

INSTRUCTIONS for CARING and MAINTAINING YOUR NEW STONE TOPS

By
MAR GRA PTY LTD

Granite (predominantly used for kitchen bench tops) is usually found with a crystalline structure, which often indicates some degree of porosity.

This is often only measured in fractions of one per cent, but can be of concern to some people because absorbed liquids tend to darken the appearance of many types of granite. Clean water is not the problem. It can be absorbed, and will eventually evaporate without a trace. We strongly recommend that oils and other corrosive agents are not left on the granite kitchen top for more than a few minutes maximum half an hour. Always wipe down your granite top with a clean rag (moistened with water, not soap or washing detergents) to eliminate any chances of staining. Even though your granite top has been sealed, when products such as oils are left on the granite for an extended period of time the oil will bypass the sealer and enter into the granite.

For the cleaning of your granite kitchen top, we advise that NO products such as domestos, Ajax, or any other product containing bleach, ammonia, or lemon juice (citric acids) are to be used on the granite or marble. What is conventionally used as a household or commercial cleaner is not generally manufactured keeping natural stones characteristics or requirements in mind and therefore should not be used on your stone tops. The best product to use is Pure Methylated Spirits and or a mix of 50% methylated spirit & 50% water. There are other specific cleaning products on sale to be purchased through our office.

A further consideration when using your granite kitchen top is not to use electric frying pans directly on the granite. Even though granite is heat resistant, we do not recommend the use of electric pans directly on the granite as they may cause thermic shock and cause your granite to crack or open up, this is due to heat being used for a prolonged period of time on the one area only not giving the stone time to disperse it. Remember also that standing or sitting on the granite top is not recommended, as too much weight on one area only, especially near sink and hotplate cut outs, may cause the granite to crack.

Marble tops require a bit more care than your granite tops. Marble is inherently softer, brittle and prone to staining, bleaching or discoloration. As with granite tops, all of the manufactured marble tops are sealed by our company prior to and after installation, we do however recommend that sealers be re-applied to maintain the stone.

We do not recommend the use of bleaches, domestic/industrial cleaners or any products containing bleaches or citric acids. The use of window cleaning products (shower cleaning products) is not to be used on the marble tops. If these products are used they will corrupt the sealers and allow the stone to stain, discolour and lose its lustre. We recommend clean water or methylated spirits. Standing or sitting on stone tops is not recommended.

Reconstituted Stone (man-made) as per natural stone, the use of products other than clean water or methylated spirit is not recommended as it could alter the structure of the stone. The same rules apply to this type of stone as they do to natural stones.

Quartz Based Reconstituted stone tops does not receive a coating of sealer while Marble Based ones do. Marble Based Reconstituted stone tops react like Marble tops, i.e.: they can stain, scratch and discolour. Wiping off spillages immediately is imperative.

Reconstituted stones are prone to thermal shock which may lead to fissures or cracking of the surface. We recommend clean water or methylated spirits. Standing or sitting on these tops is not recommended.

NB: Marble & Granite are natural stones. Variations in colour, grain, structure, veining, fissures, pitholes & crystal formations are to be expected and accepted. Some stones have more pitting, fissures etc (see above) then others and some stones are also resin filled to try to minimize these characteristics of natural stones.

ALL VISITS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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