

## Granite Care & Maintenance

There are many excellent granite cleaners that are available that are specifically formulated to clean without harming the sealer, and are available in spray and wipe options.

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

- Clean up spills immediately - especially oil and acidic foods, such as tomato sauce, wine, coffee, fruit juice and soda.
- Products specifically made for cleaning granite are recommended for everyday cleaning.
- If granite or stone cleaners are not available, use a damp sponge or microfiber cloth with warm water and mild dish soap to clean spills and loosen dirt. Repeated use of dish soap can cause residue to build up and diminish the granite's shine. Cleaning products with ammonia, vinegar, and bleach can break down the sealer over time, 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 placemat for drinks and plates to prevent accidental spills on the granite.
- Using a knife directly on your countertops can damage the knife, and possibly affect the coverage of the sealer. A cutting board should be used to prevent the sealer from being compromised by a sharp knife.
- Place a plate or tray beneath a liquid soap dispenser to prevent the possibility of staining.
- Although all countertops are sealed prior to installation, a stain may result when a substance is absorbed into the pores of the granite. For added protection, CR also offers a 25-year stain protection warranty, which is available at an additional cost.

Granite countertops are very resistant to scratching, but can be damaged under high-impact blows. Be especially careful around the sink, cooktop, or stove with heavy pots. Most chips are easy to repair. Cracking may occur if the granite is repeatedly exposed to extreme temperature changes. Granite countertops should never be stood or sat upon.

Granite countertops are composed of natural minerals and are subject to variations in background color, veining and pattern. Fissures, dry seams and pitting are naturally occurring features in granite, and are not defects. The natural characteristics will not change over time and will not affect the integrity of the stone.