

QM Natural Stone – Care & Maintenance Guide

Keeping your surfaces looking as flawless as the day they were installed.

Natural stone surfaces do need to be properly maintained if they are to remain in pristine condition and it should be remembered that they are not indestructible or completely scratch and stain proof. All of the natural stone surfaces we produce are sealed before they leave the factory and on-going maintenance is a generally simple, inexpensive affair involving a common-sense cleaning regime combined with the use of proprietary sealants and maintenance products –the following tips may help:

- Prevent the worksurface from being in contact with very hot items such as pots and pans, try to use appropriate stands.
- Immediately wipe away oil and fat stains surrounding the hob when cooking.
- Keep an eye on lime scale building up around the taps and draining grooves as lime scale can be damaging. Use a green scourer in the draining grooves if they start to look dull.
- Always wipe down the worksurface after use and prevent standing water.
- Try to use appropriate cleaning materials and avoid chemicals that contain high levels of acid or alkali. We recommend the use of the maintenance products provided in our Care Kits that are provided with each worktop. Replacement products are readily available please contact us.
- Use appropriate chopping boards and try to avoid cutting directly on the worksurface.
- Try to prevent the following substances from having prolonged contact with the worksurface: concentrated food colouring, alcohol, beetroot, lemon and other acidic or alkaline substances.
- A thorough clean and re-application of sealant every 6-12 months is recommended.

Adherence to these guidelines should keep the worksurface looking as good as new. However, should customers prefer to ignore the above guidelines, a natural stone surface will eventually develop an aged patina and, together with any scratches and stains sustained in normal everyday use, will result in a particular and unique "character" similar in appearance to that of an antique piece of furniture. This approach also has its' merits.