

never can say good-bye

THE BEST PLACES TO REPAIR (AND THUS RETAIN) YOUR LOVED LUXURY GOODS

BY HADLEY HENRIETTE



The Fur Salon at Saks Fifth Avenue Bal Harbour

Adams Shoe Repair

Shoes and leather

Bal Harbour fashionistas flock to Adams to fix not just their red-bottomed shoes, but also their Chloé bags and the like. Owner Nicky Cammarata and his wife, Christina, have run the shop for 20 of its 55 years. While any cobbler can make shoes bigger, Mrs. Cammarata says she can actually make them *smaller*. The couple works on leathers from Neiman Marcus, as well as for Gloria Estefan and plenty of other Miami VIPs. **225 95th St., Surfside, 305-861-5310**

Excel Time Service

Watches

Owner Patrick Puton worked at Rolex, LVMH, and Christie's before opening his own fine-watch repair operation, and is officially licensed by the likes of Rolex, Corum, Bulgari, and Breitling. The shop uses genuine parts, and is equally adept at fixing new and old timepieces, which is why the work it did on vintage '60s wristwear for ABC's *Pan Am* is a true series highlight. **121 Alhambra Plaza, Coral Gables, 305-460-0019; exceltimeservice.com**

The Fur Salon at Saks Fifth Avenue

Fur

This independent furrier has been at Saks for 20 years, and specializes in cleaning, reconditioning, and storing furs. It also offers signature treatments like Silk Glow, which maintains luster and helps keep fur soft, and the Vectra Process, a sort of Scotch Guard for lining. You can

also trade in old pieces, or the Salon will help you revamp them via personal restyling consultations with one of its expert furriers.

Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Ave., 305-993-6217; Dadeland Mall, 7687 N. Kendall Dr., South Miami, 305-662-8655; thefursalon.com

Khai Le's Alterations & Dry Cleaning

Clothing

Khai Le and wife Maria Aznaran's shop is hidden on a second floor off Lincoln Road, but finding it is worth your while. Unlike some tailors, Khai understands high fashion as well as suits, and he treats every customer like a star. Some of them really are—it's where Dwyane Wade sends his alterations. The shop also fixes purses, belts, bags, and almost any fashion item you bring in.

1655 Drexel Ave., Miami Beach, 305-604-3312

Oberle Opticians

Eyewear

Anyone can replace a screw or nose pad, but few can solder metal frames and meticulously repair delicate hinges. Oberle also employs licensed opticians for lens replacement—and with 3,000 square feet of retail space, it has the room to carry a vast range of eyewear, from Ray-Ban Wayfarers to \$22,000 diamond-encrusted Maybach frames.

9552 Harding Ave., Surfside, 305-861-1010; oberleopticians.com

Rey's Cleaners

Clothing

The ladies who shop gowns on

Miracle Mile and luxury labels at the Village of Merrick Park trust Rey's with their precious threads. The company specializes in couture cleaning implementing an eight-point inspection, but also offers a four-point casualwear service that costs 40 percent less. Pickup and delivery are included, to boot. **2619 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, 305-443-0839; reyscleaners.com**

Sudsies Dry Cleaners & Laundry

Clothing

You've seen its blue delivery truck all around town for a reason: This beloved company has a spotless reputation for removing any and all pesky stains. The dry-cleaning process here is also eco-friendly, and offerings run the gamut from basic laundry service to hand cleaning for couture items. Bonus: Sudsies's on-hold "music" is hilarious.

6786 Collins Ave., Miami Beach, 305-864-3279; sudsies.com

Sunset Cobbler

Leather and fabric

South Miamians love this spot for mending all things leather (shoes, purses, jackets, and luggage) and for its textile repair, as well as its silk and satin dyeing services. It's not just Sunset's ability to fix broken heels that keeps its devotees coming back, but also the excellent service from its mild-mannered owners.

5610 Sunset Dr., South Miami, 305-665-7065 OD

MR. CLEAN

Rey's Cleaners owner Angel Suarez shares tips and debunks myths.



What kinds of stains are best fixed by dry-cleaning?

Oily ones like makeup or paint.

How soon do we need to bring in our garments? For the best chances of getting the stain out, we really would like them the same day, or at least within the next two or three days.

Does club soda really work?

It's a myth. People think the bubbles do something, but really you may be creating more damage from other things in the soda.

Do you have any other tricks? If it's an oil stain, try benzene or lighter fluid.



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