

LEATHER GUIDE



FRITZ HANSEN



CHOOSING THE RIGHT LEATHER

Fritz Hansen offers a wide selection of leather types so you can find the option that best suits your space. Each leather has its own characteristics, and understanding these will help you choose the one that matches your needs and expectations.

When selecting leather, there are many aspects to consider: Do you prefer the soft comfort of a more organic leather, the unique character of a hide with natural markings, or the uniform look of a more even surface? Is easy maintenance important, or do you value the way leather develops a patina over time?

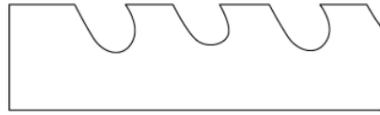
This guide introduces the different leather types, their qualities, and their advantages, helping you make an informed choice. With the right knowledge, you can select the leather that not only fits your needs today but also continues to meet your expectations in the years to come.

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LEATHER TYPES

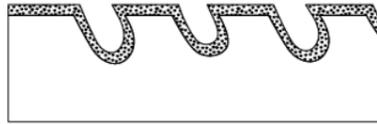
ANILINE



Aniline leather is renowned for its exclusivity and natural beauty, with only 5% of all raw hides meeting the standards required for this premium material. Its natural open surface not only enhances comfort and feel but also underscores the leather's sophisticated character.

The absence of a surface coating reveals the leather's inherent natural marks, such as scars and wrinkles, each adding to its unique story. This open-pore structure allows the leather to breathe and develop a distinctive patina over time, evolving with exposure to light, grease, and everyday use. While a dyed aniline leather can fade with prolonged sunlight, a natural aniline darkens and gains depth, further enriching its exclusive charm.

SEMI-ANILINE

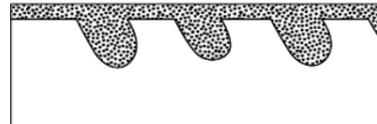


Semi-aniline leather combines the natural beauty of its surface structure with added durability while retaining the hide's natural marks. Only 10-15% of raw hides meet the standards required for semi-aniline leather, ensuring that it offers both quality and a refined aesthetic.

Unlike aniline leather, which remains untreated, semi-aniline leather receives a light surface finish. This finish enhances the leather's resistance to stains and simplifies maintenance, making it less susceptible to grease and light exposure while preserving its natural appearance.

Despite its light surface finish, semi-aniline leather retains the same excellent sitting comfort and rich texture.

PROTECTED



Protected leather is pigmented and undergoes extensive surface treatment, often including sanding or embossing with an artificial grain. This process results in a uniform appearance with minimal natural marks visible on the surface.

While protected leather is valued for its robustness, durability, and ease of maintenance, its heavy surface treatment means it does not offer the same breathability and softness as aniline or semi-aniline leathers. However, it still provides a comfortable seating experience.

A NATURAL MATERIAL

Leather is prized for its natural beauty and durability. The surface of each hide bears witness to the active life of the animal. Insect bites, scars and wrinkles are all normal features of leather, adding to its unique and characterful expression.

NATURAL MARKS

Typical characteristics of leather include:

- Insect bites
- Scars
- Wrinkles
- Freckle marks
- Pigmentation variations
- Grain variations
- Hair whorls
- Neck wrinkles
- Fat stripes

Find examples of natural markings on the next page →

NATURAL MARKINGS



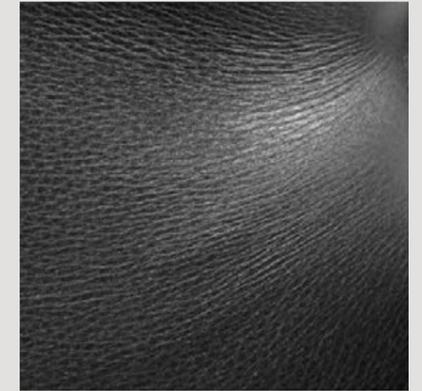
FAT STRIPES

The fat content in the hide affects dye absorption, creating natural irregularities in the leather.



NECK WRINKLES

Natural deep grooves found in leather, formed by the folds and movement of the animal's neck.



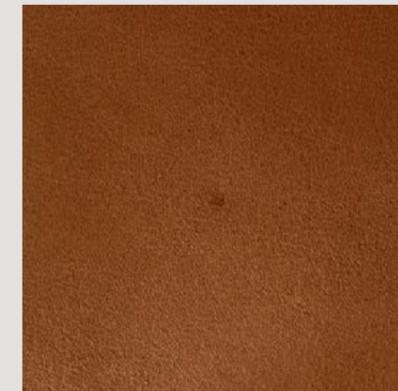
WRINKLES

In highly pigmented leather, surface treatment can increase the visibility of wrinkles when it is upholstered.



INSECT BITES

Slight markings and scars left behind by insect bites.



FRECKLE MARKS

A natural pigmentation in the leather hide.



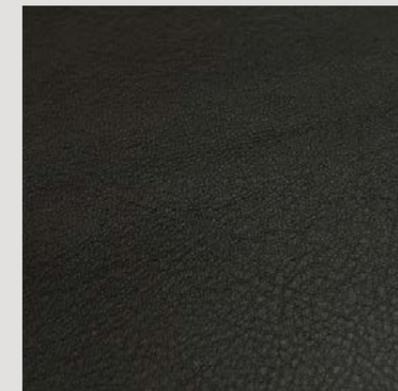
SCARS AND SCRATCHES

Naturally healed markings from the animal's life, such as fence scratches or insect bites.



