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## Cleaning, Protecting and Maintenance of Granite

Today the term Granite is used for a variety of hard stones with different mineralogical properties. Therefore, the recommendations given in this statement are most suitable for gneiss, gabbros, syenite etc. regardless whether the material is used on floors, wall or kitchen work tops. These surfaces can be polished (even laser-treated) or honed. The materials commonly referred to as granite do have one thing in common; they are very hard and robust. The susceptibility to staining varies depending on the density of the material stone and ranges from not sensitive to highly sensitive. Correct treatment is vital to preserve the extraordinary qualities of these materials.

### Initial cleaning of newly installed surfaces

In order to achieve a clean and clear surface, residues remaining on the surface after grouting must be completely removed. Use MN Builders-Clean (only on materials that are not sensitive to acidic cleaners) diluted with clear water 1:10 depending on the strength of the residues. Brushing the surface will support and enhance the effectiveness of the cleaning agent.

### Non-typical types of dirt

Light oil and grease residues as well as care product residues are easily removed with MN Power-Clean.

In extremely stubborn cases and on tar, wax, glazes, sealants etc use WAX-OFF. Deeply ingrained oil stains are best removed with OIL-EX. Lime deposits, rust, efflorescence and water stains on acid resistant materials can be removed with MN Builder-Clean.

### Protection

Most stones become easier to maintain and less sensitive to staining when they are protected with an impregnating sealer.

Using impregnating sealers MN Stain-Stop and MN Stain-Stop >W< makes the surface water, dirt, oil and grease resistant without changing the surface appearance for at least 10-15 years with correct maintenance. These products are especially suitable for areas which are prone to staining such as kitchen, bathroom and dining areas. Impregnate high water areas such as a shower recess with MN Stain-Stop every 12 months.

## Maintenance

All natural stone surfaces should be wiped regularly or daily if required in commercial locations. Simply add a squirt of MN Easy-Care to a 10-litre bucket of lukewarm water and wash with a short stand mop.

These products will clean and maintain the surface in one step. With continued use, surfaces become more beautiful and less sensitive. For kitchen bench tops, vanities, bars, window sills, glass, stainless steel and other small areas

MN Easy-Clean Spray is a ready to use streak-less daily natural stone cleaner. To enhance the shine and increase surface protection, occasionally use MN Polish-Cream on all polished tops.

Outdoors: Regularly use MN Easy-Care. Green stains left by plants and general dirt can be removed with MN Power-Clean. For structured surfaces a brush or brushing machine is helpful. Algae and moss can be effectively removed and prevented from returning for many months by using ALGEX.

With correct maintenance impregnating sealers will last for at least 10-15 years indoors and approximately 7-10 years outdoors. Maintenance products assist the lifetime of the sealers and the appearance of the stone surface. The use of incorrect cleaners will affect the longevity of the sealer and stones composition.

Important: Avoid using, resting or placing products on your granite surfaces that may contain methylated spirits, bleaches, chlorine, acid, citric acid and corrosives. These types of products can cause permanent damage to the stones composition and will break down the sealer. Limit the use of wax or acrylate-based products as they promote a build up of layers.

Incompatible products reduce the longevity of sealed surfaces and will affect the stones composition.

This information should be considered to be informal and non-binding. The products must be used according to local conditions and materials. Instructions must be read carefully and followed closely, Technical Information sheet available. When no previous experience is available, or in case of doubt, test the product in an inconspicuous area.

## The Process

<i>Granite tiles</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Granite tops</i>
(if required) pre-seal with <b>PRO</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	seal with <b>MN Stain-Stop</b>
removing grout residue during grouting	<b>Step 2</b>	maintain regularly with
-adding <b>MN Easy-Care</b> to the sponge water will enhance the cleaning process		<b>MN Easy-Clean spray</b>
clean with <b>MN Builders-Clean</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	occasionally apply <b>MN Polish-Cream</b>
-dilute 1:15 with clear water		to polished surfaces only
seal with <b>MN Stain-Stop</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	
maintain regularly with <b>MN Easy-Care</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	

## Cleaning

<i>Removing</i>	<i>Recommend Product</i>
stubborn & heavy dirt deposits, care product residues, grease & oil residues, soap residues, heavy traffic areas	<b>MN Power-Clean</b>
wax layers, sealants, fresh tar and paint, soot, liquid paper	<b>WAX-OFF</b>
lime deposits, rust, efflorescence, water stains, and grout residue	<b>MN Builders-Clean</b>
algae, moss	<b>ALGEX</b>
deeply engrained oil stains	<b>OIL-EX</b>

## Maintenance

<i>Area</i>	<i>Recommended Product</i>
every-day cleaning of floors	<b>MN Easy-Care</b>
every-day cleaning of tops and vanities	<b>MN Easy-Clean spray</b>
regular cleaning of wet areas (shower, bath)	<b>MN Easy-Care</b>
occasional thorough cleaning of wet areas	<b>MN Power-Clean</b>

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Incompatible products reduce the longevity of sealed surfaces and will damage the stone composition.

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