
SUBJECT: Repair of Leather Seat Covers

MODELS: E30 Convertible

Situation: Some E30 convertibles may experience splitting of the center seams at the top of the rear seat backrest, especially on cars where the leather has not been properly maintained. Since this splitting is caused by stiffening and shrinking of the leather due to long exposure to ultra-violet radiation, this problem most often occurs when the car is beyond its warranty period.

Correction: When a problem of this nature occurs, it is usually not necessary to replace the entire backrest cover. A competent auto upholstery shop can repair the cover by a variety of methods. These include resewing the seams if possible, replacing the center panel with a new piece of leather and dyeing to match the rest of the cover, or fabricating a cap for the top of the backrest center section. All of these methods can be performed for less than the price of a replacement cover.

In the interest of customer satisfaction, each dealership should check with the auto upholstery shops in their area to see which ones are the most capable of performing quality repairs to leather upholstery.

Warranty Status: Information only.