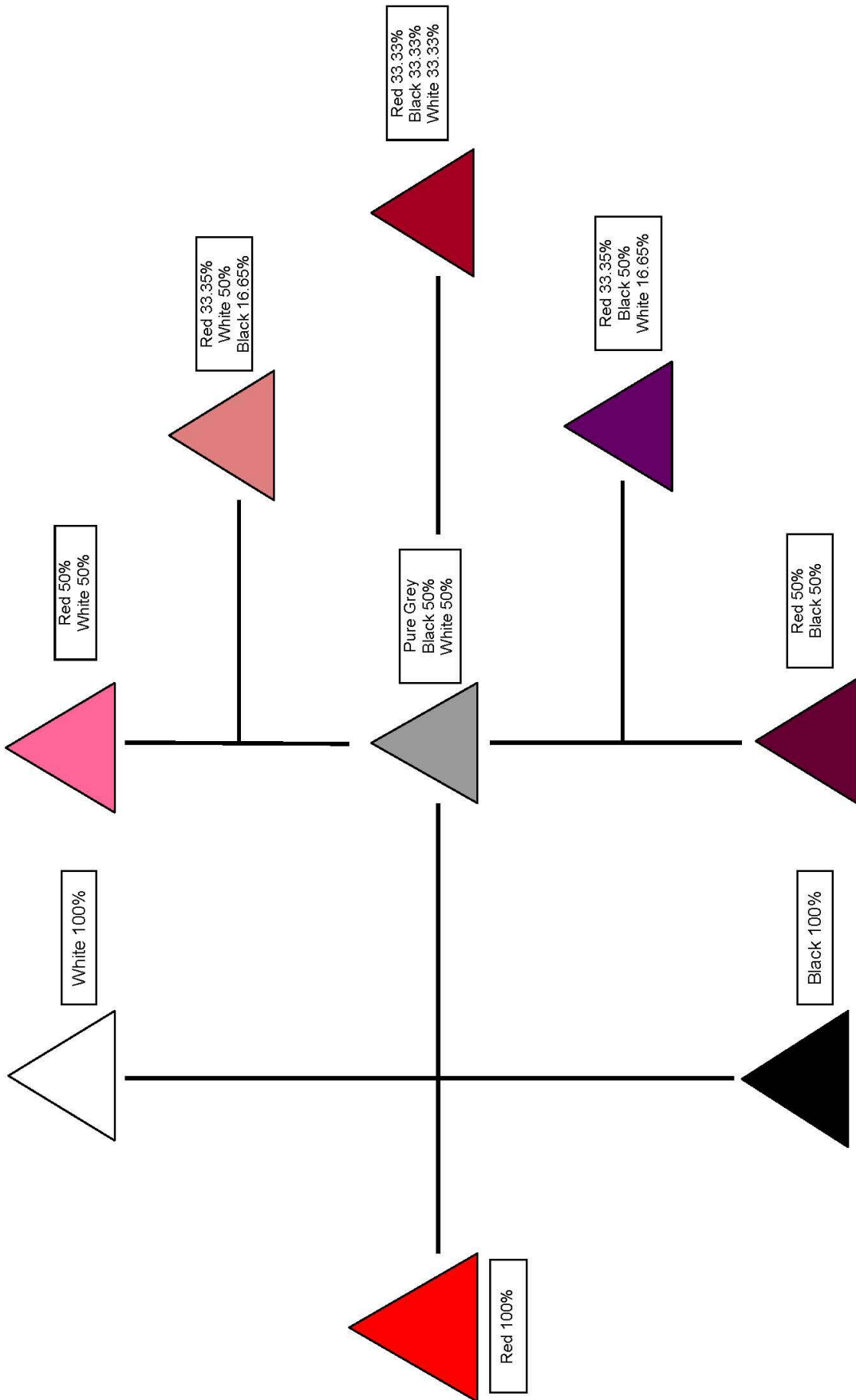


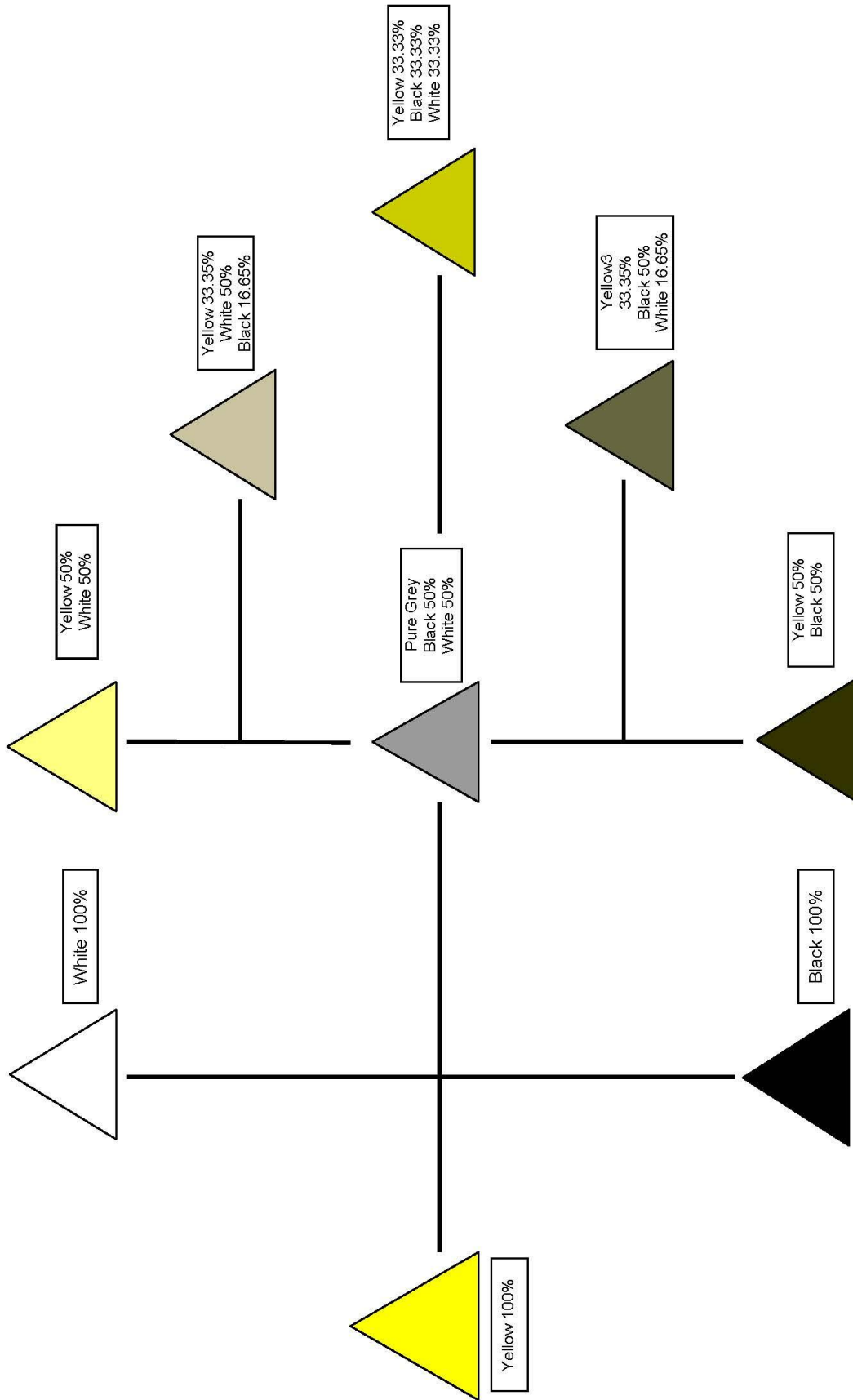


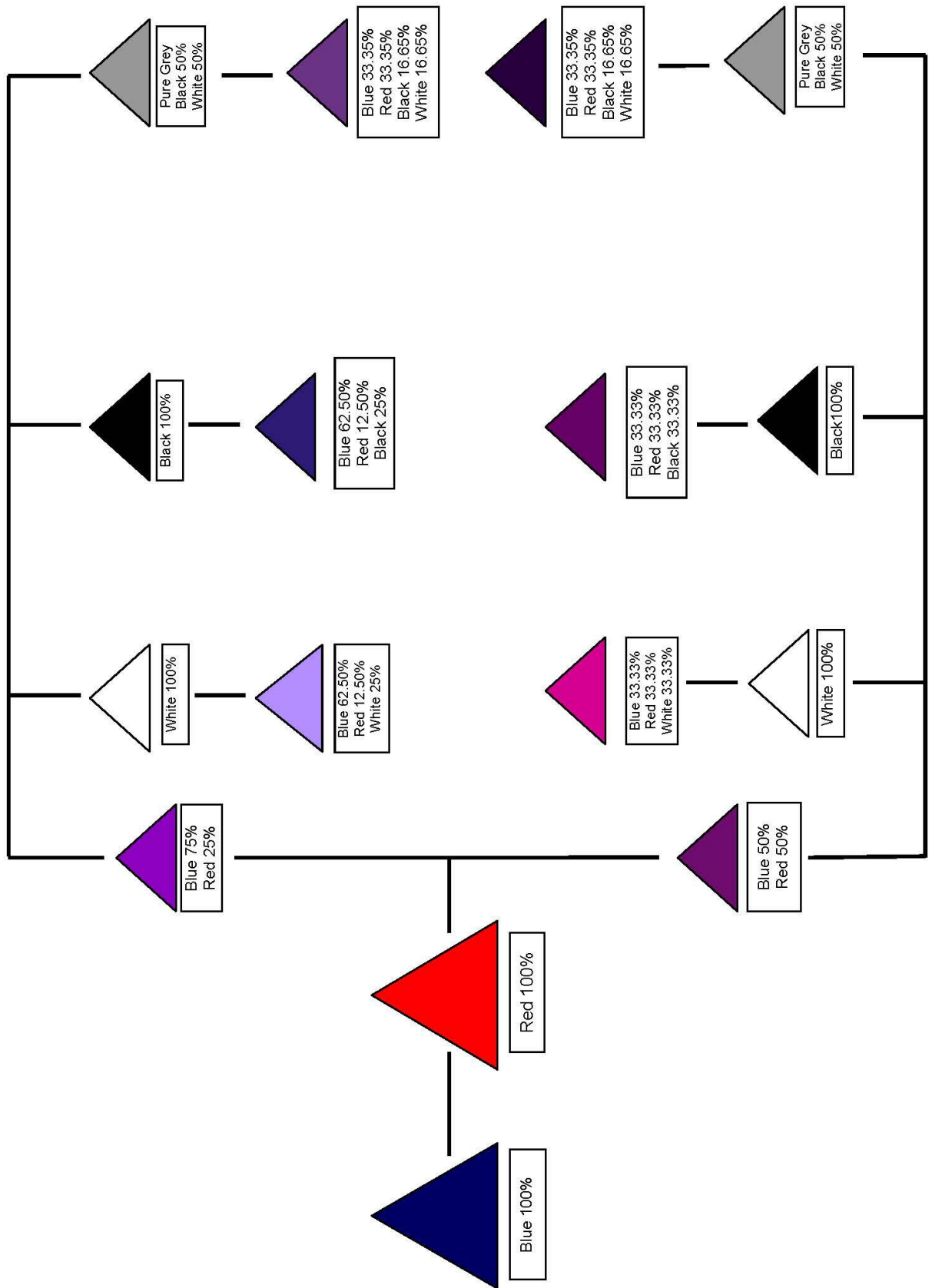


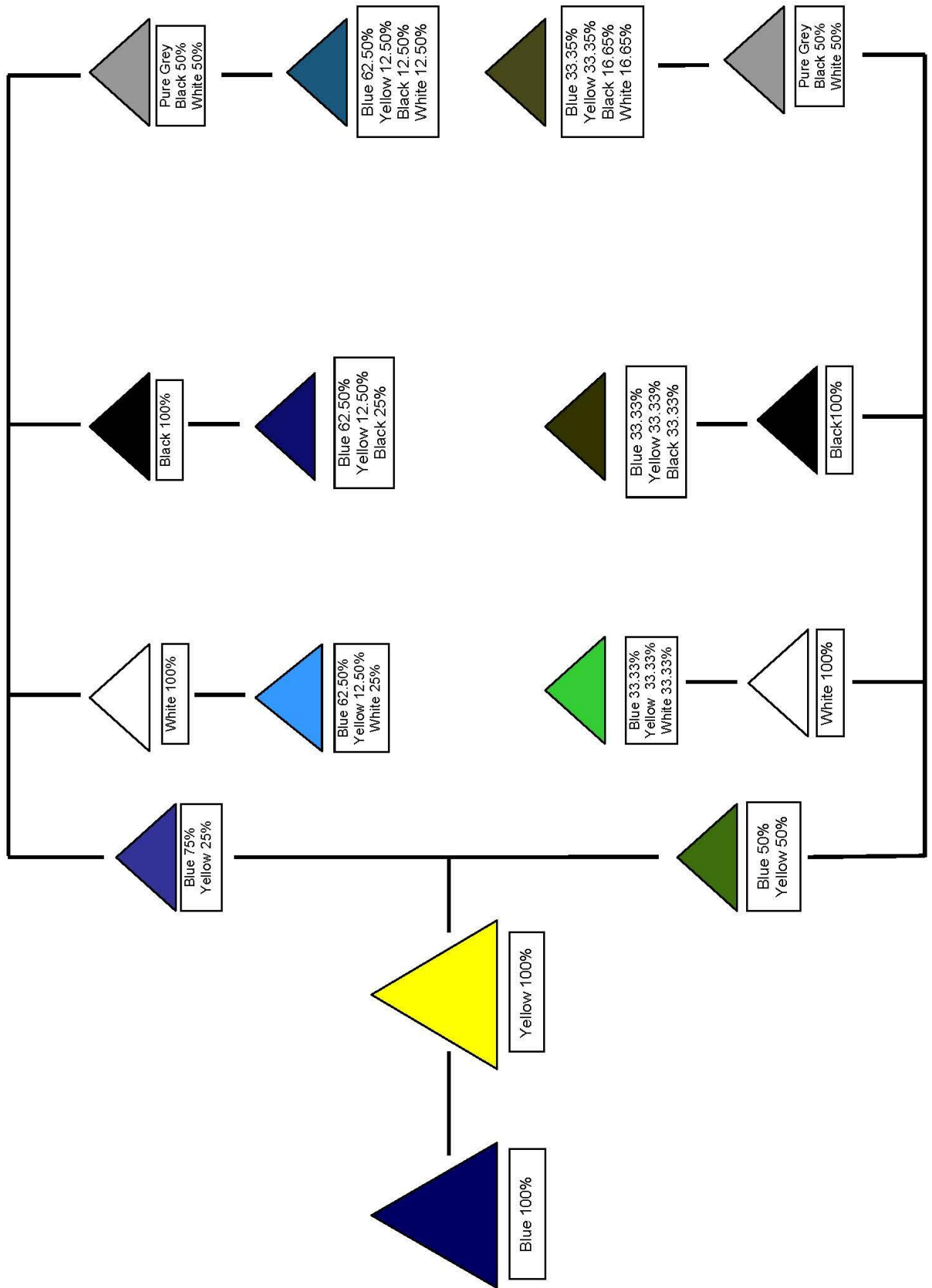


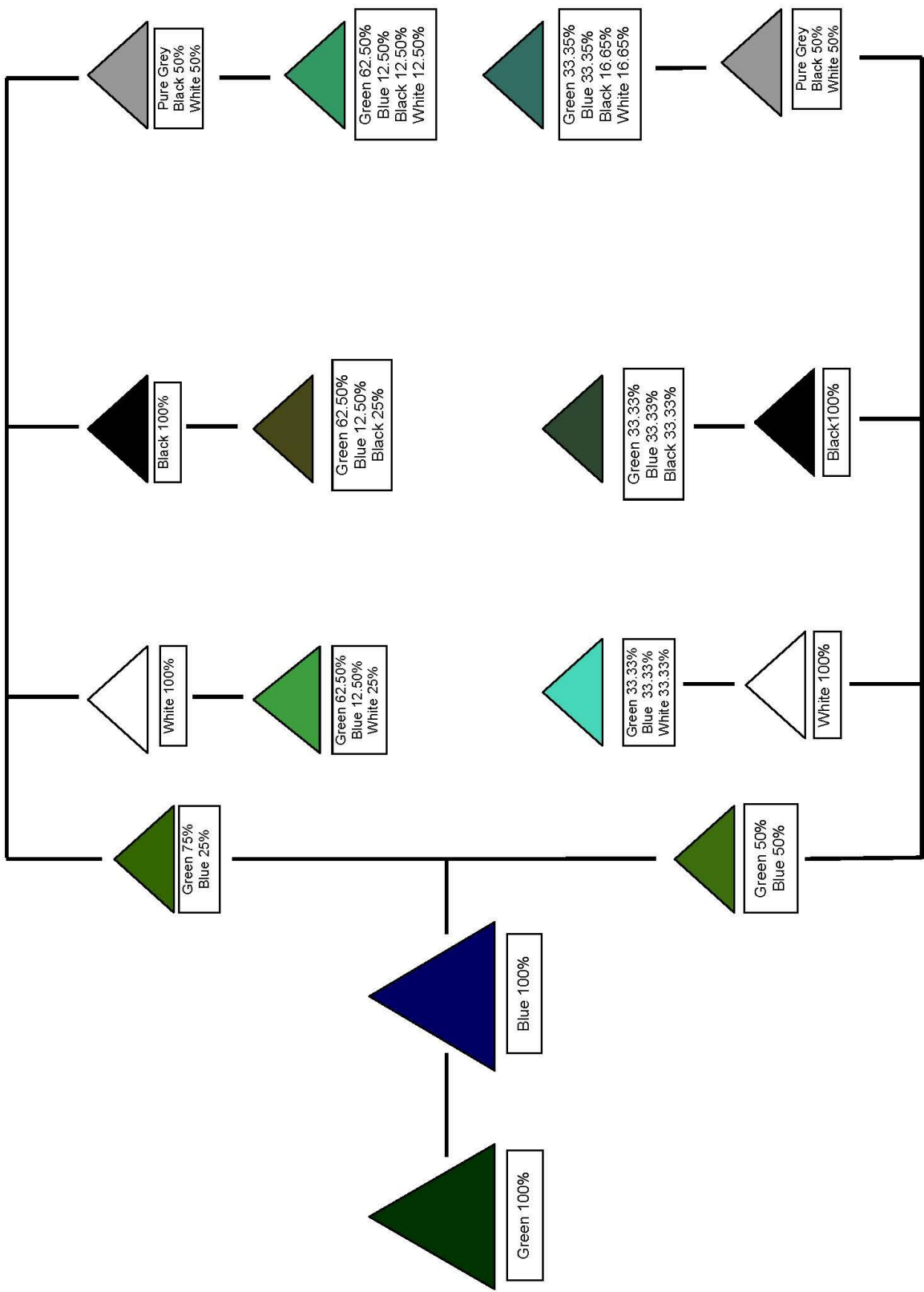


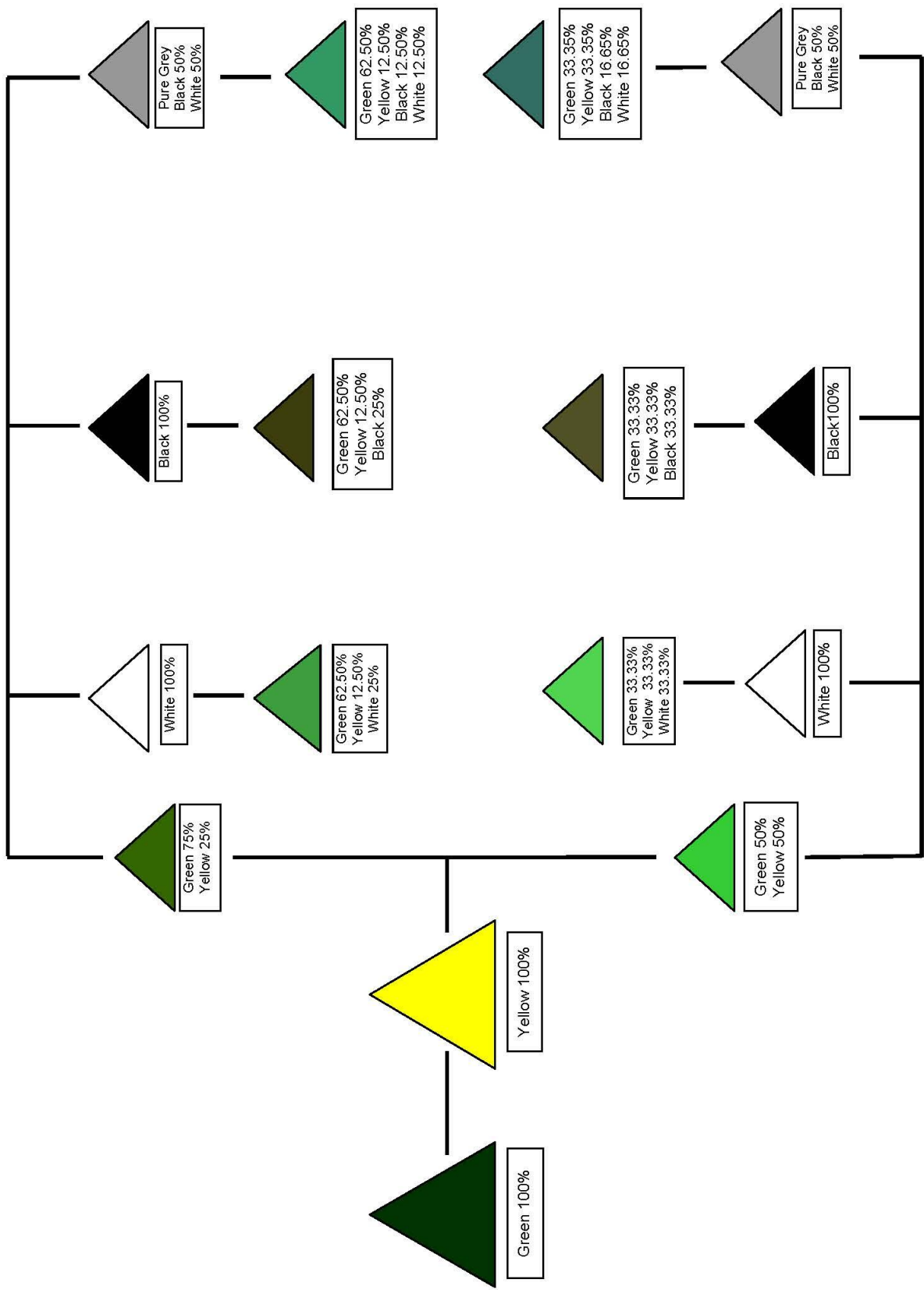


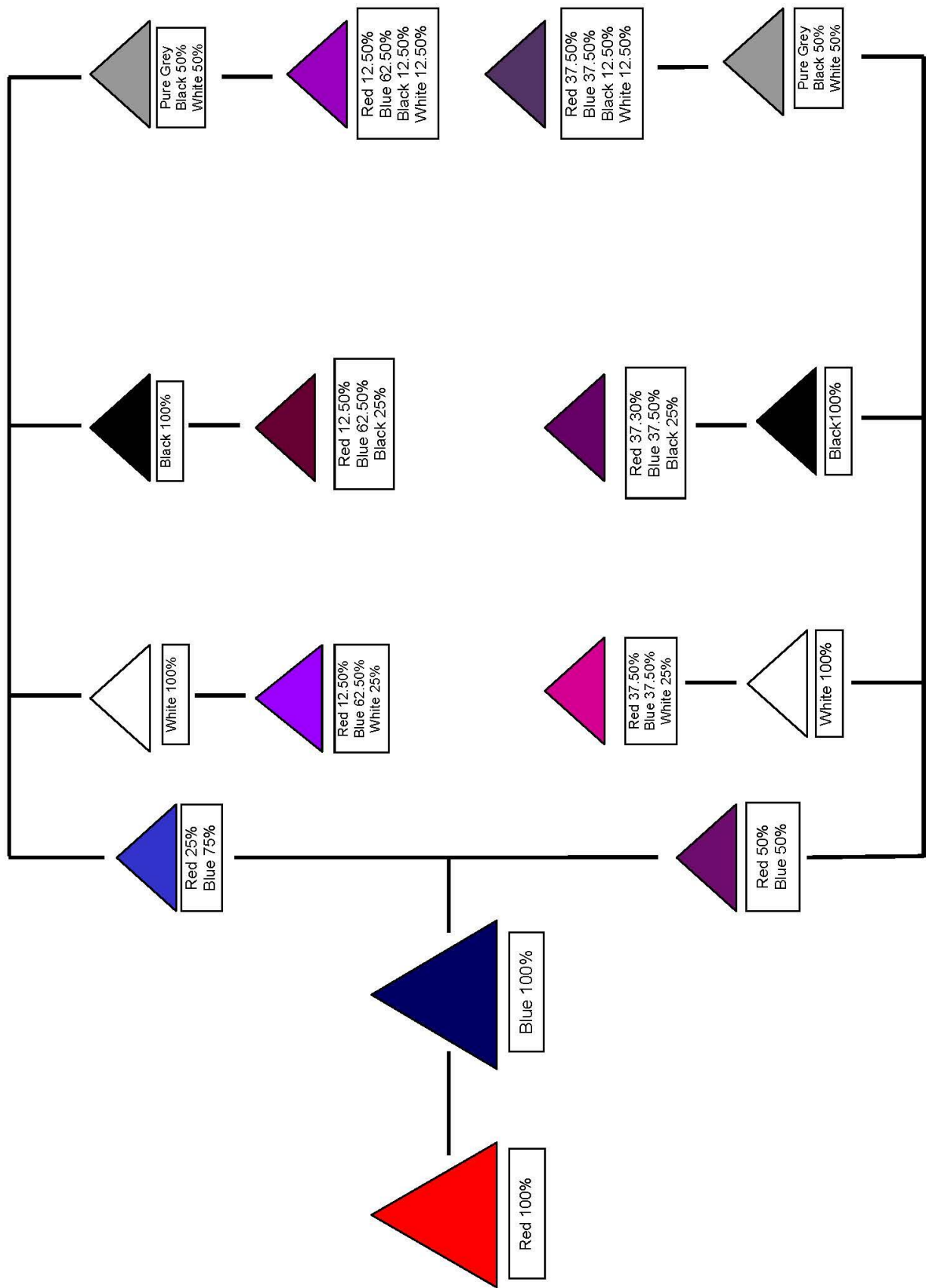


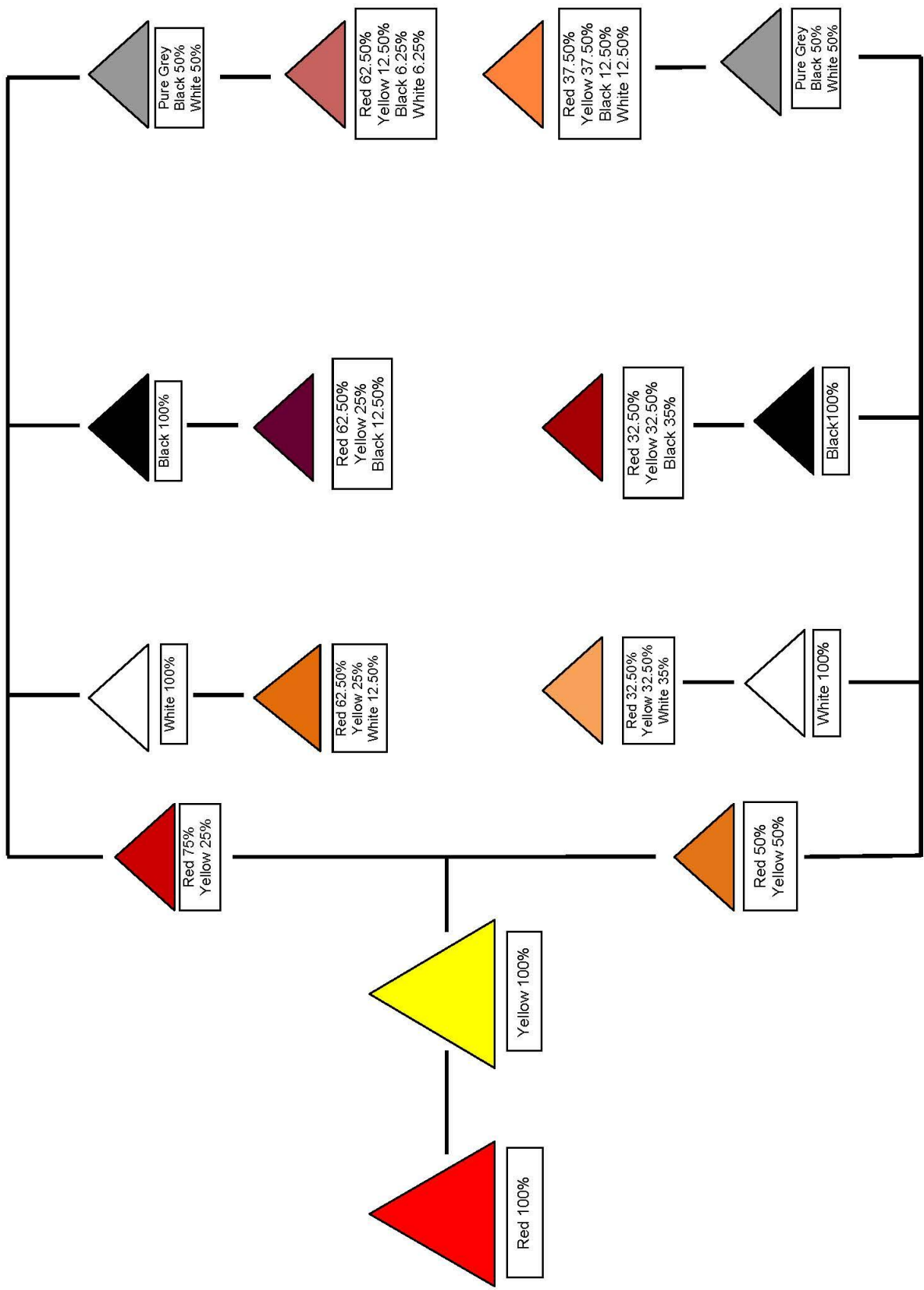


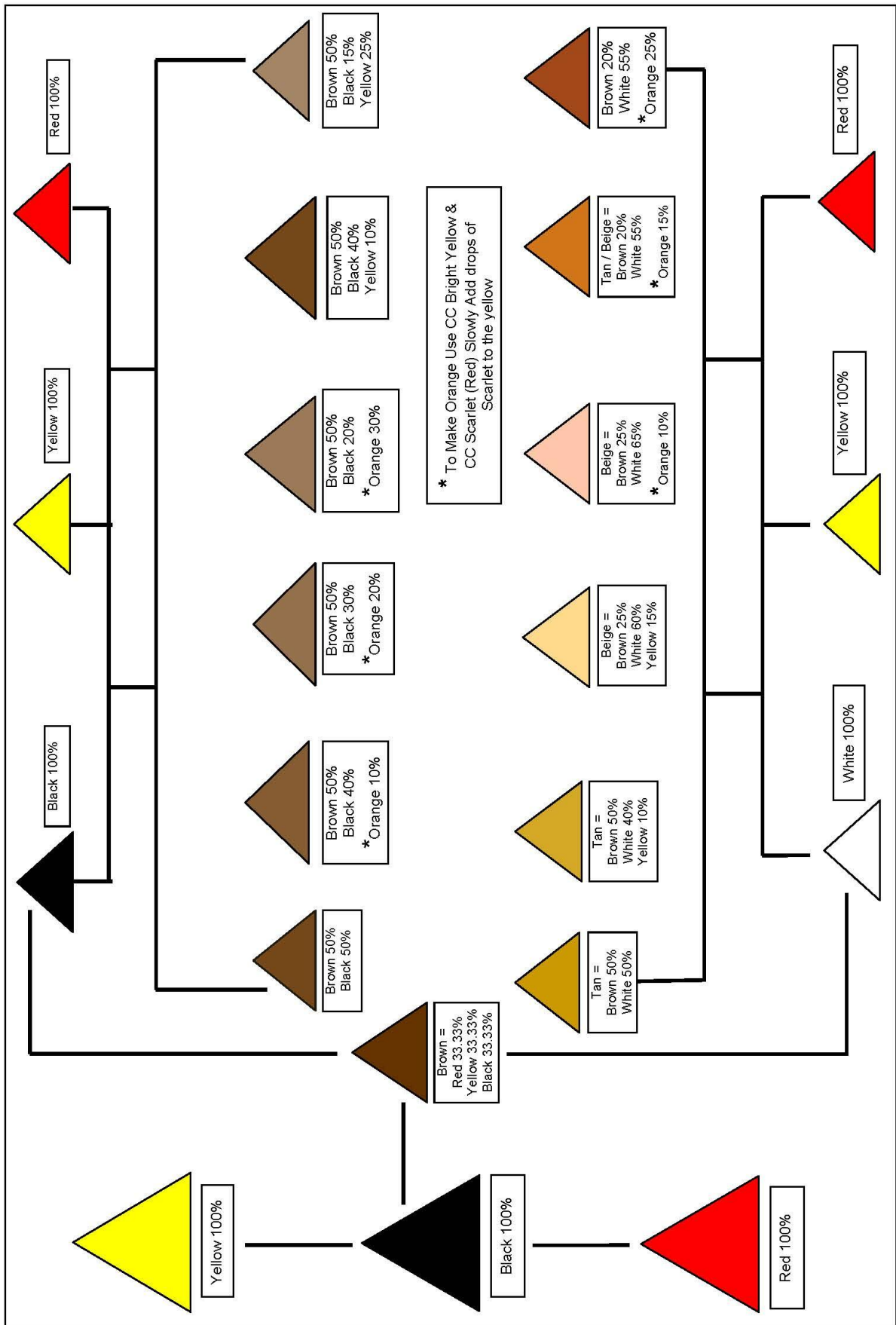


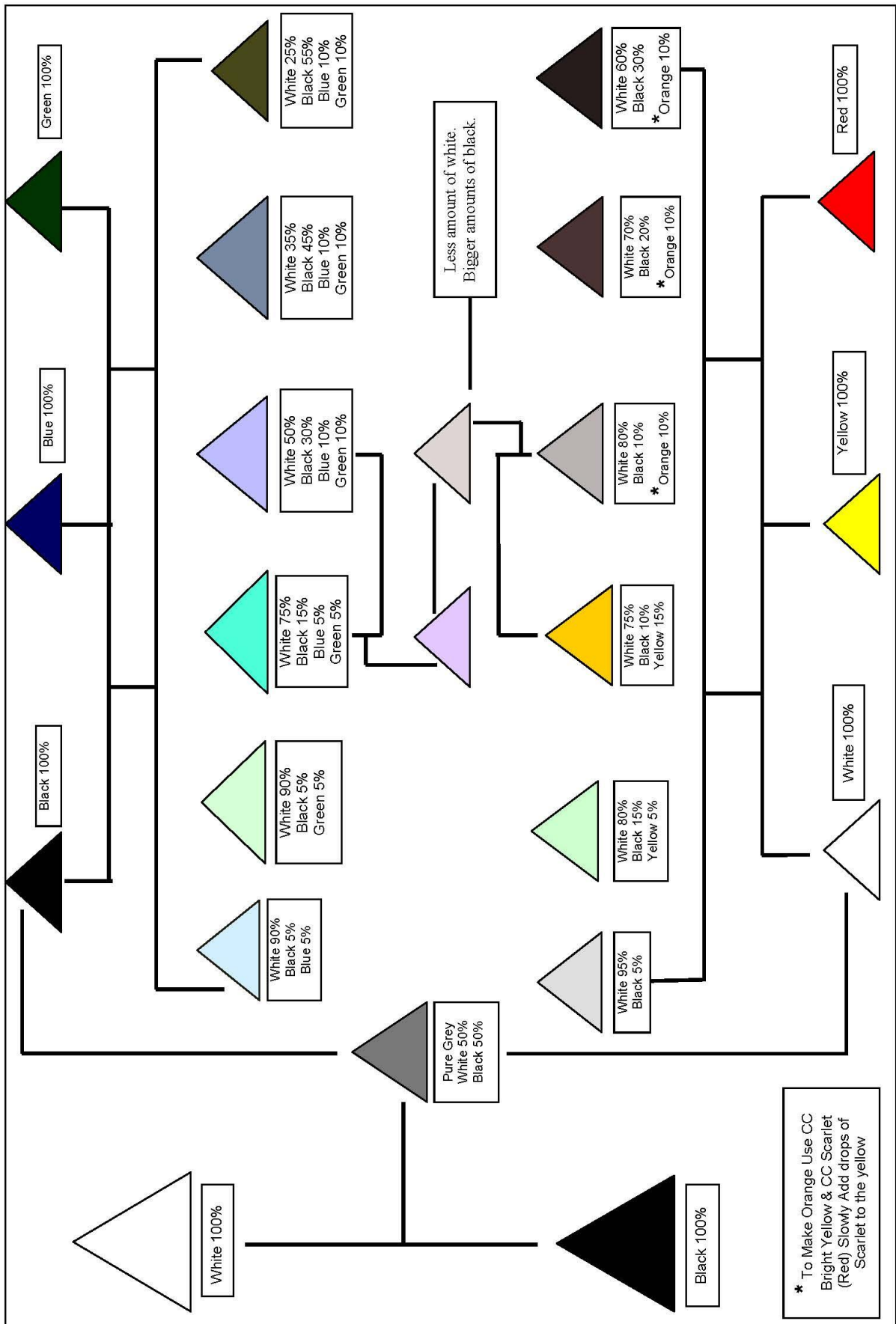




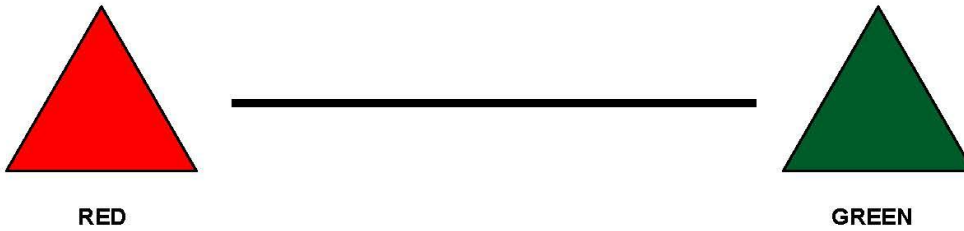




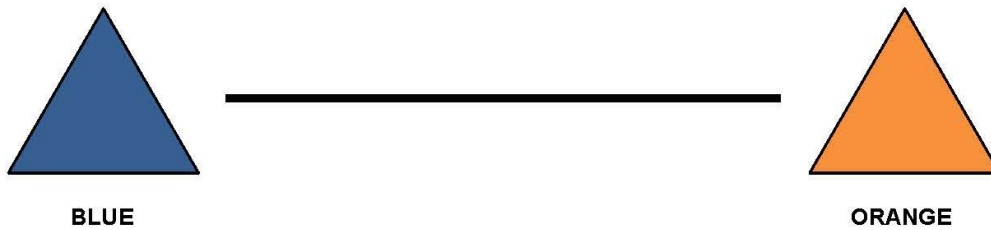




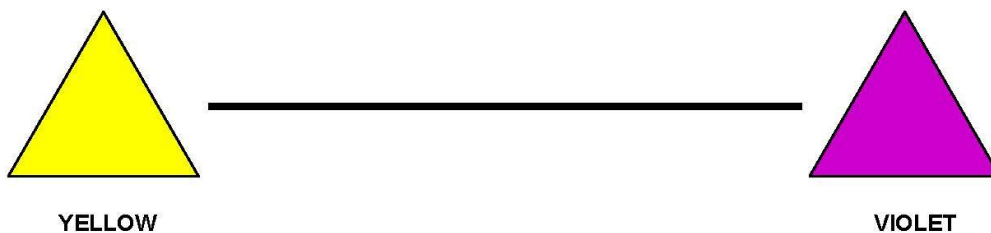
Colours That Counteract Each Other



If a colour has gone too red, add green to cancel the red. If it's gone too green, then add red to cancel the green.



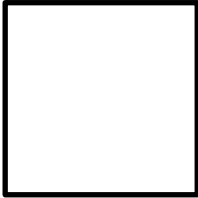
If a colour has gone too blue, add orange to cancel the blue. If it's gone too orange, then add blue to cancel the orange.



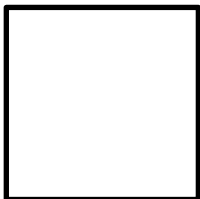
