

Marble Care & Maintenance

Prevention is the key to keeping marbles looking new. Marble is more susceptible to staining and etching, because of the calcium carbonate component in the stone. Some liquids can etch the marble surface, even if the liquid is cleaned up immediately. In general, embrace the patina and minor imperfections marble countertops gain over the years.

Here are a few basic tips for marble countertop cleaning and care:

- Clean up spills immediately--especially oil and acidic foods such as tomato sauce, wine, coffee, fruit juice and soda.
- Hard water, if left unattended, can possibly etch the countertop due to minerals in the water. Be attentive to leaks around faucets, to prevent etching around fixtures, and keep these areas dry.
- Products specifically made for cleaning marbles are recommended for everyday cleaning.
- If stone cleaners are not available, use a damp sponge or microfiber cloth with warm water and mild dish soap to clean minor spills and loosen dirt. Repeated use of dish soap could cause residue build-up and diminish the marble's shine. Cleaners with ammonia, vinegar, and bleach can break down the sealer over time and could possibly affect the finish of the marble counters and are not recommended
- Use a hot pad or trivet under very hot pots or pans when placing them on the countertops. Use a coaster or place mat for drinks and plates to prevent accidental spills from getting on the marble countertops.
- Using a knife on your countertops can damage the knife and possibly scratch the marble. Always use a cutting board on your marble surface.

Marble Staining

Although all countertops are sealed prior to installation, a marble may stain when a substance is absorbed into the pores of the marble.

For added protection, we advise that all marble countertops be sealed with an advanced sealer designed to provide maximum protection on natural stone against the toughest oil and water-based stains. CR also offers a 25-year stain protection warranty, which is available at an additional cost.

Marble Etching

Etching is physical damage to the stone caused by contact with certain substances. Substances containing acids, such as juice, coffee, citrus, wine will immediately etch the marble. Etching is not a stain, it is a corrosive reaction which strips away the surface layer revealing raw marble. The etching will appear duller, and lighter in color. Sealers **will not** protect marble from etching.