

Saddleback Stain Solutions: Ink Marks

Saddleback Leather Finishes Quick Clean Score for Ink Marks

Chestnut- 6, Tobacco- 4, Cobalt Black- 9, Dark Coffee- 8

Key Takeaway: Ink marks must be remove

[Don't have a Saddleback bag yet? They're beautiful. Check em out at Saddleback's site by clicking here.](#)



Introduction:

So your ink pen slipped and

made a mark along the side of your otherwise beautiful Saddleback Bag. Or you put a pen in your bag and it exploded leaving a pool of black in the bottom. Or you have a budding artist 3 year old who drew a smiley face on the bag for you. UGH!!

Ink staining is a very common problem with leather. It is not easy to fix. A rash attempt to

clean the bag with the wrong product will make a small ink problem into a big leather problem. So let me give you some tips on how to deal with ink correctly:

(You may be thinking who is this guy and why should I listen to his leathercare advice. So at the end of the article I'll give you my creds and tell why I am

helping the folks at
Saddleback)

**Tips on caring for Ink
marks on your
Saddleback leather:**

Don't

- Don't "Google it" for help- I have seen some crazy-bad tips floating out on the web for solving leather problems. For example here's some advice I saw on a furniture care blog, "rub a banana peel on your leather to clean it";, Huh!?! Instead find someone who knows leather, specifically

Saddleback Leather, and get qualified advice.

- Don't spray hairspray
on the spot- A
common internet solution
to ink marks on leather,
hairspray will do more
damage than good.

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- Don't wait to remove the ink- The key with ink stains is to get them out as quickly as possible. Anyone can remove a fresh ink stain easily. But even a pro will have trouble removing a set-in ink stain from leather.

Do

- Buy a rectangular white eraser and keep it in your bag- This one is worth it's weight in gold. Buy one of those white erasers at an office store and throw it in the bottom of your bag. Then if you

swipe your bag with an ink pen, you have the solution right on hand. Pull out the eraser and quickly rub it over the ink. In many cases, fresh ink will transfer to the eraser. Then wipe the ink off the eraser and repeat.

- You won't always find ink immediatly, so at least check your bag daily-
When you get home at night, give a quick look over your bag. If you find an ink stain the same day it occured, it may come out with the eraser. If the

eraser doesn't work, it still may not have set deeply into the leather so an ink remover may help. Check out the next tip..

- For Carbon Black, Dark Coffee and Chestnut finishes, try an ink removal stick. Most furniture

stores and several online sources will sell you an ink removal stick. I use the one from www.leatherinstitute.com It only works on days old ink stains. It should not be used on your Tobacco finish bag. You rub it onto the ink stain, let it sit for a few minutes then blot and buff it out with a soft cloth. If your lucky, it will pull

some ink out onto the cloth. Again, it wouldn't be a bad idea to just get one of these oversized lipstick tubes and throw it in your bag.

- For Light and Dark Tobacco finish leathers, it is harder to remove ink stains. The options

are few and dangerous for removing ink from the beautiful, but natural, Tobacco leather bags. If you aren't careful, the wrong cleaner can stain the surrounding area and cause a larger stain than just the ink. But here are two options to try at your own risk (I'd pretest these on the bottom of the bag first):

1. You can try putting a bit of rubbing alcohol onto a cotton swab and rubbing it over the ink stain. Then you should wave a hair dryer over the area to dry it so you won't spread the stain.

2. As a last ditch effort, you can buy an ink

removal liquid from www.leatherinstitute.com, mix it with cornstarch and make a paste. Put a line of the paste on the ink and let it sit overnight. Brush it off in the morning and it may draw out the ink.

3. Accept that the “artwork” on your Tobacco bag makes it even more unique.

- Help for an exploded pen - If a pen inside your bag breaks or explodes, you should draw as much of the ink out as possible. If not, the ink may bleed through the leather and show on the

outside of the bag. To draw the ink out place ink remover or rubbing alcohol onto a cloth and blot the stain. You will need to repeat this with clean areas of the cloth many times to draw out the ink.

Finally:

So, fight to keep ink away

from your Saddleback leather it can be very tough to remove. If you do tend to have pens around your bag, keep an eraser or ink stick nearby to deal with the stain quickly. It's your best option.

Again if you don't have a bag yet... [click here or on](#)

the bag pictured above to
go to the Saddleback site
and get one, they're
awesome.

Related articles:

"The unique

finishes of Saddleback
Leather" teaches
specific tips on caring
for each of the 4
Saddleback finishes.

And as promised,

Why listen to me?



My dad says my first word was leather... but since that can't be proven, I'll just say I have 25 years in the leather biz. I'm now the 2nd generation owner of a leather cleaning, repair and refinishing

company in the
Baltimore/Washingto
n DC area. I've seen
every problem
imaginable to leather
and am glad to share
my experience to
help you.

Why Saddleback?

I'm holding my bag
at the left and
standing with Chuck
Bowen the CEO of
Saddleback. I love
Saddleback Leather

Bags (Including my
Light Tobacco
Classic Briefcase). I
love their core
values. I appreciate
their affiliate
program. So if I help
you choose and care
well for your
Saddleback stuff,

Saddleback sells
more bags and helps
more people, and I
make a few affiliate
bucks when you click
through my links...
everybody wins.

How to contact me with questions or suggestions.

If you have a
Saddleback leather
question I haven't
covered yet, please

shoot it to me. Or if you think I'm wrong or want to add to my suggestions, please do. I can be reached though twitter by @leatherhelpguy or e-mail me at leatherhelpguy@gmail.com. Thanks.

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Written by Chris Repp

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