PIGMENTATION VARIATIONS

Dye absorption varies across the hide due to natural differences in grain, density, and thickness.



GRAIN VARIATIONS

The leather's surface structure varies based on the hide's natural characteristics and the finishing process.



HAIR WHORLS

Natural markings formed by the cow's fur growth patterns.

CHOOSING A LEATHER TYPE

HOW TO CHOOSE THE LEATHER THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU?

To make the right choice for you and your needs, it can help to answer the following questions:

- Do you prefer natural leather (untreated leather)?
- How practical must the leather be?
- How important is ease of maintenance?
- Are there children and/or pets in the household?
- Should the leather have a natural look or a clean, uniform look?
- How much sunlight will the product be exposed to?

Answering these questions can help guide you towards the leather that best suits your lifestyle, preferences and expectations for the material's natural development over time.

Explore our leather overview to help find the leather that's right for you →



THE UPHOLSTERY CATEGORIES

Fritz Hansen categorises all upholsteries in five groups: categories 1 and 2 are textiles, while categories 3, 4 and 5 are leathers. Each leather category reflects a specific quality or treatment, with prices increasing accordingly and category 5 representing the most exclusive.

LEATHER TYPES OVERVIEW

| LEATHER TYPE → | ANILINE <i>Grace, Haze, Natural</i> | SEMI-ANILINE <i>Soft</i> | PROTECTED <i>Aura, Essential</i> |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| LOOK | Natural | Semi-natural | Smooth |
| TOUCH | Very soft | Soft | Firm |
| PATINA DEVELOPMENT | Significant patina | Slight patina | Limited change |
| CARE NEEDS | Extra care | Moderate care | Easy care |
| LIGHT-FASTNESS * | Partially lightfast | Lightfast | Extremely lightfast |

* Prolonged exposure to sunlight can cause certain leather types to fade and dry out over time. UV rays break down the natural oils in leather, leading to moisture loss, increased brittleness, and colour fading. If your leather piece will be exposed to significant direct sunlight, consider selecting a leather type with higher lightfastness to maintain its beauty and longevity.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

Leather, being a natural material, benefits from proper care to maintain its long-lasting appeal. The care and maintenance of leather will vary depending on its use, environment, and frequency of use. With a few simple steps, you can preserve the leather's natural beauty, allowing it to become even more refined over time.

It is not necessary or recommended to protect your leather with any stain repellent upon the arrival of your new piece of furniture. However, we recommend vacuuming the leather furniture regularly with a soft brush nozzle. This applies to all leather from Fritz Hansen. Failing to do so will allow dust to fill up the pores of the leather, especially aniline and semi-aniline leather, which will compromise their comfort attributes and prevent natural breathing.

CLEANING

We recommend vacuuming your leather furniture once a week to maintain its condition. This is especially important for aniline and semi-aniline leathers, where the open pores can trap dirt. Always vacuum the entire surface before cleaning.

ANILINE LEATHER

The most important thing for aniline leather is to vacuum and keep the pores free from dust, as this will otherwise clog up the pores. If the need arises, give the leather some grease for further maintenance. We recommend washing the leather with a solution of soap flakes. Please only use soap flakes of a quality that contains 80% natural fat. See instructions. Aniline leather can absorb water differently and may appear with blotches during the process. Have faith in the process, and make sure to wash evenly so that all surfaces are treated.

SEMI-ANILINE LEATHER

Semi-aniline leather can also be wiped over with a well-wrung cloth on a regular basis. Avoid soaking the leather, and follow with a dry cloth. If necessary, apply some grease for further maintenance. We recommend washing the leather with a solution of soap flakes. Please only use soap flakes of a quality that contains 80% natural fat. See instructions. Remember to vacuum before washing with soap flakes.

PROTECTED LEATHER

If necessary, daily cleaning with a well-wrung cloth is possible. Use hot water, but cleaning agents are not needed. Follow the cleaning with a dry cloth.

INSTRUCTIONS

Clean only when necessary.
If cleaning is required, follow the directions below:



STEP 1

Vacuum clean the entire surface area to remove all traces of dust. Use a soft brush attachment.

STEP 2

Dissolve 2-3 tablespoons of soap flakes in a bucket with 1 litre/34 oz of hot water.



STEP 3

Whip the mixture to create a foam. Soap flakes must be fully dissolved before moving on to the next step.

STEP 4

When the mixture has cooled to a comfortable temperature, dip a soft cloth into the mixture and wring out any excess water.



STEP 5

Scoop the foam from the surface and gently apply it to the leather. Make sure that all leather surfaces are treated equally.

STEP 6

Allow the surface to dry before gently buffing it with a soft cotton cloth.

STAIN REMOVAL

Spot cleaning is not recommended for leather as it can cause discolouration. Instead, treat the entire surface area with soap flakes as recommended above.

Damage caused by stain removers is not covered by the Fritz Hansen warranty.

CAUTION!

Avoid using cleaning products and sharp objects on leather. Sharp objects can scratch and damage the leather.

- Textile dyes from non-colourfast clothing may cause permanent discolouration, especially on leather types with a natural surface finish (Grace, Natural, Haze).
- Avoid placing in direct sunlight for extended periods of time or close to heat sources.

