



### **A Service Directory for Cleaning and Repairing Clothes**

There's no way around it - no matter how expensive or well-made, all clothes are susceptible to staining, tearing, and everyday damage. A fine Italian suit isn't going to stop a meatball from rolling down the front, nor will the best cashmere sweater repel moths. So, what to do when life happens to your favorite duds? Fix; don't replace!

Thankfully, there should be dozens of tailors, cleaners, and cobblers in your area who can help you. If you don't have someone you trust, however, here's a directory of some of the best repair and restorations service centers in the US (and some around the world). We recommend bookmarking this page, as accidents happen to the best of us.

- **Cleaning and Pressing:** It can be hard to find a good dry cleaner, especially since most are not terribly discerning and will send whatever you give them to some mass cleaning plant. If you're unable to find someone local, we recommend sending your stuff to [RAVE FabriCARE](#). They have the in-house equipment and expertise necessary to take care of everything from moldy suits to stained leather jackets. They even have a sponge-and-press service for tailored clothes, which is rare outside of bespoke tailoring shops.

- **Mending:** For holes and tears you want to find someone who does invisible mending – a delicate service that fills the hole with new and matching material (essentially making the repair near-invisible). It's a labor-intensive process that can be expensive, but the cost can be worth it if you have something special. Check French American Reweaving Company and Best Weaving and Mending. They mostly work on tailored clothes and knitwear, especially those damaged by cigarette burns, hungry moths, and basic tears.
- **Denim and Workwear:** There are a ton of shops these days that can repair jeans and workwear items. For starters, check Denim Therapy, Self Edge, Denim Surgeon, Schaeffers Garment Hotel or Indigo Proof. They can replace zippers, chain stitch hems, or darn holes (which is pricy, but more durable than just patching). Darn & Dusted also does some cool wabi-sabi repairs if you want something stylized.
- **Waxed Jackets:** Remember, you can't throw a waxed jacket into the washing machine. If you get a stain, just wipe it down with a cool, damp cloth (don't use hot water as it can damage the proofing). For more serious cleanings, try using New England Reproofers. They can remove odors and reproof jackets (or add proofing to non-waxed garments). These guys can be great for taking care of that old Barbour in your closet.
- **Leather Jackets:** Advanced European Tailors can fix frayed cuffs and hems, as well as replace hardware, on vintage and repro-style leathers (think: old A-2s and double riders). Superior Leather in NYC can also clean, condition and refinish leather jackets, whether you have a rugged bomber from Buzz Rickson or a more finely made piece from Brunello Cucinelli.
- **Leather Footwear:** A local cobbler should be able to take care of most things for you, but if you're unsatisfied with your options, try sending your shoes to Willie's Shoe Service or B. Nelson. They can replace soles and restore uppers, as well as add things such as heel taps, sole protectors, and waterproofers (thus helping prolong the life of your footwear). A lot of their work is on high-end Goodyear welted shoes, so they're careful with what they do.
- **Sneakers:** As sneakers have become more expensive over the years, there are now specialty shops restoring them. Jason Markk has a mail-in cleaning service (as well as an at-home cleaning kit). There's also a small community

of sneakerheads who do customizations and repairs. Check out Sole Assassins.

- **Luggage:** Modern Leather Goods, Superior Leather, The Fordham Repair Center can help with your luggage – whether it's repairing the handle on a work bag or fixing the broken lock on a suitcase. Some of these shops have access to brand-specific materials, or can weld metal frames in-house, so check around.
- **Ties:** For cleaning, repairing, and relining ties, check out TieCrafters. They can also do neckwear alterations if you need something widened, narrowed, or shortened.

Lastly, don't forget about the original manufacturer. A lot of high-end brands can service their own items, especially if they have their own Factory (e.g. Barbour, Alden, and Frank Clegg Leatherworks). Sometimes the best people for repairing an item are those who made it in the first place.