AMUNATURAL

formed by nature • finished for living



Care & Maintenance Guide by AMUSTONE

Marble • Quartzite • Granite • Limestone • Dolomite

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Welcome to

AMU NATURAL

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Your natural stone

Formed by nature. Finished for living.
Thank you for choosing natural stone from AMU Stone.
Each slab has formed over millions of years, creating individual colour, veining, movement and mineral character. No two slabs - or even two sections of the same slab - will ever be exactly alike.

Natural stone is a durable, long-lasting surface designed to be enjoyed. As a natural material, its characteristics vary between stone types and finishes, and subtle changes may develop over time as the stone becomes part of your home.

A few simple care steps will help keep your stone looking its best for years to come.

Natural features & slab treatments

Depending on the stone selected, natural characteristics and industry-standard slab treatments may include:

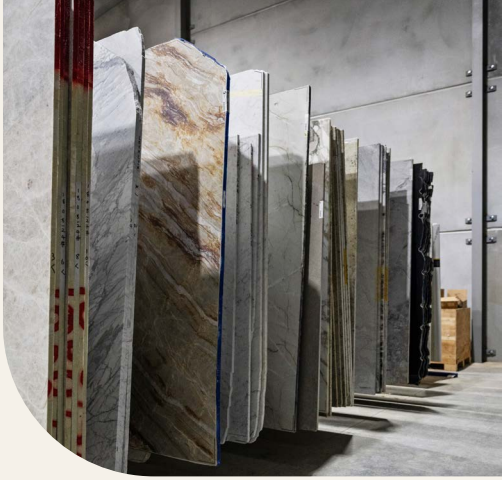
- Variation in colour, pattern and veining
- Fissures, mineral lines and inclusions
- Pits, pores and small surface voids
- Crystalline areas and mineral deposits
- Natural variation in texture and surface finish
- Resin-filled areas or reinforcement applied during slab production
- Tonal variation between slabs and within the same slab



PART OF THE MATERIAL
These characteristics are part of what makes natural stone unique and do not indicate a fault. They reflect the geological formation of the stone and, where applicable, the processes used to prepare and strengthen the slab for fabrication.

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Know your stone



Different stones. Different characteristics.
Every natural stone has its own characteristics.
Knowing the stone installed in your home will help you choose the most suitable cleaning and care products.

MARBLE

Known for its distinctive veining, movement and depth of colour, marble has been used in architecture and interiors for centuries.

Marble is primarily composed of calcium carbonate, which makes it relatively soft, porous and sensitive to acidic substances. If a spill occurs, blot the area first with a clean cloth or paper towel, then clean with water and a suitable stone-safe cleaner. Rinse and dry thoroughly to help protect the surface and maintain its finish.

DOLOMITE

Dolomite is valued for its soft movement and marble-like appearance and can offer greater scratch resistance than many marbles.

It remains a carbonate-based natural stone, so simple care around acidic spills is recommended.

LIMESTONE

Limestone has a naturally soft, understated appearance and develops beautiful character over time.

Its porosity and composition can vary, so appropriate sealing and stone-safe cleaning products will help maintain its appearance.

QUARTZITE

Quartzite is a naturally dense stone formed predominantly from quartz-rich sandstone. True quartzite is generally very hard and highly resistant to everyday scratching.

As mineral composition and surface treatments can vary between materials, care recommendations should be matched to the particular stone installed.

GRANITE

Granite is generally dense, durable and highly resistant to everyday scratching, making it well suited to hardworking areas of the home.

Like all natural stone, mineral composition and porosity vary, so using suitable cleaning products and normal surface protection is recommended.

NOT SURE?
Natural stone names and classifications can vary across the industry. If you are unsure what has been installed or which care product to use, contact AMU Stone and we can help.

Everyday care

Simple care. Long-term protection.

