

Marble countertops stain easily, marked up and dull spots

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Q. I have a question about my white marble kitchen counters, which seem to have some sealer on them, but absorb water and stain very easily. They are heavily marked up with these dull stains, and I was wondering if marble polishing powder and sealer would help the counter top to resist water and glass stains? Also, is it OK to use these products if there is some type of sealer already on the counter top? can I use the stain removing powder and then seal it or is it better to use the polish to give the counter a surface?

A. Hi there. First off, it doesn't sound like it's absorbing water.

It sounds like you have white carrara (white with grey veining) but that'll need to use a poultice to remove them. For etching, which is actually damage to the surface caused by acids coming in contact with the stone, you will need to polish out the damage much like a jeweler polishes out scratches from a gemstone.

If you have minor etching you can use a good quality marble polishing compound or powder. Anything beyond minor etching, you will want to call in a pro.

In your case, it sounds like you'll want to get your marble counters back to new and tell you how to keep it that way. You will be surprised at how much you will gain from using a pro.

You can find one in your area by going to the Find a PRO section at www.stoneandtilepros.com.

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