

Honed black granite countertops

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During installation the contractor left greasy fingerprints on our unsealed honed granite countertops. We immediately asked them for directions on how to remove the fingerprints and directions on how to seal the countertops to prevent further damage. (This is a second residence.) It took them 2 months to respond. My husband and I used a granite cleaner but it did not work. My question is can we clean the fingerprints and seal the granite or is the granite going to need to be replaced. Presently we have a brand new kitchen that can't be used.

Dear Mary:

“œ or is the granite going to need to be replaced •

My goodness gracious! If one would have to replace a stone countertop because of some staining“

Okay, the good news is that the stain should not be deep inside the stone, although, as you already found out, it's quite difficult to clean.

What you have to do is get a potent alkaline cleaner rated for stone like MB-3 and prepare a solution at the maximum strength, following the directions printed on the bottle. (Don't make it any stronger than that: it would not make any difference.) After that, flood your countertop with it, and feed it some more if you notice that it dries in spot. Let the chemical sit there for 10 to 20 minutes and after that gently scrub your countertop with a plastic net scrubber or something of that nature. Pick up the solution with a towel and then rinse thoroughly at least two times with plenty of water. The countertop should be as clean as whistle at that point.

Now, you will clean it a couple of times with acetone (available at any paint store) to open the pores at the surface of the stone at their maximum. After that, you will apply a good quality stone color enhancer non-sensitive to acidic liquids, like MB-6 a couple of times and“ enjoy! (You do not want to apply a regular impregnating sealer.)

Needless to say, a good quality stone spray cleaner like MB-5 for routine care is in order to preserve the color enhancer.

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

