



## Care and Maintenance of Natural Stone

### **New Installations**

Follow the recommended installation methods and procedures of the Marble Institute of America and the Tile Contractors Association.

### **Restorative Cleaning**

For stripping off existing topical acrylic, urethane, epoxy, heavy wax coating and epoxy grout haze, we recommend DuPont™ StoneTech(R) Professional Heavy Duty Coating Stripper. Follow the below steps:

1. Sweep or vacuum surface to remove loose debris.
2. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING. Do not dilute before applying.
4. Wear rubber gloves and eye protection during handling and application to prevent skin and eye contact.
5. Liberally apply an even coat over the required area with a paint brush, mop or paint pad. DO NOT SPRAY. Apply a second coat 10 minutes after the first coat to even out the thickness of the application. Immediately remove product from unintended surface with a wet cloth to prevent potential damage to the surface.
6. Application time will vary depending on type of coating being removed. The following are approximate application times:
  - Sealer, wax and varnish: 30-60 minutes
  - Polyurethane and acrylic: 1-2 hours
  - Epoxy grout haze: 1-2 hours
7. Do not let Heavy Duty Coating Stripper dry on the surface. If product starts to dry, add water to keep surface wet.
8. Agitate surface with a nylon scrub brush or pad after testing a small area first to make sure the brush or pad will not scratch the stone. Surface can be wet with water to enable easier removal of coating.
9. Wipe up residual coating with clean dry cloths. Rinse surface well with clean water.

For cleaning grease, oil, dry soil and soap scum, we recommend DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional KlenzAll™ Cleaner. Follow the below steps:

1. Make sure surface is clean, dry and free of waxes and coating.
2. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Specific to this surface, we suggest preparing a solution of KlenzAll™ Cleaner concentrates mixed with warm water as below:
  - Medium Duty Usage-mix 1 part KlenzAll™ to 4 parts water
  - Heavy Duty Usage-mix 1 part KlenzAll™ to 2 parts water



4. Apply mixed solution with a mop, sponge or sprayer.
5. Agitate while using a stiff nylon bristle scrub brush, stiff bristle push broom or a weighted floor machine at 130-140 lb, 175 rpm fitted with a scrub brush attachment.
6. Remove solution using sponge, wet/dry vacuum or damp mop. A hard surface extraction machine may be used.
7. Rinse area well with clean water. Repeat the rinsing and wet vacuum process to ensure that all dirt, soil and cleaner residue have been removed.

To remove deep or stubborn oil stains not completely removed by KlensAll™ Cleaner, allow the surface to dry and use DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Oil Stain Remover. Follow the below steps:

1. Apply a ¼" thick layer of paste to the stain. Ensure that the paste extends at least 1-2" beyond the edge of the stain.
2. Allow 48-72 hours for paste to completely dry to a powder.
3. Remove powder and discard.
4. Allow solvent to completely dry from the stone.
5. If stain is not completely gone after drying, repeat process.
6. Clean up residue and tools with mineral spirits.

For refinishing to a honed finish we recommend DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Honing Powders.

1. Make sure surface is clean, dry and free of waxes and coating.
2. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. If you are using a variety of abrasive grits, ensure that the surface is well rinsed and a new pad is used for each changeover.
4. Apply approximately ½ cup of Honing Powder plus 1 cup clean water to stone surface.
5. Refinishing using a hand orbital sander or weighted floor machine at 130-140 lb, 175 rpm, fitted with a natural hair pad.
6. Keep compound wet while refinishing with plenty of water. Add Honing Powder as needed.
7. Refinish area until the desired level of hone has been achieved.
8. Rinse well and use a wet vacuum or hot water extraction to remove all remaining compound.
9. Clean equipment with water.

### **Sealing and Protecting**

Natural stone surfaces must be sealed to prevent or minimize staining. Leaving natural stone untreated may greatly hinder the complete removal of stains in the future. The following sealer suggestions are for impregnating the stone and will allow the stone to breathe. Allow new installation to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to applying sealer. For a natural looking protector on interior and exterior surfaces, we recommend DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Heavy Duty Sealer, which offers heavy duty protection



against oil- and water-based stains in a water-based formula. Follow the below steps:

1. Make sure surface is clean, and free of waxes and coating.
2. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Sealer may be applied to damp surfaces one hour after standing water has been removed.
4. Liberally apply an even coat using a paint pad, roller or brush. Do not apply product with sprayer.
5. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 15-30 minutes. During this time, distribute sealer over areas to ensure even penetration. Remove excess sealer by wiping entire surface thoroughly with clean, dry towels.
6. A second coat may be needed for porous, absorbent surface and should be applied 30-40 minutes after initial application as directed in steps 4-5.
7. 15-30 minutes after final application, wipe entire surface with clean dry towels to remove any excess sealer. To remove residue, reapply a thin coat of sealer, allow to dwell for 2-3 minutes, agitate with a white nylon pad and dry thoroughly with clean dry towels.

### **Maintenance Cleaning**

Highly alkaline, acidic, ammoniated, abrasive cleaner and/or bleach may break down the sealer, adversely affecting repellency and may not be good for the stone. Use a neutral cleaner specially formulated for natural stone. For routine cleaning, we recommend DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Stone & Tile Cleaner. Follow the below steps:

1. Mix 2 ounces of Stone & Tile Cleaner concentrated in 1 gallon of water or hot water. (One gallon of concentrate makes 64 gallons of cleaning solution.)
2. Apply mixed solution with a damp mop, sponge or appropriate professional cleaning equipment.
3. Clean entire areas with mop, changing mop water often to ensure that soil is no re-deposited. Wipe or rinse cleaned area.
4. Let area dry completely before using.
  - You may also use DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Stone & Tile Cleaner in the ready-to-use spray bottle or wipes.