For more advice, see [Cleaning FAQs on page 27](#) →

SEE
LEATHER CARE
VIDEO:



LEATHER COLLECTION

COLLECTION OVERVIEW

GRACE



Leather type: Aniline
Category: 5

[See more here →](#)

NATURAL



Leather type: Aniline
Category: 5

[See more here →](#)

HAZE



Leather type: Aniline
Category: 4

[See more here →](#)

SOFT



Leather type: Semi-Aniline
Category: 4

[See more here →](#)

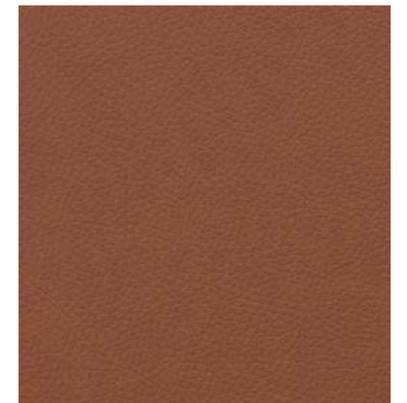
AURA



Leather type: Protected
Category: 3

[See more here →](#)

ESSENTIAL



Leather type: Protected
Category: 3

[See more here →](#)

GRACE

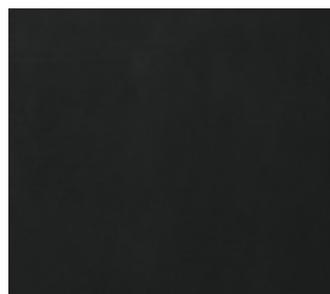
Grace is a premium leather from the finest quality hide. It is the ultimate in classic elegance. Displaying characterful, unique markings, it has a soft handle and an exclusive look. Its natural surface structure varies in colour and acquires a lighter patina over time depending on the light exposure, conditions and usage. Breathable and comfortable, this full grain aniline leather adds a timeless sense of luxury to furniture designs.

Please note that this leather type may develop natural patina and marks faster in high traffic areas and/or with children or pets.

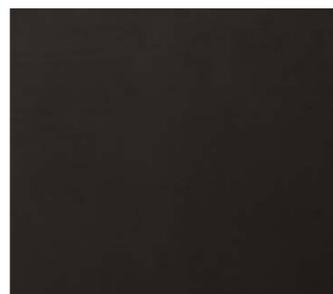
LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Aniline leather |
| CATEGORY | 5 |
| THICKNESS | 1.2 – 1.4 mm / 0.47 - 0.55 in |
| DYE | Water-based aniline dye |
| ORIGIN | Finest European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Natural surface with subtle markings |
| FINISH | Wax with a silky feel |
| TANNAGE | Chrome and Vegetable |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for everyday living spaces where moderate care is required to maintain the leather's surface. |

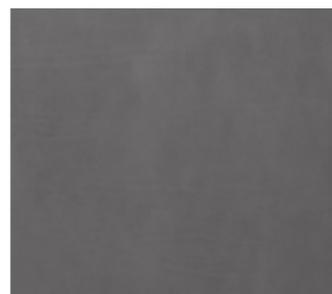
COLOURS



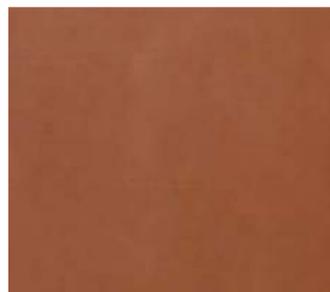
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DARK BROWN



CONCRETE GREY



WALNUT



CHESTNUT



NATURAL

Natural is a full grain, aniline leather made from premium quality hide - less than 1% of all hides in the world can be used for this type of leather. Displaying unique, natural characteristics, it is considered the original "naked" leather. It also offers a high degree of comfort, breathability and softness.

Its open surface will darken over time to a beautiful, rich tone. Depending on the environment the leather is placed in, its exposure to light and conditions of use, the pace of the patination will vary.

Please note that this leather type may develop natural patina and marks faster in high traffic areas and/or with children or pets.

LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Aniline leather |
| CATEGORY | 5 |
| THICKNESS | 1.2 – 1.4 mm / 0.47 - 0.55 in |
| DYE | None |
| ORIGIN | Finest European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Natural surface with subtle markings |
| FINISH | None |
| TANNAGE | Vegetable |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for luxurious spaces where extra care is required to maintain the leather's open surface. |

