

# NATURAL STONE CARE & MAINTENANCE



## Natural Stone Disclaimer

The purchaser acknowledges that natural stones such as Travertine, Marble, Slate, Limestone and Granite are products of nature and have been quarried from all over the world. As natural products, they are prone to variations in color, texture, shade and veining that will differ from the samples shown. Dramatic variations in natural products are not considered flaws of natural stone but may occur as a result of the type of stone being used, as well as the current quarry conditions. No two pieces of natural stone are exactly alike and it is pertinent that the tiles are blended before they are set.

Always request samples of present stock as variations in material may occur without notice. It is the customer's responsibility to inspect the material before installation. Interceramic does not warranty natural stone products for shade coloration, size/ thickness variation, clefting, nor surface finish variation. Also, natural stone tiles are susceptible to cracking and pitting. Absolutely no claim will be accepted for any reason after the material has been installed.

## New Installation

Sealing is highly recommended on newly installed natural stones. Select a high quality sealer to provide maximum surface stain protection. All Interceramic Tile and Stone Galleries carry a complete line of care and maintenance products. Contact your local Interceramic Sales Representative for the appropriate product for your stone installation.

## Pre-Grout Sealing

Pre-sealing natural stone prior to grouting can make the grouting application much easier and will help protect all natural stone surfaces from grout pigment staining during the installation and grouting process. All Interceramic Tile and Stone Galleries carry a complete line of care and maintenance products. Contact your local Interceramic Sales Representative for the appropriate product for your stone installation.

## Sealing

Once the grout has properly cured it is recommended to seal the stone with a high quality penetrating sealer. Generally, stone sealers are designed to penetrate the stone leaving a no-sheen, natural look and provide protection from liquids that would otherwise absorb into and possibly stain the stone. Various maintenance products are available to enhance and highlight the character and beauty of the stone while sealing at the same time. All Interceramic Tile and Stone Galleries carry a complete line of care and maintenance products. Contact your local Interceramic Sales Representative for the appropriate product for your stone installation.

## Regular Stone Care

Interior natural stone floors should be frequently cleaned using a non-treated dry dust mop to remove dirt and dust that may scratch the surface of the stone. Mopping with a stone cleaner is recommended for routine cleaning. It is important to use a stone cleaner that is specifically designed for your particular stone. Never use vinegar or cleaners containing acid or bleach. All Interceramic Tile and Stone Galleries carry a complete line of care and maintenance products. Contact your local Interceramic Sales Representative for the appropriate product for your stone installation.

## Maintenance Products

Interceramic does not manufacture products for stone installation, stone cleaning or maintenance products. The information contained herein is intended as a general information source only. It is always recommended to test a small area before using any stone sealer, cleaner, or maintenance product. It is also recommended to follow the manufacturer's instructions and wear the appropriate protective clothing to provide a safe installation.

### Do:

- Dust mop floors frequently
- Clean surfaces with mild detergent or stone soap
- Thoroughly rinse and dry the surface after washing
- Blot up spills immediately
- Protect floor surfaces with non-slip mats or area rugs and countertop surfaces with coasters, trivets or placemats

### Don't:

- Use vinegar, lemon juice or other cleaners containing acids on marble, limestone, travertine or onyx surfaces
- Use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners
- Use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleansers or soft cleansers
- Mix bleach and ammonia; this combination creates a toxic and lethal gas
- Ever mix chemicals together unless directions specifically instruct you to do so