

Western Marble & Tile Ltd.

STONE CARE & MAINTENANCE

Granite is an igneous (ig-nee-uhs) rock. *Igneous rock is formed through the cooling and solidification of magma or lava.* It also contains light, delicate colored minerals. Correct care and cleaning for granite preserves the natural highly polished look and in general you do not want to clean it with anything that you would not use on your hands. If you always use appropriate granite countertop care then you should have a product that will last for many years.

CLEANING GRANITE

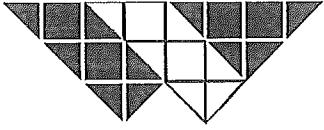
- Clean the countertops daily with mild dish soap and a soft clean cloth like microfiber.
- Never use anything abrasive like steel wool, scouring pads, or scouring powders.
- Never use harsh chemicals or cleaners like Windex which has ammonia in it, vinegar, lemon or orange cleaners, or bathroom/tub and tile cleaners. They can scratch, pit, and etch the surface of the stone.
- Western Marble Granite and Tile recommends GranQuartz 113M Spray Cleaner which will clean, polish, and assist in protecting your natural stone product.

CLEANING NATURAL STONE

- Marble, limestone, travertine, soapstone and onyx should be cleaned using products specifically designed for natural stone.
- Always test the cleaner in an inconspicuous spot to see how it works with the stone.

STAINING

- Always wipe up all spills promptly with water and a clean cloth as staining can occur within a 24 to 48 hour time frame.
- If the stain is heavy and cannot be removed by simple warm water and mild dishwashing liquid, then create this sure-fire formula – combine together baking soda and water, just enough water until the solution becomes thick (about the same consistency as paste). Simply



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put this solution right over the stain. Cover the area with a plastic wrap. Leave it overnight. You can then scrape the mixture away gently, preferably using a wooden utensil. Rinse. The stain should be gone. Repeat if necessary.

SEALING STONE

- By its nature, a stone surface is porous. Absorption may result in discoloring or staining. The granite countertop is sealed before fabrication. The sealer penetrates the stone, clogs the pores and creates a virtually impenetrable surface that resists absorbing alcohol, juice, soft drinks, coffee, food, oil, cosmetics and cleaners. With proper care and commercial grade cleaners, it is easy to maintain the original luster for years.
- Depending on the color of stone, sealing will need to be done once or twice a year. Typically, the darker granites are denser than lighter granites so they would require less yearly sealing.