

black slate in the kitchen

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I am refinishing my slate floor and they used a light almond grout, but the slate is in need of a buffing as there are light scratches that sometimes go against the natural grain of the slate. And I don't know if someone put a protective coat of varnish on the floor, I hope not. What steps should I take in what order to refinish my floor, as far as cleaning the grout and getting the slate looking better than it does now? Natural brush with a floor machine and a wire brush to clean the grout?

Dear Lenny:

When I was a stone restoration contractor I always stayed away from projects like that. The only thing that one knows for sure is at what time one is going to start the job!

If you ask me, slate only belongs on walls, roofs, chalk-boards and pool tables – end of the list.

Certain slates could be suitable for flooring, too, providing that the end-user doesn't go insane every time some little something (scratches, etches, etc.) will happen to it. It is not the typical American mentality, I can tell you that!

And then the idea of almond grout with black slate?... I'm sure it looks gorgeous, but –

I'm sorry, but I really can't help you.

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli