

CLEANING & CARE OF NATURAL STONE

ROUTINE CARE

Many of the cleaners acceptable for use on ceramic tile can stain, damage or dull stone. Only use cleaners specifically designed for cleaning stone. These cleaners contain no acids and are concentrated neutral pH cleaners that will not affect existing sealers or wax-type coatings.

For routine maintenance the surface of the stone should be dampened with clear water. This will keep the cleaning solution on the surface so it can be effective.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Apply a solution of the cleaner and water to the stone surface with a sponge or mop. (On walls, kitchen counters or vanity tops, a spray bottle can be used to apply the cleaning solution.)

Step 2: Allow the formula to sit for a period of time recommended by the manufacturer (usually 3 to 5 minutes).

Step 3: Agitate with a sponge, synthetic mop, soft-bristled brush or using of a floor-scrubbing machine.

Step 4: Mop up dirty solution and then buff dry.

Once the stone has been cleaned, you can periodically apply a spray buff wax-type floor finish to enhance the beauty and luster of polished stone (including countertops). Apply the finish with a spray applicator and buff immediately with a white nylon pad.

Stone poultice will remove stains and grout haze from stone. Poultice is a fine, non-acidic, absorptive clay cleaning powder that removes deep-set oil stains, grease and light cementitious grout haze from polished and unpolished natural stone. However, Poultice may dull the shine of the polished stone. If this occurs, you will need to use a stone polish to restore the natural shine.

PREVENTATIVE CARE

- Dirt and dust will scratch the surface of stone. Stone floors should be vacuumed or dust-mopped frequently to remove abrasive agents from the stone surface.
- Natural stone should be cleaned with neutral cleaners and never those that contain acid or bleach. Acids, even a light solution of vinegar and water, will etch and eventually damage natural stone.
- Sealing stone will protect your investment by keeping moisture and dirt from penetrating the surface as easily as it will untreated stone.