

How To Clean Granite Counter Tops

Basic Cleaning:

To keep granite counter tops clean, use a microfiber cloth to dust off the surface. Often a microfiber cleaning cloth, even a dry one, is all that is needed for basic cleaning.

For times when spills or daily life happen, try to wipe down the granite counter top daily or as needed using only water. Once a week wipe your granite counter tops down with a damp cloth and a stone cleaner formulate with a neutral pH. Never use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners on your counter tops, even if you think the stain or mess needs it. These types of cleaners can scratch, pit and etch the surface of the stone permanently.

For oily stains that have soaked into the granite, try a poultice made of a cup of flour or baking soda and 5 tablespoons of dish soap. Add water to make it the consistency of sour cream or yogurt. Place the solution directly on the stain and cover with plastic wrap overnight, before washing away the poultice. Be sure to gently rinse the counter tops and dry thoroughly.

Seasonal Maintenance:

Sealing is a regular maintenance task for granite that cannot be ignored. There is a simple test that you can do to determine if your counter tops need to be sealed again. Splash a little water on the surface of the counter top.

Watch to see if the water sits on the counter top in small bead-like shapes or flows freely. Reseal the counter top when water splashed on the surface no longer beads up. Be sure to perform this test on areas that get the most use. It's important to examine your granite at least once a year. Inspect areas to make sure there is no cracking or shifting at the seams. Inspect for stains and scratches as well. If there are stains or damage, contact a stone care professional for repair. Delaying repair or treatment can lead to larger and more expensive repairs or even the need for a total replacement.