

USE AND CARE OF NATURAL STONE

When properly used and maintained, stone is very easy to clean and will last for many years, enjoying its natural and unique beauty, however, the following guidelines must be followed and the recommendations and advice given below must be adhered to.

POLISHED SURFACES

The best possible way to preserve stone is to follow the tips we recommend outlined on this page, keeping in mind that:

- the following tips are to be considered as guidelines for standard application in an indoor environment and in no way alter the responsibility of end users.
- any outdoor stone application must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

1. DAILY CLEANING

We always suggest the gentlest methods. The color and brightness of the material can be affected by substances with a strong acid or alkaline effect, so we suggest using detergents with a neutral pH (e.g. washing-up liquid). For daily cleaning, wiping the surface with a clean damp cloth or sponge and then drying with a dry cloth is sufficient. Alternatively, it is possible to wash the surface with a moderate amount of neutral soap, such as the popular Marseille soap, then rinse and dry with a soft dry cloth.

Attention !

We caution against using detergents, washing techniques or stain removal that are not suitable for this type of surface: the wrong type of intervention can cause irreversible damage. We advise you to always read the label of the product you intend to use for a given purpose; in any case, we suggest you test the product according to the instructions for use on a small part of the surface that is not visible. Under no circumstances should agents with a high chlorine content (such as Domestos) be used. They cause irreversible tarnishing of the stone. Beware, however, of excessively cheap, "supermarket" products - the saying "quality comes at a price" applies here perfectly.

Important!

Natural stone (especially marble) should not come into direct contact with the following products: oils, citrus, juices, wine, coffee, tea, drinks (e.g. Coca Cola), fruit and vegetables (cut), or personal care products such as toothpaste, perfume, aftershave etc. and products with high acidity. Some substances in these products can be aggressive. Therefore, to protect the surface, such products should be removed as soon as possible and the surface should be rinsed with water and dried. For oily substances, wash the surface with neutral soap. You can purchase it from large distribution centers or stores that specialize in home cleaning products. In any case, we advise you to pay attention to the directions on the label and not to overuse these products.

2. HOW TO REMOVE THE MOST STUBBORN STAINS

If the surface has dirt caused by spillage or dried stains, we advise removing the solid part of the dirt with a knife. A plastic knife is best for this purpose, but care should be taken in all cases. If there is residual dirt on the surface, you can use a sponge to remove delicate stains (such as a non-scratch kitchen sponge). If the problem persists, you can use a simple detergent or (for granite tiles only) a lightly abrasive cream (such as CIF), rubbing the surface in a circular motion. After such an operation, the surfaces should of course be rinsed with warm water and dried.

Many types of stains can be effectively removed with special non-scratch sponges (such as Mastro Lindo's Magic Rubber, Scotch Brite's Easy Erasing Pad, etc.), which can be purchased at major distribution centers or stores specializing in home cleaning products. In any case, we advise you to pay attention to the directions on the label and not to overuse these products.

3. PRECAUTIONS

Exposure to chemical products should be avoided in all cases. If a chemical substance is accidentally spilled onto the surface (metal, oven or brush cleaning products, paints, acids, solvents and acetone-based products, strongly alkaline substances, etc.), we recommend removing it immediately with a cloth or paper and then rinsing abundantly with water.

Most types of stone are resistant to impact, however, it is recommended to avoid applying excessive force or stress to the surface of the material. Refrain from hitting the surface or placing excessively heavy objects on the surface. Also, we suggest avoiding sitting or putting your feet on kitchen and bathroom countertops for any reason.

The use of coatings on stone surfaces can cause aesthetic changes to the product that are difficult to predict.

Protective or renovating products should only be applied after the material has been thoroughly cleaned. In any case, we advise that the application of the chosen product be done by a professional.

TIPS FOR USING A STONE KITCHEN COUNTERTOP

When installing stone as kitchen countertops, the following warnings should be kept in mind in addition to the recommendations described above:

Heat:

For some materials, it is not recommended to place items taken off directly from the fire or at very high temperatures. This can cause polish fade and discoloration. Granite surfaces can withstand high temperatures that may occur during normal use, however, users are advised to avoid direct and prolonged exposure to intense and concentrated heat sources. As a result, we suggest customers use common placemats for hot dishes or electrical equipment that may be burning or very hot.

Scratches:

In order to maintain the brightness of the surface for a long period of time, we advise you to refrain from using your kitchen countertops as a kitchen board, especially if you have chosen a dark color countertop. Any signs of gray color that appear against lighter colors (white and beige) do not indicate an aesthetic defect in the product, but may be the result of using Teflon or aluminum cookware on the kitchen countertop surface. Such stains should be removed in the same manner as most resistant stains.