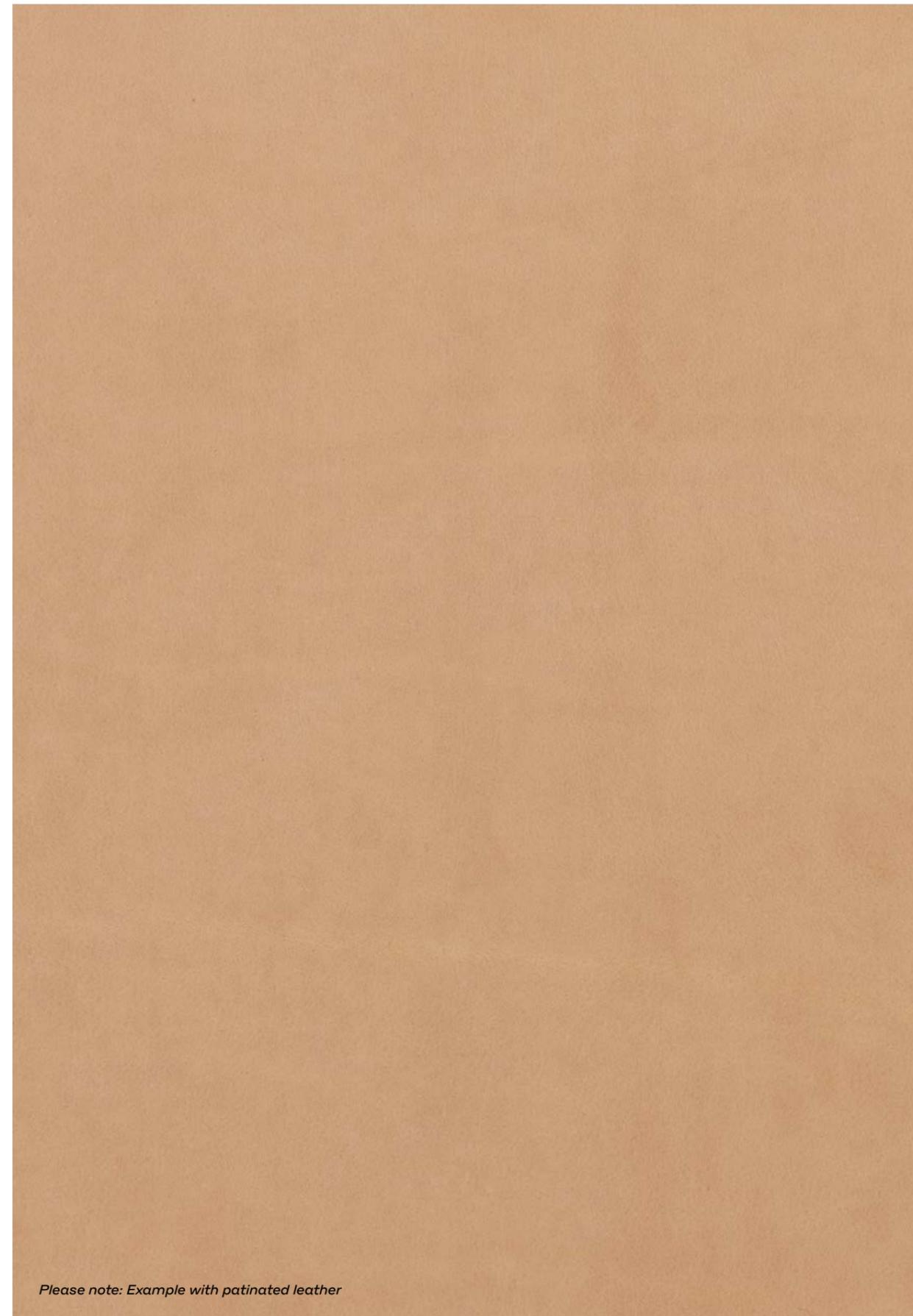
COLOURS



NATURAL (No patination)



NATURAL (Patinated)



Please note: Example with patinated leather

HAZE

Haze is an exclusive aniline leather distinguished by its velvety softness and hand-finished surface. Each hide is carefully sanded to achieve a silky, stone-washed look that feels both raw and refined. Subtle variations in colour and natural markings are integral to its character, making every hide unique and authentic.

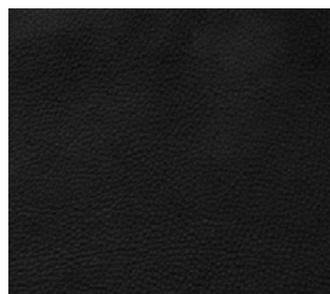
From the beginning, Haze has a lively presence, evolving beautifully with use as it develops a rich patina. Over time, the surface grows smoother, the colour lightens, and the leather gains an individual expression that reflects its owner. Discreet yet expressive, raw yet elegant, Haze brings depth and personality.

Please note that cleaning Haze leather with soap flakes will speed up the leather's natural patination process.

LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Aniline leather |
| CATEGORY | 4 |
| THICKNESS | 1.0 – 1.2 mm / 0.39 - 0.47 in |
| DYE | Water-based aniline dye |
| ORIGIN | European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Hand-sanded with a velvety soft touch |
| FINISH | None |
| TANNAGE | Chrome |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for luxurious spaces where extra care is required to maintain the leather's open surface. |

