



# How To MAKE YOUR **SHOES LAST**

We talked to David Mesquita, vice president of Leather Spa luxury shoe repair in New York (leatherspa.com), for some tricks on getting more mileage out of your favorite footwear.

## REINFORCE **THE SOLES**

Add rubber guards to the fronts and backs ASAP. If the bottoms are too thin from wear, you'll need to replace them entirely before adhering a protective layer, says Mesquita. (\$34/pair)

#### **REPAIR THE TIPS**

The bottom of the toe area is the first to go, warns Mesquita, even with a guard. "It wears out much sooner than the rest of the sole." Have the worn section cut out and replaced to bring the shoes back to life. (\$20/pair)

### **KEEP 'EM CLEAN**

Use an antibacterial shoe spray to prevent odor (our MacGyver hack: a cleansing wipe). Also, cedar shoe trees absorb moisture to prevent yuckiness. If it's a lost cause, you can swap out the insole, complete with designer label sewn back in. (\$40/pair)

#### **CHANGE THE COLOR**

Reinvent a tired pair by dyeing them a new shade. Leather can take any hue, but for tricky suede, Mesquita sticks to black. Any embellishment grommets, jewels-is a deal breaker. "They make it impossible to do it right," he says. (From \$80/pair)