

**Keep your stone surfaces
looking beautiful and new for
years to come.**

Stone floors and other stone surfaces add a richness and beauty to any home or commercial space. To keep them looking their best, you need only to follow the simple steps and procedures that we have provided for you in this brochure.

When the time comes that your stone surfaces need to be professionally refinished, call the experts at Natural Stone Refinishing Corporation. With over twenty years of experience restoring virtually all kinds of stone surfaces, Natural Stone Refinishing Corporation will restore your stone surfaces to like-new condition.



Natural Stone Refinishing Corp.

Restoration of Fine Natural Stone and Tile

146 East Third Street
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Ph: (914) 664-1200

Fax (914) 664-1212

stonerestore@natlstone.net

www.natlstone.net

(photo courtesy of Walker Zanger)

**WE RESTORE, REPAIR
AND MAINTAIN:**

**MARBLE
GRANITE
LIMESTONE
TERRAZZO
CONCRETE**

AND OTHER FINE STONE



Natural Stone Refinishing Corp.

Restoration of Fine Natural Stone and Tile

**TIPS FOR CARING AND CLEANING
STONE SURFACES**



Tips for Caring and Cleaning Stone Surfaces

The following are general maintenance & care tips. Proper care may vary depending on the type and condition of the stone you have. If you have any questions about what is right for your stone, contact your Natural Stone Refinishing Corporation representative.

INITIAL PROTECTION:

All stone needs to be sealed with a penetrating sealer which leaves no coating on the surface of the stone. While the stone is trying to reject liquids that can leave a stain, these sealers give you more time to wipe up a spill. Sealing is a **MUST** for kitchens and bathroom areas. Premium silicone impregnators that reject both oil & water are worth the extra cost.

- **ALWAYS** require a test of the proposed sealer on your stone.
- Approve a sample tile or stone slab **BEFORE** the sealing is done.

Some sealers can change the color of your stone. Don't assume that your builder, installer or stone fabricator will automatically seal your stone.

CLEANING:

Household chemicals are not formulated to clean your stone. In fact, many of these cleaners can do more harm than if you use nothing at all. Even the use of water alone can have long-term detrimental effects on some stone. Neutral cleaners containing conditioning agents or the use of stone soap is recommended. Repeated use of appropriate cleaners will keep your stone looking fresh and add to the natural luster of your stone. Due to the softness of much of the stone used in your home, it is imperative that grit (sand & dirt) be kept off all surfaces.

- Entry floors require walk-off mats that cover two adult steps.
- Wash mats frequently to remove accumulated dirt.
- Rugs with rubber backs can leave harmful marks on your stone.
- Dust mop stone floors **DAILY** with an untreated dust mop.
- Damp mop stone floors **WEEKLY** with a conditioning neutral cleaner or stone soap.

In most cases, we advise against putting coatings or waxes on your natural stone floor. Coatings can restrict the flow of air through the stone causing moisture related problems.

Counters, vanities and walls can be cleaned with an appropriate cleaner put into a spray bottle. Spray the surface and wipe with a soft natural fiber cloth. These surfaces can be polished with a topical stone paste wax. The application of paste wax will add shine and protect the stone.

It is best to seal and wax your **stone showers**. If mildew begins to grow on stone in your shower, it can be difficult to remove. The chemicals used to remove scum and mildew will ruin a marble shower requiring expensive restoration. Many granites are acid resistant making them easier to clean. Maintaining stone in your shower with the use of proper cleaners and waxing is far less expensive than professional restoration.

It is best to seal and wax your **stone showers**. If mildew begins to grow on stone in your shower, it can be difficult to remove. The chemicals used to remove scum and mildew will ruin a marble shower requiring expensive restoration. Many granites are acid resistant making them easier to clean. Maintaining stone in your shower with the use of proper cleaners and waxing is far less expensive than professional restoration.

POLISHING:

When your stone begins to lose its factory shine, it is best to call Natural Stone Refinishing Corporation to re-polish your stone. Using the proper abrasives and polishing powders can bring back the original shine as long as the surface is not too badly damaged. Polishing generally does not remove scratches. However, on some stone surfaces it can remove light etch marks left by chemicals or cleaning agents.

RESURFACING & RESTORATION:

Resurfacing operations are required to remove scratches, lippage (uneven tiles) and wear patterns from foot traffic. The stone is sanded with various grinding grits making the surface flat and establishing a new finish. A ground-in-place floor extends the overall life of the floor. This procedure is not recommended for the do-it-yourselfer. For any stone surface requiring resurfacing or restoration, always call Natural Stone Refinishing Corporation.