COLOURS



ANTHRACITE



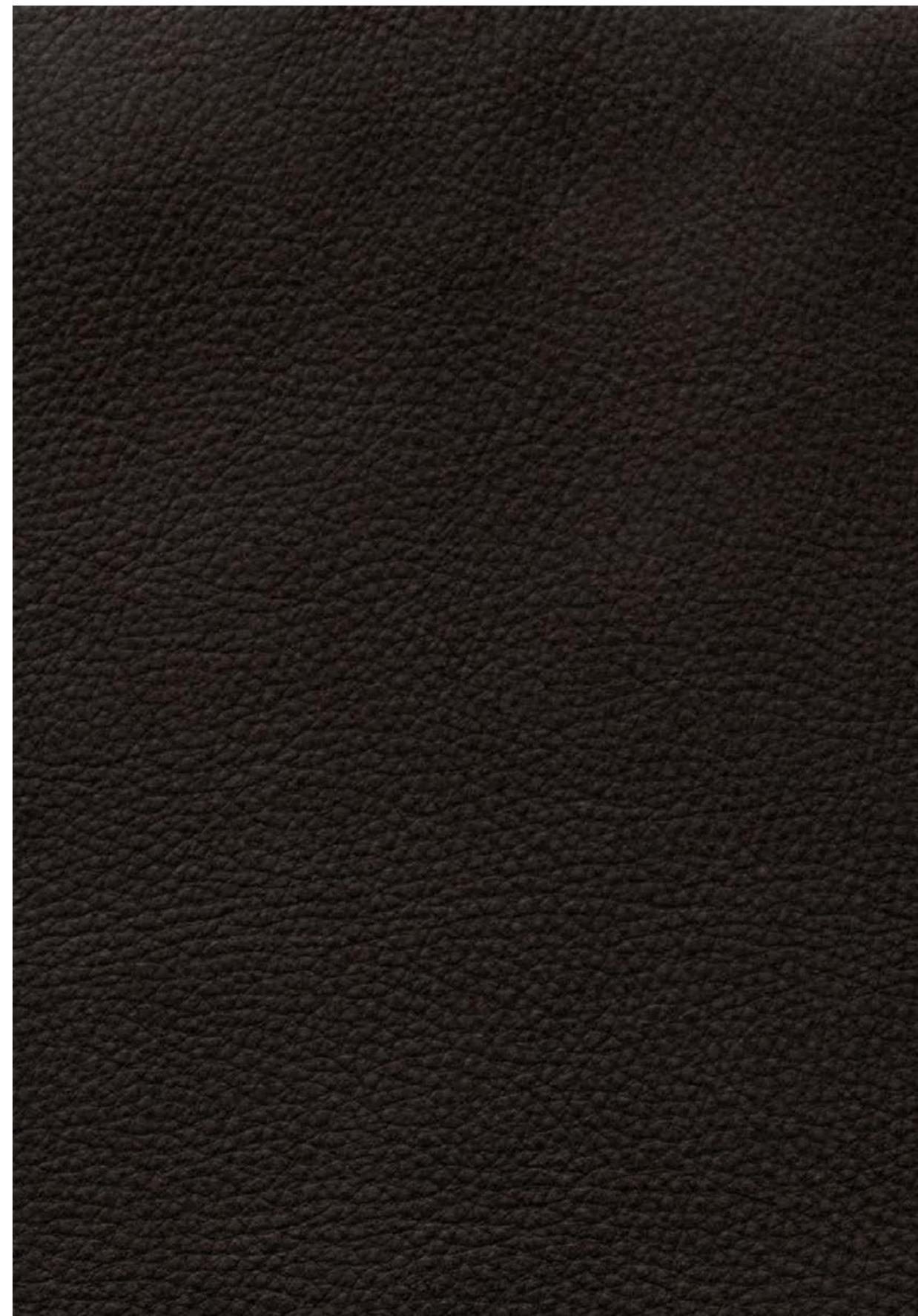
DARK BROWN



BEIGE



WALNUT



SOFT

Supremely smooth and soft, as its name suggests, this leather offers exceptional comfort. The fine grain, semi-aniline leather has a light surface finish for durability and ease of use, retaining its natural shape and uniform surface structure as well as its unique characteristics.

Please note that this leather type may develop natural patina and marks faster in high traffic areas and/or with children or pets.

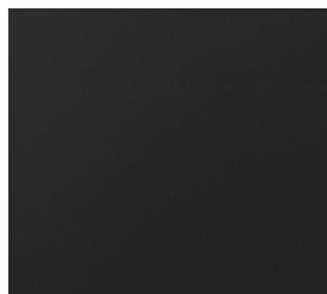
Soft is certified with:
OEKO-TEX® LEATHER STANDARD
Blue Angel



LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Semi-Aniline leather |
| CATEGORY | 4 |
| THICKNESS | 1.0 – 1.2 mm / 0.39 - 0.47 in |
| DYE | Water-based aniline dye |
| ORIGIN | European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Matt, smooth surface with subtle texture |
| FINISH | Light surface protection |
| TANNAGE | Chrome |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for everyday living environments where moderate care is required to maintain the leather's surface. |

