

STONE CARE

Clean stone surfaces with a cleaner specifically made for stone cleaning or a mild liquid dishwashing detergent and warm water. Too much cleaner or soap may leave a film and cause streaks.

Do not use products that contain lemon, vinegar, bleach, ammonia or other acids. Rinse surfaces thoroughly after washing with the soap solution and dry with a soft cloth.

Do not use scouring powders or creams as these products contain abrasives that may scratch stone surfaces.

Reseal countertops at least once a year with a penetrating sealer made for stone products such as Aquamix Stone Sealers available at any Tile America store.

When using any product made for stone cleaning or sealing directions must be followed carefully and precisely.

Blot any spills with a paper towel or a soft cloth immediately. Don't wipe the area, as it will spread the spill. Flush area with plain water, mild soap and rinse several times. Dry the area thoroughly with a soft cloth. Repeat as necessary.

If the stone is stained, identifying the type of stain on the stone is the key to removing it. The following are the most common groups of stain causes:

- **Oil Based** – grease, tar, cooking oil, milk, cosmetics and mayonnaise.
- **Organic** – coffee, tea, fruit, tobacco, paper, food.
- **Metal** – iron, rust, copper, bronze.
- **Biological** – algae, mildew, lichens, moss, fungi.
- **Ink**
- **Paint**

Once the origin of the stain has been determined it is best to check with a stone professional for the correct procedure to remove the stain. There are many do-it-yourself products available with instructions for removing stains, but instructions must be followed very carefully. And again, it is best to consult a professional prior to attempting to remove any stain. After any stain removal procedure it is advisable to wash thoroughly with a mild liquid dishwashing detergent or stone cleaner, rinse, dry and reseal countertops.