



Care & Maintenance of Natural Stone Marble, Granite & Limestone

To maintain natural stone, clean regularly with a soft cloth or mop and warm soapy water. Scourers can be used to remove difficult deposits. The appearance of a crack does not imply faulty material or workmanship. Cracking is normally associated with movement or inappropriate use. Always clean up spills as soon as they occur to limit any absorption. With proper care and maintenance your natural stone will last a long time.

Spills can be very different in nature from one to the next. Most of them, however, will turn out to be detrimental to stone if not attended to immediately. Orange juice, lemonade, wine, vinegar, liquors, tomato sauce, yoghurt, salad dressing, perfume, after shave, wrong cleaning products etc., will ETCH polished marble, travertine, limestone and onyx.

Benchtops will resist heat from pots and pans but don't tempt fate as damage can occur in certain circumstances. Always clean up spills as soon as they occur to limit any absorption. With proper care and maintenance your benchtops will last a lifetime and will look as good as the day they were installed.

Whilst we offer a **warranty** relating to our workmanship, **we are not able to warranty the material itself**, as it is a natural product.

DO

- Any spills must be removed / cleaned immediately. In the case of marble it is a porous material (even with a proprietary sealer) any spills will penetrate into the stone and cause stains or etching etc. The application of sealers does not stop staining but may reduce the chance of staining by delaying liquid penetration into the stone
- Clean the stone thoroughly using fresh warm water or if necessary using only neutral detergents (always do a small sample area as a test)
- Pick up any spills immediately. DON'T rub the spill, only blot it.
- One cloth that has been found to be useful is the Sabco Microfibre – Heavy duty cloth. It is a very absorbent cloth made with a strong, innovative material with its fine fibres that grab, hold and lift dirt, dust and grease from surface areas. (This cloth can be used on all types of Marble and Granite and can be found in any leading hardware stores or supermarkets.)
- You may clean all stones with Methylated Spirits (such as acetone)
- After the stone has dried, you may wipe it with a clean cloth to remove any streaks
- Sealers are sometimes applied to natural stone; however they are not effective against acidity.

DON'T

- Use any generic cleaning product on the natural stone, (i.e. a liquid toilet bowl cleaner when the toilet is set on a marble floor), unless the label specifies that it's safe on natural marble
- Detergents containing alkali, acid, metallic salts and/or other strong substances can actually attack the surface of the stone, and are NOT to be used
 - Do not use scourers or any type of abrasive products on any of the stones
 - Do not drag heavy sharp objects over the surface of any of the stones. Concentrated point loads will cause local damage or scratching, while spread loads can cause cracking of the entire slab or parts thereof. Stiletto heels on shoes can be source can cause cracking or scratching
- Do not sit or stand on the stone bench tops. Concentrated point loads can cause local damage, and point and spread loads can crack the slab.
- Don't use your stone bench top as a work bench.
- Don't put any wet bottles onto it (perfumes, after-shave etc.) Keep your cosmetics and fragrances away from stone surface and make sure that the legs of any trays or appliances have felt tips.
- Do not place hot items directly onto the stone. This can crack the stone.
- Do not use vinegar or acidic substances to clean marble or limestone's
- Do not clean any stone with Thinners or Mineral Turpentine
- Don't use any cleanser, either in a powdery or creamy form, such as 'Jiff' in shower recess.
- Don't use any generic soap film remover on your polished stone shower walls or floors.
- Don't use any magic self-cleaner, or any hard disinfectant not formulated for natural stone.

Note: For Engineered (Re-constituted) Stone you need to refer to the relevant manufacturers "care & maintenance" brochure for their specifications and advice.