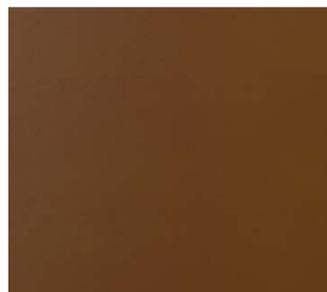
COLOURS



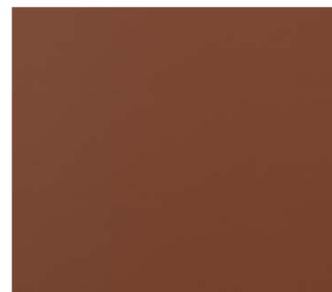
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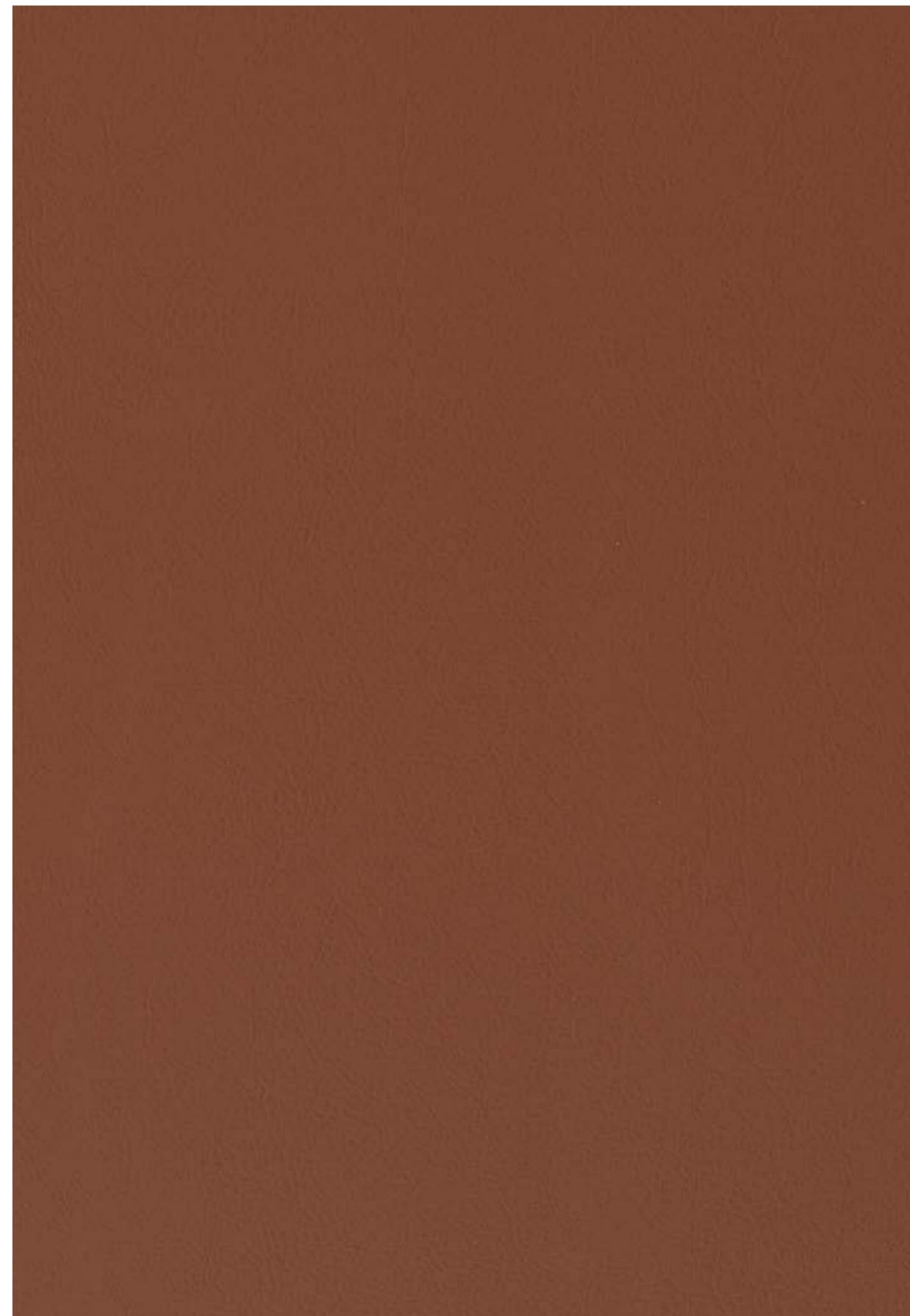
BLACK BROWN



WALNUT



COGNAC



AURA

Aura is a durable leather with a firm handle, a matte finish and a uniform look. Each hide has been treated – or ‘corrected’ – with a surface finish for added durability, making it smudge-proof, water repellent, dirt repellent, stain resistant, and durable. Sanded with an artificial grain, very few natural marks remain.

As corrected leather is hard-wearing, easy to maintain with good comfort, it is a popular upholstery for furniture in high traffic areas and families with pets.

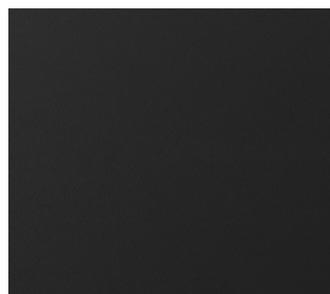
Aura is certified with:
OEKO-TEX® LEATHER STANDARD



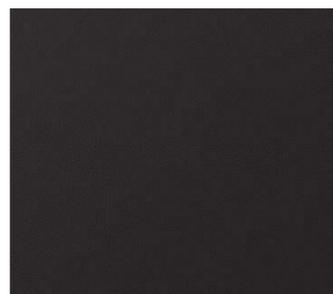
LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Protected leather |
| CATEGORY | 3 |
| THICKNESS | 1.4 – 1.6 mm / 0.55 - 0.63 in |
| DYE | Water-based aniline dye |
| ORIGIN | European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Matt, firm and strong. A tough grain with a uniform expression |
| FINISH | Surface protection |
| TANNAGE | Chrome |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for furniture in high-traffic areas and families with pets. |

COLOURS



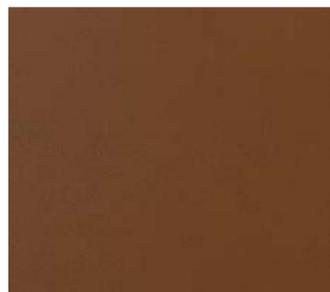
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BLACK BROWN



