

GRAND LIVING Furniture

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Your personal guide to owning Fine Leather Furniture

Finally It's there,
In your home.
Your new leather furniture.

You can see it...

touch it...

smell it...

But how do you use it and not abuse it?

That is the purpose of this guide, from
'delivery at curbside' to enjoying your investment for
many, many years to come!

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1. Inspecting your new leather furniture.

Grand Living Furniture uses some of the best professional trucking companies to insure that your new furniture is going to arrive at your home safe and sound. However, life is real and full of big cracks in the road with many potholes along the way. Keeping that in mind, we carefully prepare each item for delivery.

Probably the first thing that you should do when your order arrives, is take the time to ensure the paperwork is accurate. Check to be sure that the correct item numbers on the paperwork match those on the cartons. Also look for the correct number of cartons as stated on the paperwork.

As soon as the delivery driver has all the items curbside, offer them a fresh donut and a cold bottle of water. Why do this, you ask? Well, if there is any shipping problems, this driver is going to remember you in a good way! And even if there isn't any problems, they'll remember you as the best 'delivery' of the day.

Now while the driver is eating a donut, take a very close look at the packaging. Look for any holes, rips or signs of crushing. Any damage must be noted on the original Bill of Lading. This will help for a faster claim process.

If you see anything that would cause you to believe there may be damage inside the carton, open it right away. After a thorough inspection and any damage is noted on the right paperwork, then you are ready to sign for the delivery.

Grand Living Furniture wants your satisfaction, we have a very fair warranty policy. You can read it on our website at:

www.glfurniture.com/returns.html

Tip: Use a digital camera before and after opening the carton.

Getting into the house...

Now, assuming that all is well with your new furniture, it's time to move it into your house. Maybe you've enlisted some family or friends to help, or hired a local mover to place it in your home. If you haven't already unpacked it, you will need to do so now. While the furniture may go through your door, it probably won't fit with all the extra packing.

If you are helping to move this inside yourself, then this is a good reminder to avoid back injury. If you are going to use a low handhold, squat down, bending at the knees. Pull the item in close to maintain a center of gravity over your feet. Keeping your back straight, now lift with your legs. When making turns, try to move with your feet and not so much turning at your waist.

Ok, the hard work is done and sitting in your living room is some of the finest leather furniture that you have ever seen. Now what? Everybody jump on it and bounce around? Give it a good workout? Nope, not so fast. Your new furniture has had a long journey, it needs to just sit there for a short bit. In the next section we'll have your leather furniture feeling at home in no time!

2. Acclimating your furniture to its new home.

Just like your body has to acclimate when you jump in a pool of water, your new furniture needs to acclimate to its new home. If it was hot outside and your house is cool with air conditioning or the other way around, cold outside but warm inside, The furniture should sit about four to six hours to adjust.

One of the best ways to help your furniture adjust quickly is to follow these important placement tips:

1. Don't place leather furniture close to any direct heat source, ie. fireplace, heating vent ect. Try to keep the peices at least three feet from any heat source.
2. Stay away from windows with direct sunlight as this will cause the leather to dry out and fade.
3. Another important factor is to know where the traffic pathways are in the room. Placing your furniture away from these areas will save alot of wear and tear over the life of the furniture.

Just be thoughtful in where you decide to place your new leather furniture and by following these helpful hints, you will be enjoying Grand Living Furniture for many years to come.

Finally are we ready? If you've had to wait while your furniture acclimated to its new home, well that was probably like watching cold molassas drip. But all is well now, bring on the kids, Bowser and even Grandpa.

Next we'll discuss how to let all of these enjoy the newest addition to your home!

3. What about the Kids, Bowser & Grandpa?

Here come the Jetsons, one two three...you have a full crew and maybe more on the way, then someone says to you, 'why in the world did you buy leather furniture when you have all these kids running around?' You just turn and give them that dead serious look and say that is exactly why I bought leather furniture!

Not only is leather many times more durable than fabric furniture, it's useability is un-matched. Leather furniture really can take alot of use without looking like alot of abuse.

Of course, if the kids come in after backyard mud wrestling and your leather color is cream, then maybe you don't want them all over it. A few common sense rules explained to the kids and they will be fine.

