

granite

The term granite includes crystalline igneous and sometimes metamorphic rocks with a wide range of compositions and textures. True granite is a crystalline stone composed of light coloured minerals such as quartz and feldspars with only a small amount of dark minerals. Gneiss Granite however is a high grade metamorphic rock. Granites are igneous and are found in many different colours. Granite is a hard, robust and durable stone.

CHEMICAL COMPATIBILITIES

Acids - Granite is relatively resistant to acids. However, before using an acid cleaner it is recommended that pre-testing is done. After using an acid cleaner always rinse well and neutralize the treated surface.

Alaklis - Granite can safely be cleaned with alkaline cleaners.

CLEANING

Grout Smear

Grout smear is normally removed by the installer of the stone. Any residual grout or cement films should be removed with T&G Cleaner Pro using a white (non scratch) buffing or scourer pad.

General Grime and Oils

Soil build-ups, fats and stubborn oily spots are effectively removed with T&G Cleaner Pro. If the Granite is coated with an acrylic sealer/polish then Proneutro should be used.

Mould & Mildew

Mould & mildew on granite is effectively removed with Chlorosan. Many stains caused by food spills and plant matter can also be removed in the same way. Sealing granite with a penetrating sealer will dramatically reduce future mould and mildew growth.

Lime Scale & Mineral Deposits

Lime scale and mineral deposits are most effectively removed using Stone Gel Pro and a white (non scratch) buffing or scourer pad. Soap scum is also removed using this method.

MAINTENANCE

Commercial & Institutions

Use Proneutro for easy and effective results in the maintenance cleaning of tiled areas in homes, hospitals and care facilities, offices, institutions etc. Proneutro must also be used as a maintenance cleaner if the granite is coated with an acrylic polymer sealer/polish.

Use T&G Cleaner Pro for cleaning areas subject to heavy use and soiling such as shopping malls, walkways and outdoor areas.

PROTECTION

Granite, although dense and very hard, is a porous stone and needs to be sealed with either a penetrating sealer or a topical/surface sealer, depending on the area of use.

Pre Grout Sealing

Pre-sealing is not normally required with granite. If it is unusually porous (normally lighter colours), apply one coat of an Actichem penetrating sealer prior to grouting. This will simplify grout smear clean-up.

Penetrating Sealer

The use of a penetrating sealer is necessary to protect granite from damage caused by acidic food spills and oily soils. A penetrating sealer does not protect the granite's surface from abrasion caused by foot traffic. So in some flooring applications a topical surface sealer is recommended.

Topical/Surface Sealers (flooring)

Polished granite becomes quickly dulled by abrasive foot traffic as the highly honed surface gets scratched. To protect this highly polished floor surface it is recommended that the floor is protected with an acrylic polymer polish. This surface sealer will protect the floor from abrasive foot traffic and acts as a sacrificial coating which protects the inherent beauty of the granite. The floor can then be maintained and buffed using standard hard floor techniques.

Restoration

When a polished granite surface has been severely worn and damaged by constant use, it may require re-grinding