HOW THE LEATHER FOR A CAR INTERIOR IS MADE!

Converting hides into the material you find in your car is a complex process. Find out how we go from hide to car interior in only 5 steps!

1. STARTING PHASE
   - The cured hides are transported to the beamhouse.
   - Automotive leather uses bovine (cow) hides, which are a by-product from the meat industry.
   - The meat industry has two resulting products.

2. BEAMHOUSE
   - In the beamhouse, the hides are cleaned and prepared for tanning (which turns it into leather).
   - Removing leftovers
   - Dehairing and cleaning the hide
   - Opening up the fiber structure for tanning
   - Adjusting acidity (pH) of the hide for tanning
   - Bating removes unwanted proteins and scud from the skin
   - Readjusting acidity (pH) of the hide for tanning

3. TANNING
   - Tanning stabilizes the fibre structure of the hide and turns it into what we call leather.
   - Chemically converting the hide structure into stable, resistant leather
   - Crosslinking the protein structure to create strong, dense leather
   - Fixing or removing chemicals by changing pH levels and temperature

4. POST-TANNING
   - During the post-tanning phase, the leather is mechanically treated to create a thin, supple material.
   - The leather is split to reduce the thickness
   - Residual liquid from tanning is removed
   - Inequalities are shaved off to create an even surface
   - Any damages from the splitting and shaving are corrected

5. RETANNING
   - To give the leather its color and final characteristics it is retanned, which enhances its durability and looks.
   - Chemicals are used to create additional properties for the material
   - The leather receives its first coloration (more follows during finishing)
   - Fats and oils are applied for the look, properties and touch of the leather
   - The acidity is neutralized to a steady level

AND THAT'S HOW THE LEATHER FOR A CAR INTERIOR IS MADE!

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