Ok with the kids then, but Bowser is a different story, right? Well, yes and no. If Bowser is a full blood Lab, then trim his nails back and round them. Sharp points can puncture leather so use care, pet care, and Bowser will be loving his new leather furniture too!

If Bowser or any other pet does live on the furniture with you, be prepared to give your investment some extra attention. Always be on the lookout for little scratch marks and scuffs, you can buff most of these right out with leather conditioner.

Tip: Pet hair will wipe off easily, won't stick and mat like on fabric.

Friend or Foe, Bowsers not so sure...

On a rare occasion, a pet may feel threatened by this new object that has suddenly appeared on their turf. When this happens, it should quickly pass when Bowser sees that no one is getting hurt by this strange smelling creature.

Some pets may feel the need to mark this new piece and show it who the top dog really is. If this does happen, it's not the end, we'll talk about pet urine in the next section.

Well then, what about Grandpa, he can't sit there can he? Hey, Grandpa has earned the right to sit where ever he very well pleases! So lets give Grandpa a pass, ok?

Just do a quick inventory of his pockets on his overalls. Making sure there isn't any garden snips or needle nose pliers lurking about. Soon Grandpa will be sawing logs and loving your new Grand Living Furniture also.

Tip: A few days before your new furniture arrives, find a place that will give you a small leather swatch. Leave this laying around where your pets will encounter it. Don't let them chew or play with it, just let them get use to the new smell. This will give you some idea how they will react when your furniture does arrive.

4. Keeping your Leather Furniture happy!

Keeping your leather furniture happy is really pretty simple. You already know to keep the peices away from direct sunlight and heat sources, now one simple step that is often the most overlooked step. Dusting, weekly dusting. If you will do this step, you will help your leather furniture to be happy for years to come.

Use a soft cloth for regular dusting, if an area is being worn more than others, try damping the cloth with a little warm water. Leather furniture should always be cleaned with a water based cleaner, this will ensure a long and happy life for your investment.

Avoid using saddle soap or mink oil. Those are fine for leather garmets, but are not suited for your furniture. Using oil based cleaners will often cause the leather to stretch near the seams, change the color of the stitching and other discolorations.

Also do not use automotive type leather cleaners. The leather used for car upholstery is very different from the leather used for your furniture.

More TLC...

Three to four times a year you will want to do a more thorough cleaning using a quality leather cleaner. Your leather furniture store should be able to recommend a brand that will work for you. When you do this cleaning, get all of the leather surfaces, not just the top visible parts. Give extra attention to the heavy wear areas, armrest, seat and backs.

After you have finished with the cleaning, now is a good time to apply a top quality leather conditioner/preservative. This will keep the leather supple and protect its natural finish.

As your leather furniture ages, it will acquire a patina. This is part of the beauty of leather and is a natural process that slowly happens over time. It is normal to notice slight shifts in color as the piece gets older.

So to have a long and happy life with your Grand Living Furniture, just follow these simple steps and you'll receive years and years of troublefree service from your new furniture.

5. Don't let Spot sit there and other cleaning tips.

Important Note: When using any kind of liquid cleaner, first try it on an area of the furniture that can't be seen.

So how often should I clean my leather furniture? There is several factors that can help determine this. One, of course is the amount of use. If it's a daily user with a active family of five plus pets, then a moderate cleaning weekly and a more through cleaning monthly may be in order for you. However if you use your furniture on a more moderate basis, maybe the occasional grandkids, cleaning on a less frequent schedule would be fine for you.

Removing stains...it could and does happen. When you hear the kids yell, 'Mom, there's a spot on the sofa' and you know they are not talking about the dog, but the chocolate ice cream you had seen them making off with earlier.

Now what to do? No problem, just remove as much as you can of the ice cream from the leather surface. Then use warn water with a cloth or soft sponge to start blotting the stained area. This should lift all traces of the stain from the leather.

To repeat an earlier tip, avoid the use of any type of cleaners that contain oil-based solvents. Do not use furniture polishes and oils, these can do serious damage to your leather furniture.

More Cleaning info...

Water Spills:

Just blot with a sponge or soft cloth, then let it air dry.

More stubborn stains: Koolaid, Tea, Juices ect.

Use a weak solution of Ivory soap and warm water. Blot the area with a sponge, rinsing often, until the stain is gone then let air dry. Don't forget to try on a hidden area first to be sure of the leathers colorfastness.