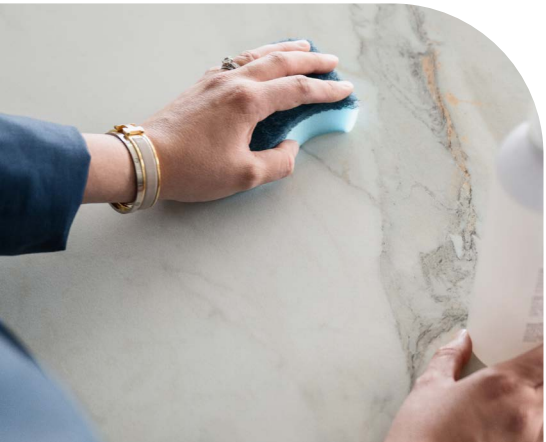
EVERYDAY CLEANING

- Remove loose crumbs, dust and grit before wiping.
- Use warm water with a clean, soft cloth and a pH-neutral cleaner specifically formulated for natural stone.
- Use cleaning products sparingly and follow the product directions.
- Rinse away cleaner residue where required, then dry with a clean microfibre cloth to reduce streaks and water marks.
- If trying a new product, test it on a small, inconspicuous area first.

SPILLS

For everyday spills, simply blot the area with a clean white cloth or paper towel, then clean with water and a suitable stone-safe cleaner. Rinse and dry thoroughly.

It's best to wipe up acidic or strongly coloured spills, such as citrus, vinegar, wine, coffee and oils, as soon as practical.



Prompt cleaning helps maintain the appearance of your stone and reduces the chance of liquids penetrating the surface or affecting acid-sensitive materials.

FOOD PREPARATION

Natural stone is designed to be used and enjoyed. As you would with most quality benchtop surfaces, use a chopping board for food preparation and trivets for hot cookware.

Coasters can also be useful beneath drinks containing citrus or alcohol, particularly on acid-sensitive stones.

Lift heavy or rough-bottomed cookware and appliances rather than dragging them across the surface.

DRYING DISHES & GLASSWARE

Where possible, avoid leaving wet dishes, glassware or cookware sitting on natural stone for extended periods.

An absorbent cloth or drying mat can be used beneath wet items to help prevent prolonged moisture sitting on the surface.

FLOORS, WALLS & WET AREAS

For natural stone used beyond the kitchen:

- Dust-mop floors regularly and use non-scratch vacuum attachments.
- Use entrance mats to reduce tracked-in grit.
- Squeegee wet areas where practical and maintain good ventilation.
- Choose bathroom cleaning products that are suitable for natural stone.



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Simple ways to protect your stone

A few everyday habits will help maintain the finish of your natural stone.

CHOOSE STONE-SAFE CLEANERS
For routine cleaning, use products specifically suitable for natural stone.

Avoid highly acidic, abrasive or aggressive cleaning products such as vinegar-based cleaners, citrus cleaners, oven or drain cleaners and abrasive scourers unless the product has been specifically approved for your particular stone.

Products described as “natural” are not necessarily formulated for natural stone, so check the label or speak with the AMU Stone team if you are unsure.

HEAT
Natural stone handles everyday kitchen use well, but a trivet or heat-resistant mat is recommended beneath very hot cookware and heat-producing appliances.

This also helps protect the stone, sealer and surrounding cabinetry from prolonged or concentrated heat.

EDGES & CUT-OUTS
As with any stone benchtop, edges, overhangs and areas around sinks and cooktops are more vulnerable to heavy impact than the main surface.

Avoid sitting or standing on benchtops and take normal care with heavy objects around these areas.

SCRATCHING
Use chopping boards for food preparation and lift heavy or abrasive objects rather than dragging them across the surface.



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Sealing your natural stone

Helping protect your stone for everyday living.
Many natural stones benefit from an impregnating sealer, which helps reduce the absorption of water, oils and other liquids.

A quality sealer provides additional time to wipe up spills and helps make ongoing care easier.