If a colour has gone too yellow, add violet to cancel the yellow. If it's gone too violet, then add yellow to cancel the violet.

SALMONS COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS

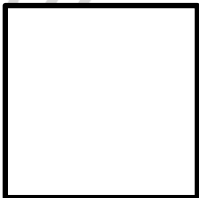
The purpose of these colour charts is so that you can make each colour so you have a guide to colour mixing, always use the 25mm column, put a drop of colour beside each box in the square provided.



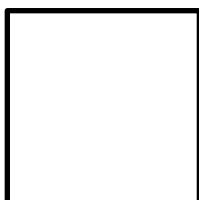
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| RED OXIDE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| SCARLET RED | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



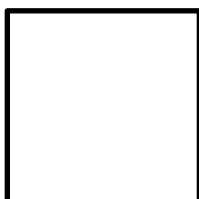
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 10 | 20 | 40 | 80 | 200 |
| RED OXIDE | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| SCARLET RED | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| MAGENTA | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| SCARLET RED | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

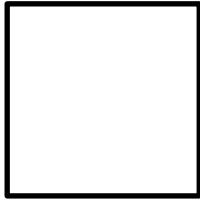


| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| MAGENTA | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| SCARLET RED | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

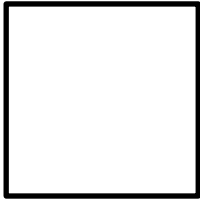


| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 22 | 44 | 88 | 176 | 440 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| RED OXIDE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

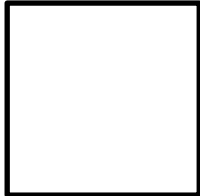
RED COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



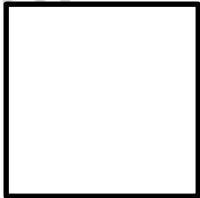
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| RED OXIDE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| VIOLET | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| WHITE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