Oily Stains: Grease, Butter ect.

These type of stains are harder to get up. Do not use water on these stains. Lift any excess butter/grease that maybe sitting on the surface, then let the leather throughly dry. Most times the stain will absorb into the leather and won't be noticeable.

Inks: ballpoint pens, newspapers and magazines.

As several types of ink contain aniline, also used to dye most leather furniture, these stains actually can 'dye' your leather. If you encounter this kind of stain, we recommend calling a professional rather than trying removal on your own.

The end of 'Spot'...

Pet Stains: The urine kind, Uh...not so good

If the urine is fresh, you have more options open to you. There are many products available to remove pet urine from leather furniture. Do a search on the web for 'pet urine on leather' and you'll find tons of results.

Visit your local pet store, Vets office or furniture store, they'll usually carry some products and should be able to give you some real life experience.

The best time to catch a stain is of course, as soon as it happens. Leather will repel liquids for a short period of time making cleaning much easier. However, stains left on the surface will eventually be absorbed by the leather making removal more difficult. A good thing about leather is its ability to dissipate a stain over time.

If you do get into real trouble with a stain, one that isn't going to easily clean, we recommend calling a professional upholstery cleaning service.

One more thing, if you get a puncture or tear in your leather furniture, all is not lost. Most professional leather repair services can make a repair that will be near invisible. Look in the yellow pages under 'furniture repair'.

6. Enjoying, loving and living with your leather furniture

Top quality leather furniture such as offered by Grand Living Furniture has long been sought after as THE luxury furnishing for homes everywhere. Besides being many times more durable than fabric coverings, leather will actually improve it's appearance as it ages. Its comfort is unsurpassed, warm in the winter and cool in the summer, it is ideal for the family that values fine living!

Leather furniture is a perfect choice for the active, on the go family. With children and pets, your leather furniture will serve you very well.

You will find your new leather furniture to be extremely soft and supple., conforming to your body as you sit on it. It's this comfort quality that makes your investment one that will give you years of enjoyment.

You will also notice that the leather itself has many variations in it's appearance. This is due to range scars like barbed wire, insect bites and other natural factors. Such markings give each peice of furniture an uniqueness of its own and are considered an important mark of beauty in this wonderful material.

Nothing can showcase a natural interior better than the graceful elegance of fine leather furniture. Guest will be in awe and you will enjoy the finest furnishing that states for all, pure luxury!

7. Leather Furniture resources and more...

One last disclaimer... The material presented in this guide has been prepared to give consumers a good overview of leather furniture care. Great effort has been made to ensure the correctness of all the tips and methods, however what works on one peice may not work on another peice due to the many variations in leather processing. When in doubt, call a professional! Your milage may vary...

So remember;

1. Quick clean-up on stains
2. Only use water based cleaning methods
3. Always try in a hidden area first
4. Regular cleaning and care prolongs the life and beauty

This guide is freely given to you, compliments of
Grand Living Furniture

Whose mission it is to bring to you the finest in leather furniture at a cost that is lower than any other comparable outlet. By keeping selection limited and inventory low, great savings is passed on to the benefit of furniture buyers everywhere.

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Leather Furniture Resources on the internet...

Grand Living Furniture

Offers greatest savings on top quality
fine Leather Furniture for the living room

www.glfurniture.com

Planet Urine

A site all about pet urine removal.

http://www.planeturine.com/dsp_leatherupholstery.cfm

Furniture Clinic

Furniture Clinic offers a wide range of exclusive cleaning products
previously only available to the trade.

<http://www.furnitureclinic.co.uk/>

Life Tips

An A to Z resource for all things cleaning.
Huge collection, well laid out site

<http://cleaning.lifetips.com/cat/41/furniture-cleaning/>

The internet is a fantastic place to find information about almost anything. No matter what your situation or need, the help and knowledge is available for you. Just use your favourite search engine (Google, Yahoo, MSN ect.) and soon you will know too! Be patience and stay focused on your topic. The web has a way of sidetracking you with all its vastness, that's 'surfing the internet', but by keeping on one track, you will get to where you are going. It's there!

Have a Great Day
and enjoy your fine Leather Furniture!

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