

Maintenance

Keep your stone and tile looking great by following some simple precautions. The following section covers some of the most common care regimens.

Kitchen and Bathroom Counters

Many household foods, beverages, and cosmetics can degrade tile grout and damage stone. Common toiletries like perfume, mouthwash and toothpaste, as well as common foods such as orange juice and soft drinks contain acids and other ingredients that can degrade sealer or damage your stone's surface.

Whether you have stone slab counters or stone, ceramic, or porcelain tile counters, using STONETECH® Stone & Tile Cleaner will remove residues from cooking oils, everyday food spills, and hairspray.

Stone and Tile Floors

Clean your interior stone and tile floors frequently using a clean, non-treated dry dust mop, as abrasive particles of sand and dirt can damage natural stone and tile surfaces. Mats outside your entrance ways will help minimize damage. Use caution when using a vacuum cleaner as the metal or plastic attachments and wheels can scratch the surface.

Damp-mop your stone or tile floor with a properly diluted solution of one of the daily STONETECH stone & tile cleaners. Avoid walking until floor is completely dry, as wet stone and tile floors tend to be slippery!

Bath and Other Wet Areas

Frequent use of STONETECH Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector or STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner will minimize soap scum and mineral deposits. In the bath, shower or other wet areas, using a squeegee after each use can minimize these common residues.

Read and follow the step-by-step instructions on the back label of all STONETECH products. As needed re-seal with STONETECH sealers.

What to Do When a Spill Occurs

It usually doesn't take long for common household spills to occur as a result of cooking near, playing on, and just simply living with natural stone. No matter how careful you are, spills are going to happen.

Food and Drink Spills

Quickly scoop up a food spill or wipe up a liquid spill with a clean, dry cloth. Spray the area with STONETECH Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector and wipe with a clean, dry cloth. Repeat if necessary.

Challenging Spills

Pets and kids can potentially present you with the messiest stone and tile care challenges. Spills should be cleaned up as quickly as possible to minimize damage caused by acids. To Clean the area, spray your stone with STONETECH Revitalizer Cleaner & Protector and wipe with a clean, dry cloth.

Mud

Let mud stains dry completely before removing with a soft plastic or nylon brush. Spray affected area with STONETECH Stone and Tile Cleaner. Wipe dry with a clean cloth. Repeat if necessary. If the stain remains, contact a stone care professional.

Oily Stains

If the stain is oil-based (from foods like salad dressing, cooking oils, butter or some cosmetics), use STONETECH Oil Stain Remover to wick up the stain from deep within the stone.



Passion For Stone

We believe that natural stone and tile are precious materials that deserve to be treated with the utmost care. That's why we manufacture only the best quality care products — products formulated by scientists who understand how to care for stone and tile surfaces.

If after reading this booklet you feel you still have questions, visit www.stonetechn.com, which hosts a trove of information on how to care for just about every type of stone and tile.

While you're there, be sure to browse the site. You'll find comprehensive maintenance care instructions, do-it yourself project tips, frequently asked questions, and information on buying STONETECH® products. There's a wealth of information on the site to help you understand the world of stone and tile.

We are also here to assist over the phone, and our customer service and technical service personnel are pleased to go the extra step to find a solution that is right for you.

Our goal is to keep your stone and tile looking beautiful for a lifetime.

To learn more, be sure to visit our website: www.stonetechn.com

For questions, call 1.888.786.6343 to speak with a technical service representative.

Protect



STONETECH® BulletProof® Sealer

Provides maximum protection against most stains while preserving the look of natural stone surfaces. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer

Provides heavy duty protection against most stains while preserving the look of natural stone surfaces. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

STONETECH Heavy Duty Exterior Sealer

Provides heavy duty protection against water-based stains on natural stone surfaces. Solvent-based formula for exterior use.

STONETECH Advanced Grout Sealer

Grout and seal the same day! Provides maximum protection against water- and oil-based stains in a convenient aerosol spray.

STONETECH Heavy Duty Grout Sealer

Provides heavy duty protection for grout on ceramic and porcelain tile. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

STONETECH Natural Stone Countertop Sealer

Combines STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer technology for superior protection against oil and water-based stains with the convenience of a spray dispenser.

STONETECH Stain Protecting Grout Additive

Grout and seal in one easy step! Water-based, professional grade additive provides built-in stain protection without affecting grout color.

Clean



STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector

Gentle daily cleaner and protector with built-in sealer for all natural stone surfaces.

STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner

Ready-to-use daily cleaner with a gentle formula for use on all natural stone, ceramic and porcelain tile surfaces.

STONETECH KlenzAll™ Cleaner

Professional strength, alkaline-based formula powers through the most stubborn greasy messes on natural stone surfaces.

STONETECH DeepKlenz™ Cleaner

Ready-to-use, heavy duty cleaner eliminates deep and stubborn dirt and stains from stone and grout.

STONETECH Restore™ Acidic Cleaner

Professional strength, acidic formula removes hard water deposits, grout haze and efflorescence. Great for ceramic and porcelain tile.

STONETECH Oil Stain Remover

Advanced formula easily pulls out deep-set oil stains on natural stone surfaces. Leaves no residue.

STONETECH Mold & Mildew Stain Remover

Specially formulated for natural stone, to clean away mold and mildew stains without degrading stone or grout.