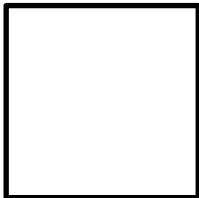
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| RED OXIDE | 10 | 20 | 40 | 80 | 200 |
| MAGENTA | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| WHITE | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| ORANGE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| MAGENTA | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| RED OXIDE | 7 | 14 | 28 | 56 | 140 |
| VIOLET | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| ORANGE | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

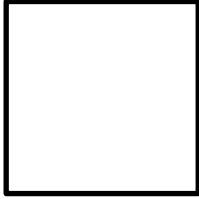


| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| RED OXIDE | 19 | 38 | 76 | 152 | 380 |
| WHITE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

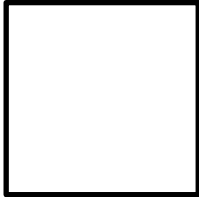


| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| ORANGE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| WHITE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| VIOLET | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

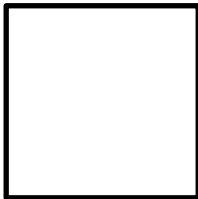
PURPLE COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



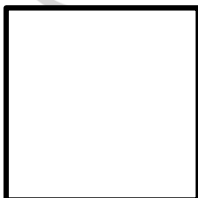
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| MAGENTA | 12 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| WHITE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| VIOLET | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| DARK BLUE | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



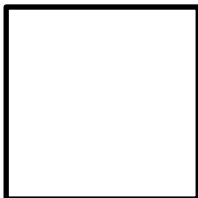
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 10 | 20 | 40 | 80 | 200 |
| RED OXIDE | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| MAGENTA | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| DARK BLUE | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| MAGENTA | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 22 | 44 | 88 | 176 | 440 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

IVORY COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS

| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 18 | 36 | 72 | 144 | 360 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| ORANGE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 19 | 38 | 76 | 152 | 380 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| UMBER | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| ORANGE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 23 | 46 | 92 | 184 | 460 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 22 | 44 | 88 | 176 | 440 |
| RED OXIDE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 21 | 42 | 84 | 168 | 420 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

