

IMPORTANTCE OF MATERIAL SELECTION

Because of the wide array of materials available today, let me go over some of them, why we use them and also more importantly why we don't want to use certain materials for certain jobs. These observations come from 32 years of experience and several repeat customers. We want to make sure we use materials that surpass our warranties. What good is a two year warranty when the customers materials fails at two and a half years? Below I've made a list in order of what we prefer to use for different cars.

American and Japanese Vehicles:

1. "New Old Stock" (NOS) vinyl and cloth or for later models OEM Detroit vinyl, cloth and leather.
2. German Vinyl, cloth and leather.
3. Reproductions of the above materials.

European Vehicles:

1. German vinyl, cloth and leather.
2. NOS or OEM vinyl, cloth and leather.
3. Reproductions of the above materials.

Why use reproduction at all?

There are several reasons:

1. You're selling your vehicle or keeping it less than a year.
2. You don't drive the car everyday.
3. In certain vehicles some vinyl is dielectrically pressed and the only solution with NOS or OEM is very expensive.
4. It's the only available solution for color or grain.
5. Certain items like convertible tops, landau tops, weatherstripping and some of the vintage cars, there is no OEM solution.

Are the NOS & OEM really expensive?

Some are very expensive, such as 1957 Cadillac pink body cloth which can command anywhere from 185.00 to 250.00 per yard. But the majorities are reasonable considering that they had to be found, and then stored until the right customer buys them. Detroit Auto Body at the time of this writing is still selling OEM by the yard directly. DeLeo, the other big supplier only sells 10 yd rolls and up. If they're the only one that has it, you may have to go to a third or fourth party before you obtain the proper match and small yard quantities.

One thing I know for sure is that any reproduction item sold on the internet, car shows, parts warehouses only carries a 1 year warranty at best.

Be a cautious buyer or give us a call if your not sure.

Harolds Auto Upholstery warranties everything sold for 2 years (except reproduction items.