

Tumble travertine backsplash grouting while keeping the holes open

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How do you keep the grout from getting into the lovely holes that tumble marble has, as this is the whole beauty of them.

Dear Seja:

They may be lovely-looking, but you don't want to keep those holes open in a kitchen. You can keep them open only when the unfilled travertine is installed outdoors.

If you like the way the holes look, my strong recommendation is to fill them before installation "tile by tiles" with clear latex-based silicon caulking. It will be a time-consuming proposition, but in that way you would be getting three birds with one stone: solve the sanitary issue that you would have with the open holes; still see the holes; don't worry about the grout possibly going inside them!

Clever, huh? J

Now remember, it's never too early to think about the proper maintenance of your stone. ***The issue of what you'll be doing day in and day out to your stone is "as it should be intuitive" vastly more important than its sealing*** (if and when possible and/or advisable) and it's all too often neglected. As you can tell by reading many of this site's postings, you're not likely to get good information about routine care from your dealer or installer. Don't become another statistic! By logging into the Helpful Hints section of our website at: http://www.mbstone.com/HH_promo/helpful_hints.htm, you will be able to get the short version of our maintenance guidelines at no charge. The full version of it "a 7-page document considered by many as an industry benchmark" is available in pay-per-download format in our Educational Literature section at: <http://www.mbstone.com/literature/literature.htm>.

And remember, every single penny of the cost of the literature will be used to support this site and its cause: **your** cause.

While you are in the "Helpful Hints" section, do spend some time reading all of the interesting FREE articles you'll find in there!

Finally, keep in mind that we need your support to help us helping you!

Will you please read and e-sign our Statement of Purpose at: <http://www.marblecleaning.org/purpose.htm?>

By spreading the word about this valuable site among your friend & family and the stone trades' people you've been dealing with, you will be rendering everybody a valuable service!

Thank you

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