GREY COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS

| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| STRONG BLACK | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| WHITE | 14 | 28 | 56 | 112 | 280 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

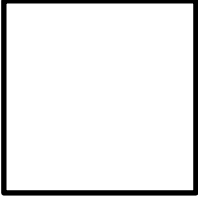
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 20 | 40 | 80 | 160 | 400 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| UMBER | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| STRONG BLACK | 16 | 32 | 64 | 128 | 320 |
| WHITE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

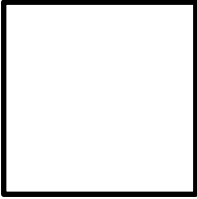
| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 11 | 22 | 44 | 88 | 220 |
| STRONG BLACK | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| STRONG BLACK | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

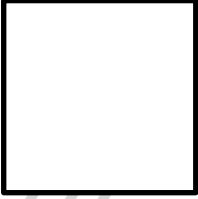
GREEN COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



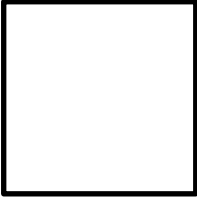
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| WHITE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| ORANGE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



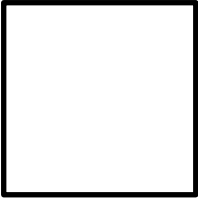
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| WHITE | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| ORANGE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 11 | 22 | 44 | 88 | 220 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| DARK BLUE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| VIOLET | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

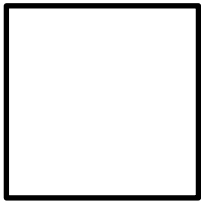


| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| STRONG BLACK | 11 | 22 | 44 | 88 | 220 |
| WHITE | 7 | 14 | 28 | 56 | 140 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| DARK BLUE | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

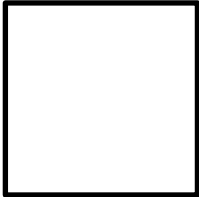


| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| STRONG BLACK | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| DARK BLUE | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| VIOLET | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

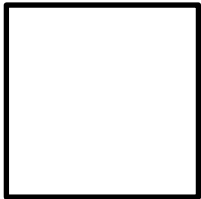
CREAM COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



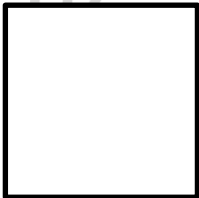
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 24 | 48 | 96 | 192 | 480 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



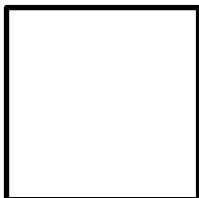
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 20 | 40 | 80 | 160 | 400 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| UMBER | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 22 | 44 | 88 | 176 | 440 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |



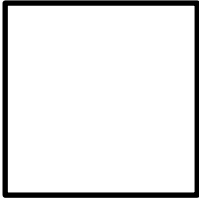
| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 14 | 28 | 56 | 112 | 280 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 20 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 1 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 20 |
| | | | | | |



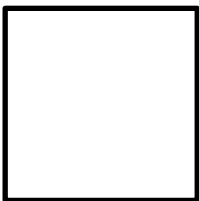
| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| OXIDE YELLOW | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |

Cream is a difficult colour to mix for most people the above guides give very different shades than you would expect. But starting off with white and then slowly adding oxide yellow just a few drops and then a small amount of dark brown, along with a drop or two of red to knock out the green tone and a couple of drops of black will make creams.

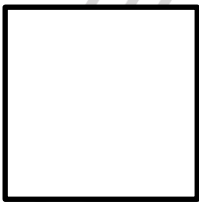
BROWN COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



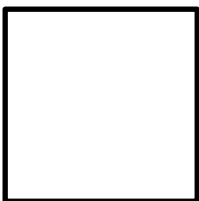
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| SCARLET (RED) | 7 | 14 | 28 | 56 | 140 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 7 | 14 | 28 | 56 | 140 |
| ORANGE | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| WHITE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| STRONG BLACK | 2 | 4 | 8 | 13 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



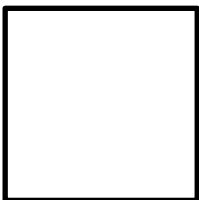
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| RED OXIDE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| STRONG BLACK | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| WHITE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| VIOLET | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| SCARLET (RED) | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| ORANGE | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| STRONG BLACK | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



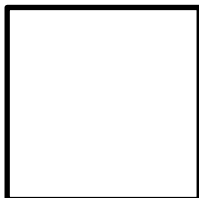
| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| STRONG BLACK | 11 | 22 | 44 | 88 | 220 |
| RED OXIDE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| WHITE | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| MAGENTA | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



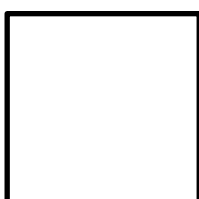
| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| VIOLET | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| WHITE | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Quick Guide: use black and scarlet red to make a dark brown, starting off with more black slowly adding red keeps its tone dark. The more red you add, in the reddy brown colour will be achieved.

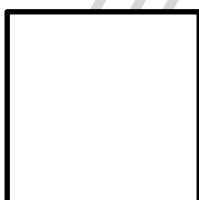
BLUE COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



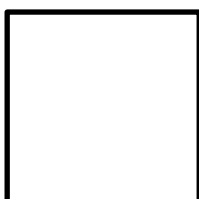
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| DARK BLUE | 12 | 24 | 48 | 96 | 240 |
| STRONG BLACK | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| WHITE | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| MAGENTA | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



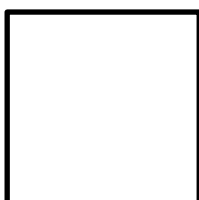
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| DARK BLUE | 15 | 30 | 60 | 120 | 300 |
| WHITE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| MAGENTA | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| DARK BLUE | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

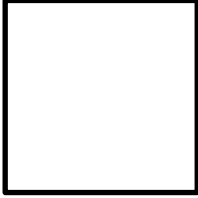


| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 14 | 28 | 56 | 112 | 280 |
| MAGENTA | 5 | 10 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| STRONG BLACK | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| DARK BLUE | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

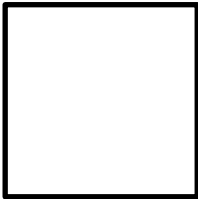


| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 21 | 42 | 84 | 168 | 420 |
| MAGENTA | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

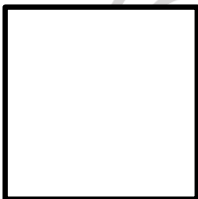
BEIGE COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



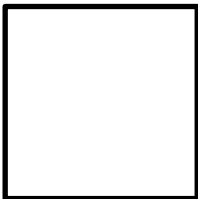
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 17 | 34 | 68 | 136 | 340 |
| UMBER | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 80 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| SCARLET (RED) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



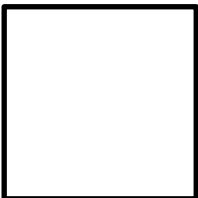
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 16 | 32 | 64 | 128 | 320 |
| UMBER | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 | 160 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 11 | 22 | 44 | 88 | 220 |
| UMBER | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| STRONG BLACK | 3 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 60 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

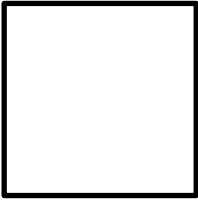


| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| UMBER | 17 | 34 | 68 | 136 | 340 |
| WHITE | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| STRONG BLACK | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| BRIGHT GREEN | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

