

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 sealers or damage your stone's surface.

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

Stone or 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. Also, be careful 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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional stone and tile cleaners. Avoid walking on the floor until completely dry, as wet stone and tile floors tend to be slippery!

Bath and Other Wet Areas

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

Be sure to read and follow the step-by-step instructions on the back label of all DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional products. As needed re-seal with DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 the food and wipe up the liquid spill with a clean, dry cloth. Spray the area with Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector and wipe with a clean, dry cloth. Repeat if necessary.

Excreta

Pets and kids can potentially present you with the messiest stone and tile care challenges—urine, feces, and vomit to name a few. Needless to say, these should all be cleaned up as quickly as possible to minimize damage caused by acids. Dispose of the waste, spray your stone with Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector and wipe with a clean, dry cloth.

Mud

Let the mud stain dry completely before removing dried mud with a soft plastic or nylon brush. Spray affected area with a DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 you know the stain is oil-based (from foods like salad dressing, cooking oils, butter or some cosmetics), use DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Oil Stain Remover to wick up the stain from deep within the stone.



Passion For Stone

DuPont is passionate about stone and tile. 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.

At DuPont StoneTech® Professional, we're committed to making it easy for people to live with and care for every type of tile and natural stone.

If after reading this booklet you feel you still have questions, visit our online knowledge center at stonetechpro.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 care instructions, do-it yourself project

tips, frequently asked questions, and information on buying DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 Web site:

www.stonetechpro.com

For technical questions or problems, call 1-888-786-6343 to speak with a technical service representative.

For customer service, call 877-786-6383.



PROTECT

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

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

Heavy Duty Exterior Sealer: Provides heavy duty protection against water-based stains on natural stone surfaces. Solvent-based formula for exterior use.

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

Heavy Duty Grout Sealer: Provides heavy duty protection for grout on ceramic and porcelain tile. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

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

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

CLEAN

Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector: Gentle daily cleaner and protector with built-in sealer for all natural stone surfaces.

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

Restore™ Acidic Cleaner: Professional strength, acidic formula removes hard water deposits, grout haze, efflorescence and soap scum. Great for ceramic and porcelain tile.

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

Sanitizer: Kills bacteria without damaging sealed natural stone surfaces; effective for household use as a cleaner, sanitizer, and deodorizer.

Mold & Mildew Stain Remover: Specially formulated for natural stone, to clean away mold and mildew stains without degrading stone or grout.

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

TRANSFORM

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

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

Gloss Finishing Sealers: 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.



**DUPONT™ STONETECH®
PROFESSIONAL**

STONE & TILE CARE GUIDE

Keeping Stone & Tile Beautiful™

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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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. The chart at the end of this booklet will aid you in your sealer selection.

As kiln-fired products, ceramic and porcelain tile are nearly impervious to liquid. 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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional sealer, clean up 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, DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector cleans with a gentle formula that removes soils while reinforcing the original protective seal to help prevent future staining.

General cleaners not specifically formulated for natural stone or tile are never recommended. These can break down the sealer, thereby 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, discolor the surface, or even scratch your stone. Avoid using these products. In short, if it isn't a DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 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 and will etch, discolor, or even scratch most marble, limestone and 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 it cannot stop the chemical reaction that may leave a dull mark. Remember to always use coasters and place mats on these acid-sensitive stones.



DOs and DON'Ts

- **DO** use DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional 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 DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional Revitalizer® or Stone & Tile Cleaner.
- **DO** call the StoneTech® Professional Technical Support Help Line for maintenance assistance.
- **DON'T** wait to clean up spills on stone. Clean up as quickly as possible.
- **DON'T** use dish soap, 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.

See the reverse side for more information on Maintenance and Spills.

DuPont™ StoneTech® Professional
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