

How to Shine Granite Countertops Naturally

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Known for its polished and shiny finish granite countertops are the most common natural stone countertop surface. In order to preserve the integrity of granite stone, a sealant is used on top of the countertop surfaces to keep the granite looking good as new. The sealer also makes granite countertops resistant to stains and scratches. Granite is a diverse natural stone it can be used for granite kitchen countertops, bathroom countertops, backsplashes, vanities, and so much more.

If you want to give your granite countertops a fresh shine here is a method for you!

Products you will need:

Spray Bottle

Warm Water

Soft Cloth or Paper Towel Dish Soap

Essential Oil (optional)

Rubbing alcohol

There are many different combinations for granite cleaning solutions but there is no right or wrong way as long as you are using the right products.

Marble.com recommends using dish soap and water to clean your countertop surfaces. If you want to use a stronger cleaning solution you can use rubbing alcohol found at the local drug store. To ensure your house doesn't smell too potent from the rubbing alcohol you can add a few drops of essential oil in your favorite scent for a pleasant smell.

How to properly clean granite countertops:

Granite is one of the most hygienic surfaces since it is resistant to bacteria. It is important for homeowners to regularly and properly clean granite surfaces specifically in high traffic areas of the home such as the kitchen and bathroom. Regular cleaning of your countertops will keep your household happy and healthy by making it germ-free and look good as new.

There are two recommended ways to clean and disinfect granite countertops both of which use items you most likely already have in your home. The first method we highly recommend is antibacterial

dish soap and water. The second method is isopropyl alcohol and water mixture. Isopropyl alcohol, commonly known as rubbing alcohol mixed with water is an effective disinfectant solution for disinfecting granite.

There are also specific cleaner “made for granite” so if you want to make the cleaning process fast and as easy as possible you can purchase granite cleaner for your home. No matter what method you choose maintaining the proper care of your granite surfaces will keep them looking good as new.

How to keep my granite shiny?

If you have dull granite using specific granite shining products or polish is the best way to keep your granite countertops shiny. There are DIY methods online claiming to use a small amount of cooking oil on your granite surfaces but we do not recommend it. Using a natural tone polishing product every few weeks will keep your granite countertop like new.

If granite is dull beyond repair you can simply reseal it! A common misconception among granite countertop owners is that they need a professional service to reseal their countertops. Homeowners can purchase a natural stone sealer and apply it themselves to help retain granite's natural shine and protect it from damage.

Items to Help preserve granite countertops surfaces:

Even though granite countertops are extremely durable being heat, scratch, and stain-resistant it always helps to take precautionary measures to ensure the beauty of your granite stays intact.

Cutting Boards: Using a cutting board is highly recommended on granite surfaces. This will prevent any markings on the surface itself as well as keep knives sharp. Since granite countertops are so durable they have dulling effects on sharp kitchen utensils.

Coasters: Using a coaster in your home can prevent drinks places on your countertop surfaces from leaving ring marks.

Hot Pads: If you have ever had non-heat-resistant countertops you definitely own a hot pad and there is no reason for it to fall to the wayside once you get natural stone granite. Is a great precaution to take no matter what type of countertop you have.

What NOT to use when disinfecting Granite:

Common household clean products such as Lysol and Clorox are a big no-no when cleaning and disinfecting granite countertops. No acidic, alkaline, or harsh cleaners should be used on Granite. Beware of common household products such as nail polish remover, glass cleaner, and bleach on granite surfaces since these substances will weaken the sealant on your granite.

What kind of stains might granite have?

Granite is a low maintenance countertop material. Granite is a very durable stone that is resistant to scratching, cracking, and chipping. Unfortunately, though these countertops are not 100% stain resistant.

There are two types of stains that happen on granite surface organic stains and oil-based stains. Organic stains are caused by spills of coffee, tea, wine, fruit juice, or food that can cause a brownish

stain. Oil-based stains are caused by nail polish, cosmetics, or cooking oil can make the stone darker causing a section of the darker area. Luckily these stains will not ruin granite countertops and are easy to remove.

How to remove stain from granite?

Just like when cleaning granite, there is an at-home remedy for removing stains from granite that does not require you to purchase an additional product. Using baking soda and water, make a paste. Use the paste to scrub the granite surface using a soft bristle brush, sponge, or washcloth. For tough stains, this process may take several tries.

If you do not have time to diligently scrub out stains you can leave the paste on the stain until it dries. You can leave the paste there for as long as you see fit. Once you feel it has been on for a significant amount of time, rinse with warm water, and repeat until the stain has been removed.

Good Products for Cleaning & Disinfecting Granite

Anti-Bacterial Soap

Isopropyl Alcohol

Specific Granite Cleaner Products

Bad Products for Cleaning & Disinfecting Granite

Acidic Cleaners ex: vinegar

Harsh Cleaning Products ex: Clorox Bleach, Windex, & Lysol

Alkaline Cleaners ex: Sodium Hydroxide

Steps to Remove Stains from Granite

Step 1:

Apply a granite cleaner or baking soda & water paste

Step 2:

Gently scrub with a soft-bristled brush or sponge

Step 3:

Rinse and wipe down with a microfiber cloth

Granite Prices

Granite countertop price with installation often varies and depends on the stone, the installation location. The stone price also depends on many factors such as country of origin, rareness, current import taxes and fees, transportation cost, and much more. Typically the total costs of granite

countertops are between \$2,000 - \$5,000. Pricing may vary based on many factors such as the size of the surface and type of stone. Having granite countertops is an investment in your home therefore it is best to proactively take care of them keeping them good as new.