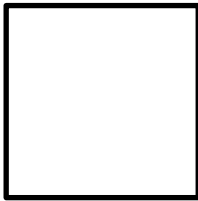


| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| WHITE | 9 | 18 | 36 | 72 | 180 |
| STRONG BLACK | 7 | 14 | 28 | 56 | 140 |
| UMBER | 6 | 12 | 24 | 48 | 120 |
| BRIGHT YELLOW | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 40 |
| DARK BLUE | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

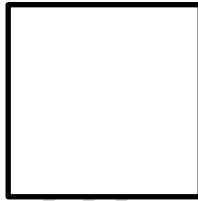
COLOUR MIXING FORMULAS



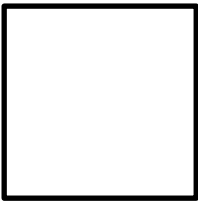
| SHADE 1 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



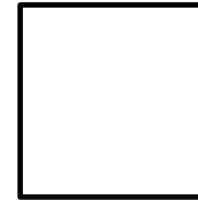
| SHADE 2 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 3 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 4 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| SHADE 5 | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Colours Used | 25g | 50g | 100g | 200g | 500g |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Problems When Mixing Up Reds.

When you're mixing up Reds if you're having problems with this and it's going to the brown shade / tone.

To resolve this, follow the below steps.

Use Scarlet (red) if you wish to make this a nicer fiery orange red like some BMW and Audis have in, then add Magenta. If you want to gain an even deeper richer red add more Magenta.

If you wanted to go to a much darker shade of this red add to it Violet.

If you want it to be a darker deeper red you can also add a splash of Red Oxide.

This should help when mixing reds in the future to avoid going to the brown shades as people have done in the past.

Help Sheet For Mixing Cream

White

- White is one of the main components of cream. If you want a strong, very warm shade of cream, you would add dark brown to the paint mixture.

Pure Light Brown

- Pure light brown is another crucial colour needed for creams. More pure light brown in a paint mixture makes the cream look more creamy and darker.

Bright Yellow

- Bright yellow is the colour that you just need a few drops of, but the brightness of bright yellow helps give the cream colour its signature look. Without yellow, you would just have a cream shade.

Red Scarlet

- Red scarlet is not a necessary paint colour to make cream, but it is another option for making your hand-mixed colour to have that pinky tone some creams can have.

There are many ways to make a cream, equal parts orange and bright yellow and keep adding white into the mix to make a golden yellow, going all the way down to a bright cream with the white you add into the mix.

Some times when mixing it's the shade that can be out, this can be changed by mixing together 70% white with 30% black to gain a nice grey colour, the grey will change that mid tone shade make it blend in much better, but you don't need a lot of the grey just a few drops, if it goes too mucky looking just add in more pure light brown to bring back the cream shades again.

Help Sheet For Mixing Brown's

Red

- Red is one of the main components of brown. If you want a strong, very warm shade of brown, you would mix the paint with more red.

Yellow

- Yellow is another crucial colour needed for brown. More yellow in a paint mixture makes the brown look more golden.

Blue

- Blue is the colour that you just need a few drops of, but the coolness of blue helps give the brown colour its signature look. Without blue, you would just have an orange shade.

Green

- Green is not a necessary paint colour to make brown, but it is another option for making your hand-mixed colour look cooler without adding more blue.

There are many ways to make a dark brown, dark blue and yellow in equal parts and then add scarlet red, if you add bluer you will gain from this a beautiful purple colour.

Light to mid browns equal parts red scarlet and orange and then a few drops of black, if you require this to be darker add black.

If you require a nice golden oak brown once you have added the initial black add more orange, also add bright yellow but at only half the rate you're adding orange, in between an odd dash of white will help lighten the colour.

Help Sheet For Mixing Beige Colours

Shade 1(Light Beige)

White

- White is one of the main components of beige. If you want a darker stronger beige, you would add to the mix the paint with a red scarlet, bright yellow and dark blue, this would gain you a dark greeny beige, adding white in will help lighten this again.

Bright Yellow

- Bright yellow is the colour that you just need a few drops of, but the brightness of bright yellow helps give the tan colour its signature look. Without yellow, you would just have a brown shade.

Red Scarlet

- Red scarlet is a very necessary paint colour to make beige, but just a few drops as per yellow above with the red scarlet, this helps gain that stunning beige look, if you're looking for a light beige colour add just add a small drop of red scarlet as you would the bright yellow above.

Dark Blue

- Dark blue will gain you the darkness and green shade in the beige mix, but just a few drops as per the bright yellow and red scarlet above, if you require a dark greeny Beige just add more dark blue and bright yellow with equal parts red scarlet. This can be lightened by adding white as required, some beige colours tend to be on the green side and the yellow and the dark blue helps gain this mix.

There are many ways to make a beige, depending on the shade you require, but the above gives you the basic information you will require, if you ever require your beige to go lighter white always lightens any colour, black always darkens any colour.

Some times when mixing it's the shade that can be out, this can be changed by mixing together 70% white with 30% black to gain a nice grey colour, the grey will change that mid tone shade make it blend in much better, but you don't need a lot of the grey just a few drops, if it goes too mucky looking just add in more of the above three main colours, white, yellow and red scarlet.

A note to remember beige colours are a shade of browns.

Adding more white will lighten this to gain you a much lighter beige.

Help Sheet For Mixing Beige Colours

Shade 2 (Dark Beige)

White

- White is one of the main components of beige. If you want a darker stronger beige, you would add three colours to the mix, red scarlet, bright yellow and dark blue. This would gain you a dark greeny beige, adding white in will help lighten this again.

Dark Brown

- Dark brown mixed with the white above will create you a grey tone, this is the starting point for a darker shade of beige, and you can use equal parts dark brown and white to gain this grey shade.

Magenta

- Magenta added to the mix above helps gain the red tone to the beige, as all beige colours are a form of browns, just add a few drops of magenta to the mix, but, not too much.

Bright Yellow

- Bright yellow added to the mix above helps gain the rich golden colour you require to the beige, with all beige colours being on the brown shade the bright yellow helps gain the golden look, just add a few drops to the mix the same amount as magenta above.

Always remember black darkens a colour and white lightens a colour, if you keep adding white after white to this mix you will go to a light creamy yellow colour of beige.

Help Sheet For Mixing Tan Colours

White

- White is one of the main components of tan. If you want a darker strong, very warm shade of tan, you would add black to the mix with equal parts of red scarlet.

Bright Yellow

- Bright yellow is the colour that you just need a few drops of, but the brightness of bright yellow helps give the tan colour its signature look. Without yellow, you would just have a brown shade.

Black

- Black is used to give the tan darkness, and turning it to a shade of brown, if you add too much black in, simply add in red scarlet to get you back to the London tan again and then bright yellow.

Red Scarlet

- Red scarlet is a very necessary paint colour to make tan, with the red scarlet, this helps gain that stunning tan look, if you're looking for a deep London tan colour add more red scarlet and bright yellow

There are many ways to make a tan, depending on the shade you require, but the above gives you the basic information you will require, if you ever require your tan to go lighter white always lightens any colour, black always darkens any colour, the key to mixing your Tan shades is the white, bright yellow and red scarlet. The more black you add to the mix the darker the tan will become, but when adding black add some red scarlet and some bright yellow as well.

Some times when mixing it's the shade that can be out, this can be changed by mixing together 70% white with 30% black to gain a nice grey colour, the grey will change that mid tone shade make it blend in much better, but you don't need a lot of the grey just a few drops, if it goes too mucky looking just add in more of the above three main colours, white, yellow and red scarlet.