

# AZBIG's Tip on: Care, Maintenance and Repair of Your Riding Leathers!!!

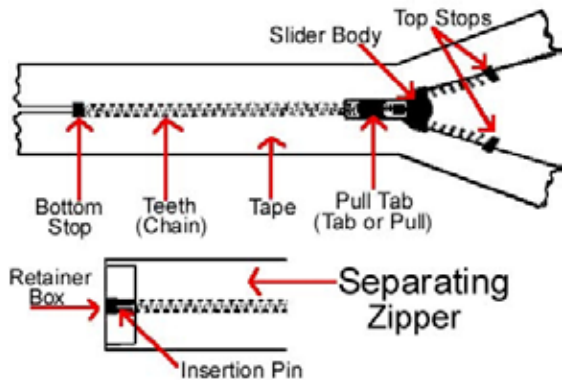
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**It is back to school time--  
we're going to learn about  
the anatomy of a zipper!**

-The parts most likely to wear out are the slider body and pull tab. The slider body expands after being used many times and you'll experience partial separation after zipping it closed. The slide can be pinched together but it is seldom more than a temporary fix and you may have the unpleasant experience of having one side breaking off when pressure is applied.

- You may also have had the unfortunate experience of having the pull tab break off. A safety pin or paperclip works for a temporary fix, but the locking mechanism that keeps the zipper from opening won't be functional and when riding I've found it important to keep the jacket and chaps zipped to the place I want them, not where the wind takes them! The one piece/two part slider body and pull tab can be replaced but here size does matter. Zippers are assigned a number based on the size of the teeth. The smaller the number, the less heavy duty the zipper will be. Jeans usually have a 3-5 while jackets and chaps have 8-10. You can usually find the zipper size on the back of the slider body.



- The insertion pin is another area that normal wear and tear can damage. If this happens the whole zipper has to be replaced. Same applies if any of the teeth are damaged--replace the whole zipper. Now go to your closet and pull out the leathers and check'em out! See you on the road...

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