



**MURANO**  
COLLECTION

THE LOOK OF LUXURY.

# Caring for Granite

- Protecting the Surface
- Keeping it Clean

## **Protecting the Surface**

Granite is a natural stone product and has a certain degree of porosity. Therefore, after installation, it must be cleaned and sealed. Only impregnating sealers that are semi-permeable are acceptable. Impregnators do not cover up the natural beauty of the stone and do not wear off like a surface coating.

While granite is ordinarily considered to be stain-resistant, foreign pigments or oils can be absorbed into the surface. This could cause discoloration. The sealer does not prevent this discoloration, but it slows it down to allow more time for clean up. If the top is sealed after staining, however, any foreign substance will be sealed in.

A few types of granite may show some moisture absorption if exposed for a period of time. For example, a puddle of water left on the counter for 30 minutes may show a dark spot when the water is wiped away. When allowed to dry, however, this spot will usually disappear.

Since granite was formed by extreme heat and pressure, it won't be affected by heat from a cook top or frying pan. An open flame placed under the granite has no melting effect and will not leave any burned or scarred marks.

Granite is most susceptible to cracks during shipping and installation. Once it has been properly installed, normal use will not harm it. Because of its crystalline structure, however, it can chip if it's subjected to blows by hard, sharp objects such as a meat cleaver. A trained professional can sometimes repair a chip with a granite dust and epoxy mixture, but no repair will be completely invisible.

Knives can be used to cut directly on the granite without harming it, but granite is harder than knife blades and will dull them very quickly. Always cut and chop on a wooden or plastic cutting board.

## **Keeping it Clean**

Clean up generally needs only warm water and a mild liquid detergent. Abrasive cleaners such as Comet or steel wool pads must not be used since they will scratch and dull the finish. Dulled or lightly scratched areas can be restored by using automotive rubbing compound and waxing with liquid wax.

Denatured alcohol will remove most adhesives and residue, and will not harm the finish, but acetone and lacquer thinner will damage the surface.

The main problem is oils that can be absorbed and discolor the stone, but pineapple juice may also stain it because of its acidity. If the surface appears to be discolored, a poultice is available for lifting oil stains. If it is a color stain, bleach can be used, but remember that cleaning methods must be used consistently. Do not use bleach today, and then use an ammonia based product tomorrow.

Pine Sol, Mr. Clean, and Turtle Wax Foam Spray are excellent to use. Stubborn spots may be taken off by an occasional use of Soft Scrub, but this product should be used judiciously.

Never use any product which is acidic; this includes many common liquid cleaners such as Windex. Use only sealers and cleaning products designed specifically for natural stone.