



CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES: CULTURED MARBLE

GLOSS/SEMI GLOSS FINISH

- Marble
- Solid Color Marble
- Granite
- Onyx

This finish is smooth and shiny. Any cleaning should be handled the same as the automotive finish on your car. Cleaning should be done with simple soap and water and a soft cloth or sponge. Application of a high grade automotive paste wax forms a barrier coating that will both increase the luster and make the product easier to clean by making it more difficult for dirt and grime to adhere to the surface.

Any Satin/Matte finish product can be brought to a gloss finish by applying a progressive buffing starting with coarse automotive buffing compound. (This is the finish that comes standard on all Gloss/Semi-Gloss finishes.) The part can be made glossier by further buffing with a fine automotive buffing compound and then a polishing compound. It should be noted that the shiner the part, the more noticeable small imperfections become.

SATIN/MATTE FINISH

This finish has a smooth, dull or abraded appearance. These products can be cleaned more aggressively with soap, water, and preferably, a Scotch Brite Pad. Abrasive cleansers can be used and will not harm the finish. However, depending on the grit of the abrasive particles, they can leave noticeable scratch marks in the product that will have to be removed by sanding or using Scotch Brite on the entire piece.

Any Gloss finish can be made Satin/Matte by simply using Scotch Brite on the entire piece.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR:

All of the above products have a 10 to 20 mil gel coat protective wear surface. Gel coat is an extremely wear and stain resistant coating that is backed with a thick layer of synthetic marble.

- Marble, Granite, and Onyx Colors

These products have a clear gel coat and the color is derived from the cast synthetic backup material.

With all of the gel coated products, minor scratches, burns, and stains can be either:

- Buffed out using a medium automotive buffing compound
- Buffed out using a coarse then medium automotive buffing compound
- Block sanded using 800 grit then medium automotive buffing compound

*You MUST be careful NOT to buff or sand through the gel coat wear surface.
Once this is done, the piece is no longer protected in that spot.*



CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES: NATURAL GRANITE

NATURAL GRANITE DISCLAIMER

Granite is coarse grained crystalline igneous rock composed primarily of quartz and feldspar. It forms from slowly cooling magma that is subjected to extreme pressures deep beneath the earth's surface. Because it is a natural material, it is subject to variation in mineral composition affecting color, flecks, and other aspects of appearance.

Sample chips will vary, to some degree, from actual product. No two granite or Italian marble pieces are alike making each natural stone vanity top a beautiful, one of a kind masterpiece.

HANDLE WITH CARE

The weight of a granite or Italian marble vanity top is heavier than that of a cultured marble vanity top. Please address safety and handling issues for lifting, loading, and unloading accordingly.

Also notable is the size and the composition of the quartz deposits within each granite top. The smaller the quartz count, the more dense the material and therefore the stronger the product is. All granite is fragile. Blue Butterfly has a naturally higher quartz count, making it a more fragile product than other granites. Special care must be taken in handling all natural stone tops.

Each top will have a HEAVY/FRAGILE sticker on the outside of the carton. This should act as an immediate identifier for anyone who handles the product.

CLEANING

- Clean stone surfaces with a few drops of non-acidic soap scum remover, or a mild liquid dishwashing detergent.
- Frequent or over-use of soap scum remover could result in dulling the surface of the stone.
- Thoroughly rinse and dry the surface after washing.
- Too much cleanser or soap may leave a film and cause streaks.
- Blot up spills immediately.
- Do not use products that contain lemon, vinegar, or other acid content that may etch the surface.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleaners or soft cleaners.
- Do not use cleaners that contain acids such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners, or tile cleaners.
- Do not mix bleach and ammonia, this combination creates a toxic and lethal gas.

SPILLS AND STAINS

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

Identifying the type of stain on the stone surface is key to removing it. If you do not know what caused the stain, review your options. Where is the stain located? Is it near a plant, an area where cosmetics are used? What color is it? What is the shape or pattern? What goes on in the area around the stain?

Note: Contact Stone Care International (SCI) for stain removal. 1-800-839-1654

SEALING THE GRANITE TOP

Most stones, once protected, will be easy to clean, and you may want to try just warm water at first to give you the results you need: towel dry to remove streaks. We recommend you re-seal your product thirty to sixty days after installing it with a Stone Care International granite sealer. With every stone vanity top is a care procedure to absorb into the granite and then wipe off

Call your customer service agent for problems that appear too difficult to treat.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES (cont.)

ALL CULTURE MARBLE TOP DIMENSIONS ARE NORMAL.

Cultured marble shrinks as it cures allowing it to release from the mold it is formed in. The amount of shrinkage is proportional to the length of the part and the thoroughness of the cure. The more thorough the cure, the greater the shrinkage. A 25" x 22" top can have a finished dimension as small as 24 ¾" x 21 ¾". A top that needs to have a finished dimension should be ordered as a special order top.

COLOR VARIATION WILL OCCUR ON MARBLEIZED OR VEINED TOPS.

Just as real marble and cut stone have natural variations, the mix of background color and veining color are randomly dispensed through the supply line for the marble mixture. This mix is then fed into the molds by hand, thus creating more random patterns. Solid color tops are more controlled and colors will be within acceptable standards. Bathrooms containing more than one cultured marble top should be either solid color or spray granite in order to create an acceptable appearance. Also, stock size tops and custom tops should not be used in the same room. Side splashes can also have a different appearance in a marble top pattern. These are made in a flat mold and consequently have a cloud type appearance. Only spray granite and solid colors will match within an acceptable tolerance.

ALL CULTURED MARBLE TOPS WILL HAVE A MINOR FLAW OR FLAWS.

Because each top is man made, there will be some minor imperfection in the top. These can vary from sheen of the finish to minor dimples or dimensional differences.

COLOR SAMPLES ARE MEANT AS A GUIDE ONLY.

With marbleized or veined colors, it is unrealistic to assume that the veining pattern cast in a 5" x 3" sample mold can exhibit the same pattern as that attained when casting on the much larger surface of a top. When selecting or matching colors, lighting and reflection may affect color, as well as different surfaces, such as porcelain, ceramic, acrylic, fiberglass and enameled surfaces.