

# CHOPPED UPHOLSTERY & CUSTOM NEWSLETTER

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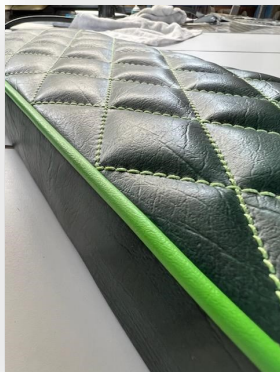
## EVERYTHING HOT ROD!

### Cloth, Leather, or Vinyl

What do you choose, cloth, leather, or vinyl, after deciding to reupholster your hot rod or classic car seats? Choosing is a personal choice and depends on many factors, including vehicle use and cost. This article will outline the options and pros and cons of installing cloth, leather, or vinyl.

Price is the number one deciding factor in choosing a material. **Leather** is always more expensive but is the most stylish and best-looking option. Properly maintained leather can be one of the more durable materials; however, it is important to clean and maintain the leather to keep it looking great.

Cloth is more affordable than leather, and some say more comfortable. Cloth is typically chosen for comfort and cost. It is breathable and doesn't burn your skin when the inside of a car reaches over 100 degrees in the heat. Cloth is also better in the frigid cold unless you install seat heaters. The downside to cloth is it can retain smells, animal hair, and stains.



Surprisingly, the material industry has great vinyl options with stamped grains and a wide variety of colors and patterns. Vinyl is easy to clean and maintain and can be durable. The downside to vinyl is that it can fade over time and become brittle, whereas properly maintained leather becomes softer over time and can last longer than cloth or vinyl. Vinyl can also become uncomfortably sweaty and hot in the summer and unbearably cold in the winter.

The comfort of the material isn't always taken into consideration, but it should. Nice leather can be pleasingly soft and supple, but cloth is also comfortable, and you don't stick to the seat in the heat. Vinyl and some less expensive leathers can cause items (and people) to slip or fall off the seat during a hard brake or fast turn.

Deciding which material to choose is a personal preference, but it helps to explore the options and discuss the best solution with your upholsterer. Chopped Upholstery & Custom can pro-

vide insight into a material's durability, costs, and look of your car. Reupholstering the seats, door panels, and other items inside your car is a big decision, and it's important to the custom features most classic car owners imbue in their car.

### Projects



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