

Quartz Countertop – Maintenance Tips

MAINTENANCE

Quartz Surfaces are hard, non-porous surfaces that are simple to clean and require no sealing to renew their luster. In most cases, water and mild detergent is enough to keep your Quartz Surfaces looking like new. You can use a non-abrasive soft soap with a non-scratch or delicate scrub pad if necessary. To prevent from damaging your Quartz Surface's shine, avoid using abrasive cleansers, harsh scouring pads and definitely no cleansers with bleach. Thoroughly rinse with clean water to remove residue and dry with clean white paper towel or cloth. We recommend a thorough cleaning of your Quartz Surface on a weekly basis.

Due to their distinctive appearance, finishes other than POLISHED such as HONED, TEXTURED or MOTIVO etc. show metal marks, fingerprints and other signs of daily living more; hence, they require more cleaning and daily maintenance. Most of these marks can be easily removed with little effort using non-abrasive cleaning products and non-scratch pads.

DRIED SPILLS & STAINS

Carefully remove by gently scraping away with a plastic putty knife the materials that harden as they dry, such as gum, grease, nail polish, or paint etc. and then use a damp cloth to remove any residual marks or dirt.

Take care and avoid exposing your Quartz Surface to permanent inks, markers or dyes, as these may not be removable. If you accidentally mark your Quartz Surface with a marker or dye, rinse the area with water right away, then apply a manufacturer approved cleansing product if the stain is still there. Apply water to the area one more time after applying the cleanser.

CLEANING AGENTS TO USE & AVOID

We recommend cleaning agents with alkaline/pH levels between pH 5-8 as products outside this range may damage your Quartz Surface. Avoid exposing your Quartz Surface to chemicals with pH levels outside this range, such as oven/grill cleaners, floor strippers, paint removers/strippers, toilet bowl cleaners, oil soaps, tarnish removers, furniture cleaners, drain products, battery acid, dishwasher detergent, etc. As with any surface, Quartz Surfaces can be permanently damaged by exposure to strong chemicals and solvents.

If you happen to accidentally spill one of these solvents on our Quartz Surface, clean it with water immediately to neutralize the effect.

HEAT TOLERANCE

Quartz Surface is structurally more heat resistant in comparison to other stones, including most granite. However, any stone material can be potentially damaged by sudden and rapid temperature changes, especially near the edges. Do not put hot cookware directly on your Quartz Surface. We strongly recommend using inexpensive and readily available hot pads or trivets on your Quartz Surface under cooking units such as electric frying pans, crock-pots, or roaster ovens.

SCRATCH RESISTANT

Quartz Surfaces may be resistant to cracks, scratches and stains but it doesn't mean they are damage-proof. Like most materials, excessive force and/or pressure from objects can damage your Quartz Surface. Do not use abrasive pads to clean tough dirt as abrasives can damage the finish/sheen of your countertops. Avoid using sharp objects such as knives or screwdrivers directly on your Quartz Surface. The use of a cutting board is always recommended.

Marble Countertop – Maintenance Tips

Marble has long been favored by professional chefs and home bakers because it stays cool and is known for being heat resistant. Due to the properties of marble it is more susceptible to scratches, staining and etching compared to Granite. The appearance of marble changes into an aged patina through natural wear and tear use of the surface & it looks great polished or honed.

Although marble is softer than granite it has been used as a building material for a very long time, so its ability to withstand the test of time is well documented.

Marble, like any other surface, needs conditioning, cleaning, care and maintenance to preserve its beauty and prolong its life. Because it is absorbent, marble requires special care – it can stain with spillages like liquids or oil, and is sensitive to acids like citrus juices, vinegar or household cleaning chemicals, which can damage its surface.

For best results, please do not use acid-based household cleaners on your marble. The use of neutral cleaners like specialized stone soaps are ideal, as they do not damage the surface. Mild phosphate-free, eco-friendly dishwashing liquids are fine, as long as you rinse the soap off completely.

When used externally, it is vulnerable to acid rain or pollutants in the atmosphere, which erode and discolor its surface. Taking care of your marble as soon as you install it will go a long way to preserve it, and save restoration costs in the long run.

To keep the marble surface looking new, cleaning and maintenance is recommended at least twice a year.

Sealing helps protect your stone surface allowing you time to clean up spills but a sealer will not make your marble stain or etch proof. When water no longer beads, it's time to reseal.

- Follow a daily and periodic cleaning routine.
- Wipe anything that spills on marble immediately
- DO NOT USE abrasive cloths or sponges and never on polished surfaces. Abrasives can cause scratches and dull the stone.
- Always follow the directions on your cleaner and avoid mixing chemicals unless specified
- Avoid using chemical cleaners, acids like vinegar and lime juice, grout cleaners, tub or tile cleaners on marble. They will etch or dull the stone
- Use coasters under glasses or bottles
- Use mats or trivets underneath counter appliances and under hot items
- Use clean soft cloths, mops and brooms
- Placing non-slip mats or rugs at the entrance minimizes soiling from dirt on shoes
- Old vacuum cleaners will scratch your marble – avoid using them
- Change mopping water frequently during cleaning
- Always rinse using clean, warm water