

italian soapstone

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I just had countertop installed. I love it, was told it is soapstone from Italy. It is green and black (honed looking surface). After reading, is it soapstone? How do I care for it? Too late to change it now after reading some of your comments so what is the best thing I can do? Can I use Corain/Granite cleaner? Thanks

Dear Barbara:

After reading, is it soapstone?

I really don't know. I was 37 when I move to this country from my native Italy and I started working in the stone biz since I was 15. For all I know there's only one soapstone in Italy and it is green.

What I also know is that certain distributors sell Petra di Cardoso as Italian Soapstone, which is not soapstone by a long shot! It is actually a terrible material for a kitchen countertop (it is calcareous phyllite) and would represent consumer fraud big time. So, I sure hope that what you have is indeed soapstone! It should be easy to find out: the true soapstone from Italy is extremely soft and can be scratched with a fingernail literally. If it doesn't and it's hard to scratch instead!

Assuming and hoping that it is soapstone, all you have to do is care for it with an appropriate cleaner like MB-5 and, occasionally, treat it with some mineral oil. I really don't know anything about the product that you mentioned.

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

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

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