WHAT DOES A SEALER DO?

Sealing improves the stone's resistance to absorption and staining, but it does not create an impermeable coating over the surface.

Spills should still be cleaned within a reasonable time, and acid-sensitive stones can still react with acidic substances.

This is a normal characteristic of the material rather than a failure of the sealer.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD STONE BE RESEALED?

There is no one-size-fits-all resealing schedule.

How often a stone requires resealing depends on the stone itself, its finish, the sealer used, how the surface is used and how it is maintained.

Rather than automatically resealing at a set interval, monitor the performance of the surface. If liquids appear to absorb more readily than they previously did, or you are unsure about the existing treatment, contact AMU Stone for advice.

AMU STONE CARE PRODUCTS

AMU Stone supplies selected Lithofin cleaning, maintenance and sealing products suitable for natural stone.

The best product will depend on your particular stone, finish and application. If you are unsure which product to use, speak with our team and we can help you choose the right option.

Always follow the product manufacturer's application and safety instructions.

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Marks, etching & repairs

Natural stone can often be professionally restored.
Many natural stones can be professionally repaired or restored and, depending on the material and finish, marks that occur over time can often be improved or treated.

If something does occur, identifying what you are seeing before applying a treatment will help achieve the best result.



STAINING

A stain occurs when a substance is absorbed into the stone and creates a darker or discoloured area.

If a spill leaves a mark after normal cleaning, avoid experimenting with strong household products. Stone-specific treatments are available and many stains can be successfully treated.

Contact AMU Stone if you are unsure of the best approach.

ETCHING

On acid-sensitive stones such as marble, limestone and dolomite, contact with an acidic substance can occasionally alter the sheen of the surface.

This is known as etching and is different from staining.

Minor etching may gradually form part of the natural patina of the stone, while more noticeable areas can often be professionally honed or repolished if desired.

CHIPS, CRACKS & SCRATCHES

Natural stone is durable, but like any hard surface it can be affected by significant impact.

Minor marks may develop through everyday use, particularly on softer stones. If a chip, deeper scratch or crack occurs, contact a stone professional before attempting a repair yourself.

PATINA

Natural stone evolves with use.

Over time, subtle changes in sheen, fine marks or small variations may combine to create a patina. This is part of the character of genuine natural stone and is one of the qualities that distinguishes it from a manufactured surface.

BEFORE TREATING

If you are ever unsure about a mark or change in your stone, contact the AMU Stone team before applying a specialist treatment.





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Your stone.
For years to come.

Formed by nature. Finished for living.
Natural stone has been used in homes and architecture for generations because of its beauty, individuality, durability and longevity.

It isn't designed to remain untouched. It is designed to become part of the home.

With simple everyday care, your natural stone can continue to perform beautifully and develop character for many years to come.





QUICK CARE GUIDE

EVERYDAY CARE

- ✓ Use pH-neutral products suitable for natural stone
- ✓ Wipe up spills as soon as practical
- ✓ Use chopping boards for food preparation
- ✓ Use trivets beneath very hot cookware
- ✓ Lift rather than drag heavy or abrasive objects
- ✓ Follow the care advice recommended for your particular stone
- ✓ Contact AMU Stone if you're unsure about a product, mark or treatment

BEST TO AVOID

- ✗ Acidic or abrasive cleaning products
- ✗ Cutting directly on the stone
- ✗ Placing extremely hot cookware directly onto the surface
- ✗ Sitting or standing on benchtops
- ✗ Attempting aggressive stain removal or repairs without advice

IMPORTANT

Natural stone varies in mineral composition, porosity, finish and performance. This guide provides general care information, and individual requirements may vary according to the stone, finish, sealer, application and environment.

Always follow the product instructions and ensure any cleaner, sealer or treatment used is suitable for your specific stone and finish.

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NEED ADVICE?

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We'd love to hear from you. Scan the QR code to leave us a Google review.

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