

honed calcutta or carrara marble as kitchen countertop

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Hi, I am a kitchen designer working on high end kitchens. As you know these white marble tops are extremely popular. My fabricator suggests a honed finish w/ a 511 enhancer. My client insists on marble. Is this the best option I can offer? Peter

Dear Peter:

â€œMy client insists on marble â€•

I don't understand. Why, if it's hone-finished is not marble anymore??â€

At any rate, read this:

ABOUT MARBLE IN A KITCHEN

The stone itself has nothing to do with it. It's rather a collective culture issue.

All throughout the Mediterranean basin marble is a very popular stone as a kitchen countertop and everybody enjoys it. (Limestone is not so popular, but certain types of limestone could be acceptable in relation of what follows.) In Northern Europe and all throughout North America, many like the way it looks, but nobody enjoys it!

How's that?

For the simple reason that In Southern Europe they never install a polished marble countertop (or a polished marble floor, for that matter). They start from a hone-finished surface and then they start using and abusing it and only care for it with a good-quality stone cleaner (like MB-5). The â€œworseâ€• it gets, the better they like it! It's considered â€œaging.â€• It's like a pair of old blue jeans, if you know what I mean: a highly sought â€œlived-inâ€• look.

While the looks of an old pair of jeans is very much appreciated in Northern Europe or in North America, too, the same principle does not seem to apply to stone. Most people over here expect their stone to look like brand-new all the time, and any â€œchangeâ€• is not considered â€œagingâ€•, but a damage that needs to be rectified.

Hence the problem.

The question now is: regardless of their geographical location, which one of the two groups do your customers belong to? J

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

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Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

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