STONETECH Soap Scum Remover

Removes stubborn soap scum, hard water stains, and dirt without scratching your natural stone, ceramic, porcelain or glass tile.

Transform



STONETECH® Polish

Adds a quick, brilliant shine to polished stone without leaving a greasy film. Great for all polished natural stone surfaces.

STONETECH Enhancer Sealer

Deepens the natural color of stone while providing protection against all stains. Water-based formula for all interior natural stone surfaces.

STONETECH Enhancer Pro™ Sealer

Our 2 in 1 sealer and enhancer protects and deepens the natural color of the stone. A solvent based formula for interior and exterior use.

STONETECH Gloss Finishing Sealer

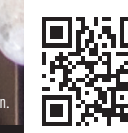
Available in High Gloss or Semi Gloss finish, these topical coatings provide shine and deepen the color of natural stone. Recommended for textured/tumbled natural stone.



STONETECH®

STONE & TILE CARE GUIDE

Keeping Stone & Tile Beautiful™



Snap for more information.

Globally Proven Construction Solutions



Congratulations!

You did it—you made the right choice. By choosing natural stone or premium tile you made an excellent investment. You know that your new stone or tile will give you years of functionality, but what you may not know is that in order to retain its beauty, some simple, yet important maintenance is needed.

The good news is that STONETECH® makes caring for natural stone and tile surfaces simple. By following the simple do's and don'ts in this booklet, you will extend the life—and help preserve the value—of your stone or tile investment.

An Ounce of Prevention-Protective Sealers

The best way to prevent stains on stone is to treat it with a STONETECH® protective sealer. Natural stone can be very porous. Sealers repel spills on the surface, giving you time to wipe them away before they have a chance to penetrate your stone. Some sealers can enhance (darken) your stone while others retain the stone's natural hue. Also, different stone types require different grades of sealer depending on what you will be using your stone for and what you want your stone to look like.

As kiln-fired products, ceramic and porcelain tile are nearly impervious to liquids and rarely need sealing. Tile grout on the other hand, is another story. It is generally cement-based, very porous, and needs to be sealed. Penetrating grout sealers like STONETECH Advanced Grout Sealer work best to protect grout joints against water and oil-based stains.

Step Away from the Household Cleaner

Once your stone or tile is sealed with a STONETECH sealer, cleanup is a snap. But what should you use for everyday cleaning?

You wouldn't use a harsh, ordinary household cleaner to wash your nice car, would you? Natural stone demands the same kind of attention - it needs cleaning products that are specifically made for its unique mineral composition. For everyday cleaning, STONETECH Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector cleans with a gentle formula that removes soiling while reinforcing the original protective seal to help prevent future staining.

General cleaners that are not specifically formulated for natural stone or tile are never recommended. These can break down the sealer, removing its protective properties and making the stone or tile grout susceptible to stains.

Worse yet, many cleaning products, including those that contain abrasives, lemon, vinegar, bleach or ammonia can etch away the polish, degrade the sealer, discolor the surface, or even scratch your stone. Avoid using these products. In short, if it isn't a STONETECH product, it isn't good enough for your stone or tile.

Etch Marks-Those Aren't Water Stains

While everyday messes aren't the end of the world, many common household items have the power to degrade the beauty of your stone or tile.

Etching is a result of a chemical reaction that occurs when acid comes in contact with a susceptible surface. Etch marks on stone surfaces resemble water spots or a worn polish.

Seemingly innocent items like orange juice, coffee, vinegar, wine, tomato products, mustard and many soft drinks are highly acidic. These items will etch, dull or discolor most marble, limestone, travertine, and grout. Ceramic and porcelain tile, and acid-resistant stones such as most granite, slate and sandstone will typically not etch.

Sealing will give you time to wipe up a spill, but sealers cannot stop the chemical reaction that may leave an etch mark or dull spot. Remember to always use coasters and place mats on the acid-sensitive stones.



DOs and DON'Ts

DO use STONETECH® sealers to protect your stone and tile.

DO clean up spills immediately to minimize damage to your stone and tile.

DO use trivets or mats under hot dishes and cookware.

DO use place mats under china, ceramics, silver and other objects that can scratch your stone's surface.

DO place a small rug or a mat at entry ways to trap dirt and sand from normal foot traffic.

DO dust or carefully vacuum countertops, islands, vanities and floors frequently.

DO use coasters under glasses, especially if they contain alcohol or citrus juices.

DO clean surfaces regularly with STONETECH Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector, or STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner.

DO call the STONETECH Technical Support Help Line for maintenance assistance. 1.888.786.6364

DON'T wait to clean up spills on stone. Clean them up as quickly as possible.

DON'T use vinegar, bleach, ammonia, or general purpose cleaners, bathroom cleaners or tub and tile cleaners.

DON'T use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleansers or soft cleansers.

DON'T use alkaline cleaners not specifically formulated for stone.



LATICRETE International, Inc. | One LATICRETE Park North, Bethany, CT 06524-3423 USA
1.888.786.6343 | +1.203.393.0010 | www.stonetechnology.com

DS082.80616/F16645 ©2016 LATICRETE International, Inc. All trademarks shown are the intellectual properties of their respective owners.