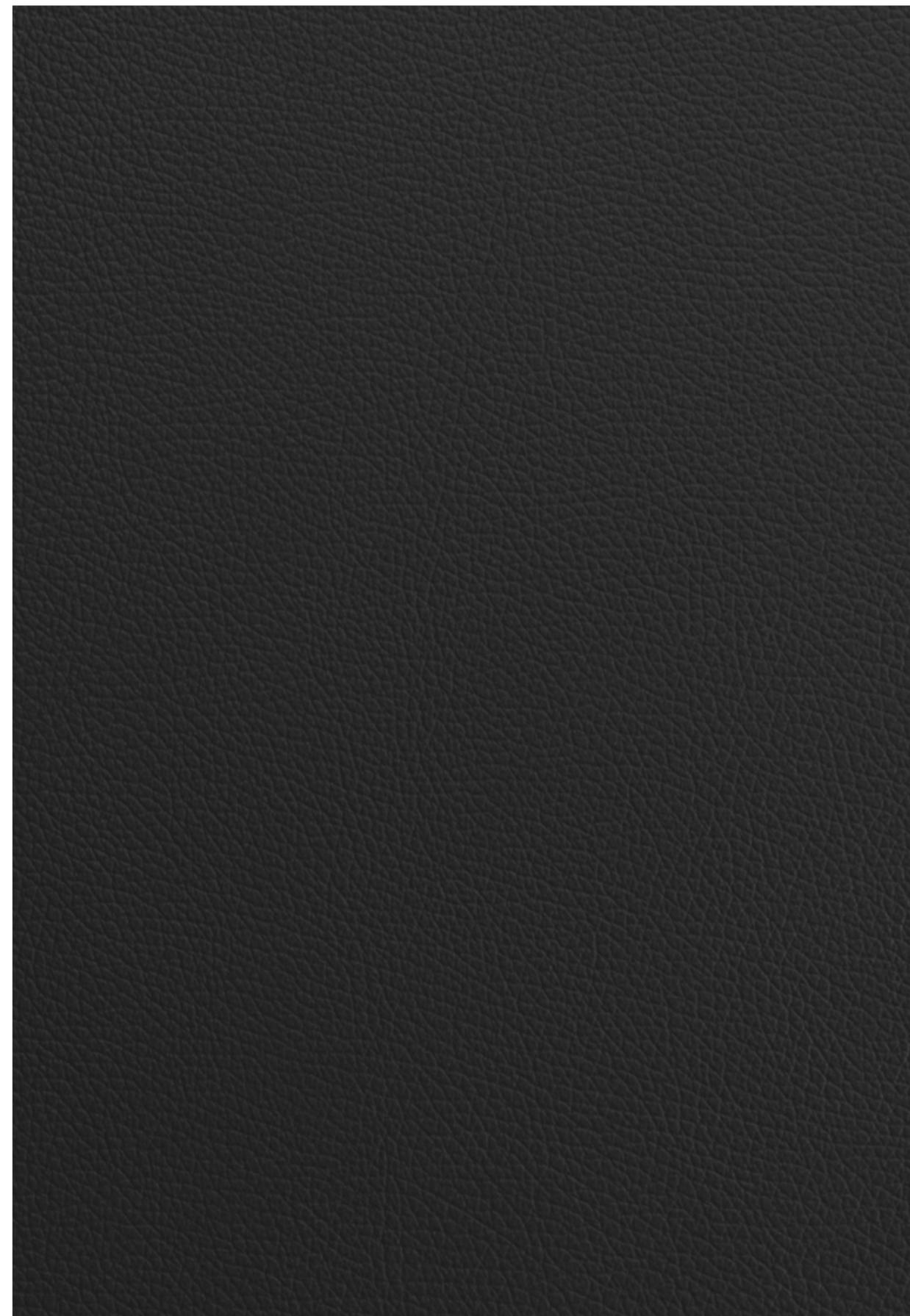
BEIGE



WALNUT



COGNAC



ESSENTIAL

Essential has a consistent surface texture with a timeless appeal. Lightly buffed for a fine grain finish, Essential has a smooth, uniform appearance and a soft handle. It is smudge-proof, water repellent, dirt repellent, stain resistant, and durable. This easy-to-maintain leather has a high level of colourfastness, making it ideal for use on everyday furniture.

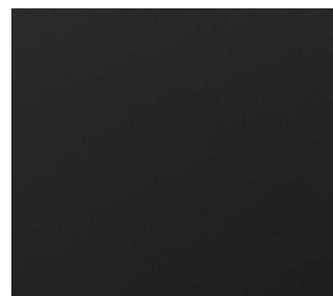
Essential is certified with:
OEKO-TEX® LEATHER STANDARD



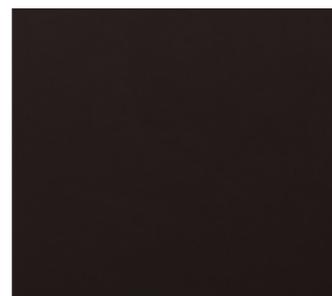
LEATHER FACTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| TYPE | Protected leather |
| CATEGORY | 3 |
| THICKNESS | 1.0 – 1.2 mm / 0.39 - 0.47 in |
| DYE | Water-based aniline dye |
| ORIGIN | European rawhide |
| SURFACE | Soft, smooth and supple with a uniform fine grain |
| FINISH | Surface protection |
| TANNAGE | Chrome |
| RECOMMENDED USAGE | Suitable for furniture in high-traffic areas and families with pets. |

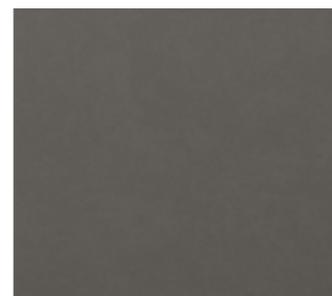
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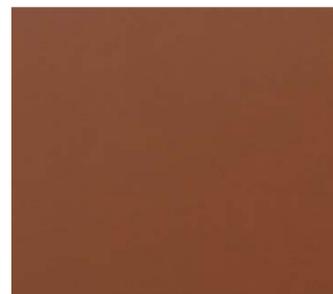
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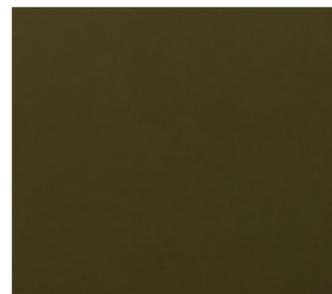
DARK BROWN



