

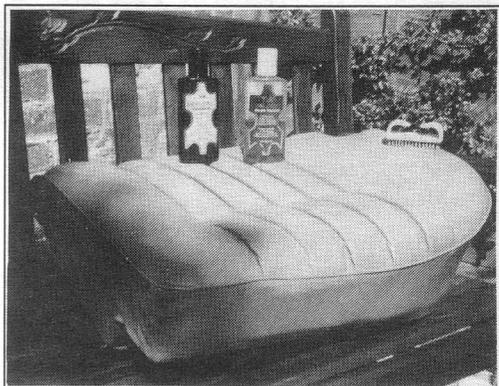
Gliptone "Liquid Leather"

As a Trading Standards Officer cynicism about the claims made by manufacturers rather comes with the territory. I thus approached this product with a degree of caution, the glossy advertisements in the Classic Car press showed an almost unbelievable transformation in the seats of a MkII Jaguar.

Although normally only available by mail order (see below) I obtained my liquid leather and cleaner from a stand at the NEC Show in May at the slightly reduced price of £10.00 for both. The "guinea pig" was my recently acquired 2200SC which has boxpleat leather seats in Sandalwood. Although in generally good shape they were very dirty and dry.

The instructions advise rubbing the cleaning fluid in with a soft cloth, wiping off with a damp one and then applying the liquid leather. After doing this the results were visible but not very spectacular, certainly not as good as the adverts imply. I was inclined to mark it down to experience but the thought of losing £10.00 rather runs against my Northern nature. Thus I set to a second time using a nail brush rather than a cloth. This time the results were appreciably better, the nail brush penetrating the grain of the leather much more effectively. The liquid leather also seemed to soak into the leather better

once the muck was lifted away. It has an added fragrance which is meant to smell like "new leather". When Helen got into the car she said "Ugh, it smells like foxes". I enquired how she knew what these native woodland creatures smell of but as usual had got the wrong end of the stick. "Foxes" was apparently a hardware store which her Dad used to buy nails from when she was a kid. I must admit the fragrance is not all together convincing or particularly pleasant, you may prefer just to purchase the gliptone cleaner and then treat the seats with ordinary hide food.



The rear seat squab of the Editorial 2200 gets the Gliptone treatment.



Gliptone conditioner on the left and cleaner on the right.

Overall rating? Not bad, the results fell short of a miracle but were certainly visible. After two applications the seats feel much softer and some of the creases do seem to have "healed" a little. It took me the best part of a day to do the job and lots of elbow grease was necessary. If your seats are dirty ignore the instructions to use a cloth and go straight for the nail brush option, and have a sniff of the liquid leather to see if you can live with the odour before purchasing, if you get the chance.

Gliptone Liquid Leather is available by Mail Order from: GLIPTONE LEATHERCARE, 5 Bridgewater Street, Manchester, M3 4NN.

Tel: 0161 839 2941

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