

SHORT GLOSSARY OF COMMONLY-USED TERMS

	DESCRIPTIONS	CHARACTERISTICS	CONCLUSIONS
Full grain aniline	Leathers which have kept their original grain, with very few or no defects. They are for top range manufacturing purpose, as their look and touch remain natural and are emphasized.	Natural look and touch to the most beautiful leathers. Let appear the skin characteristics (grain). Strong shades. Sensitive to light and dirt. Particular care.	The most beautiful leathers. To use with high care because surface is few protected
Full grain pigmented	Finished leathers which have kept their original grain and have got a pigmented protection.	Good protection against the stain. Good light resistance. Easy care. Look and touch less natural than an aniline finishing.	The best compromise between long-term solidity and beauty.
Corrected or rectified grain pigmented	Leathers which have been slightly buffed to reduce or eliminate the small defects. They have a pigmented protection and an artificial grain.	Good protection against the stain. Good light resistance. Easy care. Look and touch less natural. An artificial grain has to be print in tanneries.	Fully adapted to an intensive use.
Leather split pigmented	Lower side of the leather which has been split and has a pigmented protection.	Good protection against the stain. Good light resistance. Easy care. Look and touch less natural. An artificial grain has to be print in tanneries.	Fully adapted to an intensive use.
Nubuck	Specific buffing on the upper side of the leather with no defect, this gives a velvety look to the leather	Very pleasant velvety touch Sensitive to light and dirt. A specialist should be in charge of Nubuck care.	Very beautiful leathers to be used with high care.
Velvet split	Lower side of the leather which has been split and has kept its velvety look with or without any extra buffing.	Pleasant velvety touch. Sensitive to light and dirt Cheaper than a velvet leather.	For clothing and leather accessories.
Velvet leather	Leathers with a specific buffing on its flesh side (reverse side).	Very pleasant velvety touch Sensitive to light and dirt.	Very beautiful leathers (goat, calf) to be used with high care.
Finishing Varnished	Leather with a strong varnish film on its surface.	Very brightening look Plastic touch	For footwear and leather accessories
PU split	Plastic film (polyurethane) of low thickness added on the leather's surface	Numerous looks and grains. Very economic prices	Mainly for leather accessories
PVC split	Plastic film (vinyl polychloride) thicker than for the PU split.	Economic prices.	For sports footwear
Chrome tanning	Tanned with chrome salts; also known as mineral tanning.	Soft and elastic leathers. They are usually dyed on the surface or thoroughly dyed.	For upholstery, car trimming, footwear, ...
Vegetal tanning	The tanning agents are from vegetal origin, from barks, wood, sheets, fruits, roots...	Leathers which may be very soft or very hard. No elasticity. Strong light resistance Often dyed on surface or with a patina.	For saddlery - harnessing, industrial belts, shoe soles...