

hand soap stain on granite countertop

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We recently installed a granite countertop in our bathroom (beige, brown and butterscotch in color). Our grandchildren visited since the first time we installed it and I think liquid hand soap was spilled on the countertop. Now, that area is darker than the rest. Can you please tell me if there is a way to clean this spot and if there is anything I can do to prevent this from happening in the future? Thank you very much!

Dear Deb:

When it comes to stain removal, either you buy one of those expensive "Professional kits" (that true professionals seldom use!) at a stone retailer near you, or you can spend less money and get our comprehensive guidelines on how to remove stains by using inexpensive and far more effective means that you may already have in your household! Such impressive piece of literature will also tell you how to tell stains apart from "oilstains", and what to do about the latter! It does carry a small price tag, and you can order it by logging on at: <http://www.mbstone.com/literature/literature.htm>. It's available in pay-per-download format and it's much cheaper than any kit on the market! Not to mention the little and much needed support you'd be giving to the cause "your cause" - since every single penny of the cost of the article will be used to support it.

As for the possible prevention of future staining, you have to find out with your fabricator/installer if they applied any impregnating sealer to your stone. If they did, then you will have to finish the sealing job that they obviously just started by possibly using the same impregnating sealer that they applied. If not, you may consider a good quality impregnator like MB-4. And don't forget that what you use routinely for the care of your stone is vastly more important than the sealing!

Also, will you please read and e-sign our Statement of Purpose by logging on 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!

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

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