

Care and Cleaning Instructions

Stone Countertops and Wall Surfaces:

- Clean surface daily
- Gently remove any loose debris from the surface.
- Spray Neutral Cleaner on to the surface and allow it to dry for a few minutes.
- Wipe dry and buff to a shine with a dry cloth

Care and Precautions

- Do not leave food or oil/grease on countertops
- Use coasters under all glasses, particularly those containing alcohol or citrus juices. Many common foods and drinks contain acids that will etch or dull the surface of some stones. Do not place hot items directly on the stone surface, as they will not damage the stone, but will cause the factory applied sealer to lose some effectiveness.
- Use trivets or mats under hot dishes and placemats under china, ceramics, silver or other objects that can scratch the surface.
- In the bath or other wet areas, soap scum can be minimized by using a squeegee after each use. To remove soap scum, use a non acidic soap scum remover or a solution of ammonia and water (about ½ cup ammonia to a gallon of water). Frequent or over-use of an ammonia solution may eventually dull the surface of the stone.
- Consider having your stone resealed if it appears to darken after cleaning or is absorbing water.

Stone Floor Areas – Polished and Unpolished

- Dust interior floors frequently using a clean non-treated dry dust mop.
- Mix a neutral cleaner with recommended dilution of water.
- Using a clean mop, apply to the surface and allow it to dry. Rinsing is not required.
- Sand, dirt and grit do the most damage to natural stone surfaces due to their abrasiveness. Mats or area rugs inside and outside entrance will help to minimize the sand, dirt and grit that can scratch the floor. Be sure that the underside of the mat or rug is a non-slip surface. Normally, it will take a person about eight steps on a floor surface to remove sand or dirt from the bottom of their shoes.
- Do not use vacuum cleaners that are worn. The metal or plastic attachments or the wheels may scratch the surface. Too much cleaner or soap may leave a film and cause streaks.

SPILLS and STAINS

- Blot the spill with a paper towel immediately. Don't wipe the area, it will spread the spill. Flush the area with plain water and mild soap and rinse several times. Dry the area thoroughly with a soft cloth. Repeat as necessary.
- Identifying the type of stain on the stone surface is the key to removing it. If you don't know what caused the stain, play detective. Where is the stain located? Is it near a plant, a food service area, an area where cosmetics are used? What color is it? What is the shape or pattern? What goes on in the area around the stain?
- Surface stains can often be removed by cleaning with an appropriate cleaning product or household chemical. Deep-seated or stubborn stains may require using a poultice *or calling in a professional*.
- **Call Stoneshop at 856-428-2424 for specific instructions on stubborn stains.**

Ceramic Tile Surfaces

Cleaning Ceramic Tile Floors:

- Mix a neutral cleaner with recommended dilution of water.
- Using a clean mop, apply to the surface and allow it to dry.
- Rinsing is not required.
- Most carpet cleaning companies now offer ceramic tile floor cleaning that will leave the tile and grout like new. Call us for a recommendation.

Cleaning Ceramic Tile Countertops and Wall Surfaces:

Spray a neutral cleaner on to the surface and wipe clean.

For soap scum or mildew, any non abrasive tile cleaner can be used

For heavier cleaning, products such as Soft Scrub can be used, but only on matte finish (not shiny) tile.