

BASEBALL GLOVE CARE

It can take years to break in a baseball glove, so treating it carefully once you've done so is essential. BUT, how do you break a glove in? The crew at www.SportsMom.com suggest the following homemade kit:

- Rub a dab of shaving cream (or linseed oil or saddle soap) on a clean, dry cloth and apply it to the palm of the glove. Work outward from the palm in small sections until you've covered the entire mitt.
- Allow the glove to dry overnight
- Wipe away any excess moisture off the glove and then go play catch with it for a while. The leather will begin to form to your hand.
- After playing catch, place the ball in the pocket of the glove, pull the glove closed and use a string or elastic band to tie it in place. Let the glove rest like that for at least 2 days.
- Untie the glove and remove the ball. Apply a little oil over the entire mitt, covering it lightly.
- After this initial oiling, reapply oil only once or twice a year. Any more will be overkill.
- The glove should be dry and ready for use in about one day.
- Always store the glove with a ball in it to keep its shape.