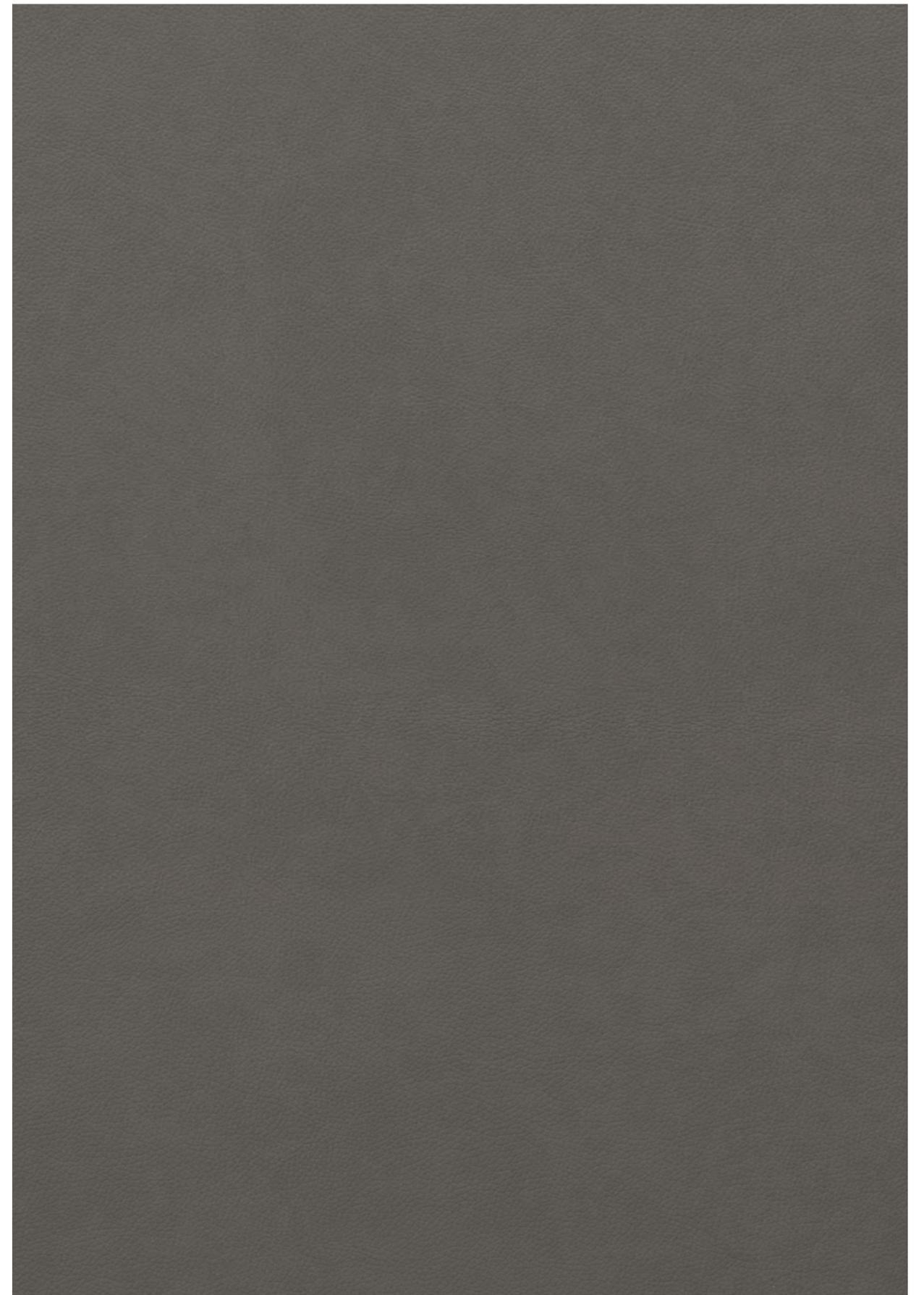
LAVA



WALNUT



MOSS GREEN





PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

| PRODUCT | MODEL | AURA ³ | ESSENTIAL ³ | GRACE ⁵ | HAZE ⁴ | NATURAL ⁵ | SOFT ⁴ |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Ant™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| China Chair™ | Seat cushion | • | | • | | • | |
| Drop™ | Chair | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Egg™ | Lounge chair + Footstool | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Fred™ | Lounge chair | • | • | | • | • | • |
| Grand Prix™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| Let™ | Lounge chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| Lily™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| Little Giraffe™ | Chair | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Lissoni Sofa™ | Lounge chair + Sofa | | • | • | • | • | • |
| Monolit™ | Chair + Lounge chair | | | | | • | |
| Oksen™ | Lounge chair + Footstool | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Oxford™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| PK4™ | Seat cushion | | | • | | | |
| PK8™ | Chair | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK9™ | Chair | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK11™ | Chair | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK15™ | Seat cushion | | | • | | • | |
| PK20™ | Lounge chair | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK22™ | Lounge chair | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK23™ | Lounge chair | • | | | • | • | |
| PK24™ | Chaise longue | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK26™ | Sofa | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK31™ | Lounge chair + Sofa | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK33™ | Stool | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK40™ | Table | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK80™ | Daybed | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK81™ | Daybed | • | | • | • | • | |
| PK91™ | Stool | • | | • | • | • | |
| Pot™ | Lounge chair | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Series 7™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |
| Series 3300™ | Lounge chair + Sofa | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Swan™ | Lounge chair | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Swan Sofa™ | Sofa | • | • | • | • | • | |
| Vico Duo™ | Chair | | • | • | • | • | • |

For a full overview of availability always look in the valid price lists.

F.H.1872