THE SANDPAPER-SUPER-GLUE METHOD OF LEATHER REPAIR

Real leather creates a fine dust when sanded. Mix this into wet super glue, and you’ve got an instant filler! It is exceptional for repairing minor nicks, scratches, or cat claw damage on genuine leather as well as worn and cracking steering wheels and gear shifts in cars. Use Soft Filler to repair more substantial damage requiring flexibility or any type of synthetic (vinyl).

IS A SUBPATCH NECESSARY?
If your leather is torn such that you can see the substrate (batting or foam), insert a subpatch. This serves as the structural foundation of your repair. It prevents further damage by strengthening the material and allows your repair to move freely over the substrate.

SUBPATCH SUPPLIES
- iron-on patch or strong, thin mending fabric
- flexible glue (3M® Plastic Emblem & Trim Adhesive or LocTite® Vinyl, Fabric, Plastic Adhesive)
- scissors
- tweezers
- large needle or toothpicks
- piece of cardboard
- rags
- rubbing alcohol (in case of a glue mess)
- small board, book, or other flat weight

SUBPATCH INSTRUCTIONS
1. **Trim** any material that is stiff (often caused by a burn or other glue). The perimeter of the hole should be as pliable and soft as the original material.

2. **Cut a patch** so that it is a little larger than the hole. Round the edges for easier insertion. Choose a thin but strong patching material that won't show a silhouette once in place.

3. **Insert the patch** under the tear(s) with tweezers. If the patch has adhesive on one side, insert this side up so it will contact the back of the leather or vinyl. Ensure the patch completely covers the hole and sits smoothly between the substrate and leather/vinyl. Any wrinkles or folds will create a bulge that looks and feels uneven.

4. **Apply a thin layer of flexible fabric glue** between the patch and the leather. Contact the surfaces for a few seconds. If you can pull the patch and leather/vinyl apart again, blow a little air on the glue to help it tack (or apply more glue if necessary), and then contact again. Follow with a smooth, firm weight, and hold. Allow the glue to completely dry.

*This tear must be subpatched with a flexible glue, so the repair will be strong and move freely over the substrate.*
THE SANDPAPER-SUPER-GLUE METHOD
This repair method works best on top grain and coated leathers (like automotive leather). Be gentle and use a finer grade sandpaper on more absorbent full-grain, aniline or semi-aniline leather. Do not use this method for suede or nubuck.

SUPPLIES NEEDED
◆ rubbing alcohol
◆ rags
◆ Rub ’n Restore® Color of your choice
◆ cellulose sponge for applying the paint
◆ super glue (cyanoacrylate) – avoid the gel types
◆ large needle or toothpicks
◆ paper towels
◆ assortment of 220, 320, 500 grit wet-or-dry sandpaper

SANDPAPER-SUPER-GLUE INSTRUCTIONS
1. Clean the surface with alcohol to remove other conditioners or protectants. Allow to dry.

2. Trim any fibers or flaps. You can glue flaps back into place with super glue so long as they are totally flush. Quickly remove any excess super glue with a paper towel.

3. Apply a thin coat of Rub ’n Restore® Color to the leather, and allow to dry. The paint will correct minor scuffs, making areas of damage more obvious and therefore minimizing your work. If you can’t feel the damage, it doesn’t need repair!

4. Apply a tiny amount of super glue to the area needing repair using a large needle or toothpick. Use the corner of a paper towel to feather the glue along its perimeter and to clean up excess. Work in thin layers and avoid coating large areas, as the glue dries hard.

5. Gently sand in a parallel direction of the crack/tear while the glue is still wet. The fine dust from the leather and/or Rub ’n Restore® paint catalyzes the super glue.

6. Repeat steps 4-5 until the surface feels smooth. If you have streaks from excess super glue, sand these areas until they are minimal. Use 500 grit sandpaper to polish.

7. Dab or stipple a thin coat of Rub ’n Restore® Color on the repaired area using a damp sponge. Allow to dry, and repeat as needed, blending outward. The Color does not need to be sealed, but you may need Clear Prep+Finish™ to add luster. Please refer to our application instructions for these products.

8. If your repair needs re-working, you can repeat steps 4-5 without having to remove Rub ’n Restore® Color. Make sure the Color is dry before reworking your repair.

Content copyright 2018. Rub ’n Restore, Inc. All rights reserved.