

DIRECTORATE GENERAL BORDER ROADS
GENERAL MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION NO.115

ON

PRESERVATION OF LEATHER STORES

Introduction

1. Improper handling and storage of leather articles results in dryness stiffness or cracking. The main cause of damage are ageing and heat resulting in stiffness or dryness of leather which shows signs of creaking or hardness. Water is also harmful for leather. This can be avoided by adopting correct method of care and preservation.

Aim

2. The aim of this instruction is to adopt correct method of preservation, so that the life of the leather articles can be prolonged.

Action by

3. (a) Units/Store Companies. To ensure that the leather articles properly preserved as per details given below :-

(b) CE Project/Task Forces. To ensure that stores are checked periodically for correct preservation.

Details

4. The correct method of care and preservation of leather articles are given as per Appendix 'A' to this instruction.

THE CORRECT METHOD OF CARE AND PRESERVATION OF LEATHER ARTICLES

Preservation

- (a) Dubbin Protective. May be applied to the followings: -

FOOT WEAR

(i) Grain side of foot wear upper during storage. 10z per pair of boots normally once in 6 months is adequate. Bottoms will not be treated.

- (b) Dubbin Ordinary. May be applied to the followings :-

- (i) For straps
- (ii) Reins
- (iii) Firths
- (iv) Breast collar
- (v) Belting
- (vi) Other articles manufactured from curried leather, where pliability of the item is required to be maintained.

- (c) Soap Yellow. May be applied to the followings:-

- (i) Blocked leather items of hardness.
- (ii) Saddlery such as seats saddle and Rifle buckets.
- (iii) repair components of foot wear namely sole Half Plain, Lifts and Tips filling;
- (iv) Leather cases and such other items manufactured from un-curried or tanned butt leather where rigidity, stiffness or shape of the items is required to be maintained be treated with the foam or lather of soap yellow.
- (v) Items likely to come in contact with human body or clothing such as Jerkins, Gloves and prons. Brown and black leather accoutrements including Belts sam Browne and scabbards will be cleaned with soap yellow during storage and polished with boot polish for necessary brightness and smart appearance when in use. This preservation is also appropriate for leather Basil Brown Unstrained.

- (d) Fresh Calk. May be applied to the followings :-

- (i) Skins chamois leather Grade 'B' which is intended fo cleaning purposes and white or light buff leather stores should be preserved by dusting with French chalk.
- (ii) Skins chamois Leather Grade "-----" which is intended for straining petrol and other liquids will not however be treated.