Natural Stone - Vanity Top

Your new natural stone vanity top has been factory sealed and polished to a smooth gloss finish. In order to maintain the surface and keep it looking fresh and natural, we recommend the following procedures:

1. Seal your natural stone top before first use. All stone products require resealing at least once a year. You will need to schedule your top for resealing accordingly.

2. Before applying the sealer, the exposed areas should be completely clean and dry. Follow the instructions on the sealer container. You can buy the sealer at: http://www.builddirect.com/Floor-Care-Products/Stone-Shield-Penetrating-Sealer---1-quart---For-Porous Surface/ ProductDisplay_10573_p1_10082193.aspx

3. For routine maintenance and cleaning, we recommend Stone Care's "Clean Encounters." The cleaner should be used weekly and more frequently with heavier than usual use or for cleaning of chemicals, such as those commonly found in the bathroom. Be sure to follow the instructions on the container

4. To keep your natural stone vanity top hygienically clean, we recommend Stone Care's "Counterriffic" on a weekly basis. This spray disinfectant will kill all types of bacteria and is FDA and EPA approved for food handling surfaces.

5. Liquid spills, such as alcohol, medications, etc should be cleaned up promptly. Some liquids with high-acid content can etch natural stone surfaces if left for any length of time. Popular products that should be promptly cleaned up are: shaving cream, toothpaste, perfume, cologne, nail polish remover, hair coloring and perm products, shampoo, drain opener, and toilet bowl cleaner.

6. Place protective pads on the bottoms of any heavy objects, such as pottery, appliances, or other objects that may scratch the natural stone surface.

7. Avoid abrasive cleaners or rough cleaning pads. If necessary, a soft buffing pad can be used.

8. Use coasters under drinking glasses to prevent glass rings on the surface.

9. Do not stand on the natural stone top to fix overhead lights or other items. Do not place extremely heavy items on the top.

HELPFUL HINT #3: Granite is porous and can be stained, but these can be removed. When removing stains, it is important to identify what has caused the stain first. Be sure to use a product specifically recommended for removing that stain. We recommend you contact Stone Care International at 1-800-839-1654 for more information on their products and how to safely remove any difficult stains that may have occurred.

For more information on this product or to order samples call 1-877-631-2845 or visit our website at builddirect.com

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Types of Stain that can occur (but not limited to):
• Oil-Based Stains: Grease, Tar, Cooking Oil, and food stains.
• Organic Stains: Coffee, Tea, Fruit, Tobacco, cosmetics etc.
• Metal Stains: Iron (rust), copper, bronze, etc.
• Biological Stains: Algae, mildew, lichens, etc.
• Ink Stains: Magic Marker, pen, ink, etc.

HELPFUL HINT #4: Any spill should be cleaned as soon as possible. Blot spills with a paper towel or clean rag. Wiping a spill may spread the stain. If the stain remains you can remove it by literally pulling the stain out of the stone with both a chemical and material that will absorb the stain. This combination is what is called a poultice. Poultices are commonly powder or cloth materials that can be mixed with a chemical and placed on top of the stain to draw it out. Many homeowners
have the tools to remove stains right in their home. Some common poultice materials include but not limited
to: Paper towels, cotton balls, gauze pads, flour, clays, chalk and Diatomaceous Earth.

How to apply a poultice?

• Pre-wet the stained area with a little distilled water. This fills the pores of the stone with water isolating the stain and accelerating the removal by chemical;

• Refer to the chart below and determine which chemical to use for the stain;

• If a powder is to be used, premix powder and the chemical of choice into a thick paste, the consistency of peanut butter;

• If a paper poultice is to be used, soak the paper in the chemical. Lift the paper out until it stops dripping;

• Apply the poultice to the stained area approximately1/4" thick and overlapping the stain by about 1". Do not make the application too thick, or it will take too long to dry;

• Cover the poultice with a plastic sandwich bag or food wrap. Tape the plastic using a low-contact tape. It helps to poke several small holes in the plastic to help poultice dry;

• Allow the poultice to dry thoroughly. This is a very important step. The drying is what pulls the stain out. Allow to dry for 24 to 48 hours;

• Once it has dried, remove the poultice by scraping and rinse with distilled water and buff dry with soft cloth;

• Examine the stain. If it still remains, but is lighter, re-poultice until it is gone. It may take up to five applications for difficult stains. If the stain refuses to disappear completely, it is time to call a stone specialist.

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• Stain removal can be very difficult, and care must be taken when using a poultice.

Stain caused by	Poultice with
Rust	Iron Out
Coffee or Team	Hydrogen Peroxide
Ink, Magic Marker	Methylene Chloride
Oil	Ammonia or a degreaser
Paint	Mineral Spirits

BOWL MAINTENANCE

Your natural stone vanity top included an affixed porcelain under-mount bowl, please follow these care and maintenance procedures.

1. Clean the bowl surface with a mild solution of warm water and liquid soap. After washing the surface, wipe it clean with soft dry cloth. For an excessively dirty surface, use a strong solution of warm water and liquid soap. For stubborn dirt or grease spots, you may use an undiluted all purpose cleaner. AVOID any abrasive cleaners. Do NOT use solvents.

2. Do not soak dirty dishes for long periods of time, and avoid leaving coffee grounds, tea bags or possible staining agents in the sink.

3. To maintain a sparkling clean appearance, clean your sink routinely once a day and thoroughly once a week. Bowl testing COMPLIES with:
IAPMO - ASME - A112.19.2M-1998
IAPMO - CSA - B45.0-99 & CSA-B45.1-99

Reminders

1. Retain your sales receipt.
2. Fill out and mail your warranty registration card once put in service.

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