

Is Travertine in the kitchen a good idea?

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After looking for 4 months, my husband and I have decided to have Travertine, honed and filled, installed in the kitchen with a dime-width grout line. The stone has been delivered and we are three weeks away from the renovation. Today, while shopping for a marble we agree on for the bathroom project, the dealer told us to stay away from Travertine as it is a "disaster" to keep clean. I love the aged irregular patterns of the stone. Was he right? Do we need to pick something else out? I really love the look of this stone, but I do not want a high-maintenance nightmare. Please advise. Thanks in advance, Cindy Keeney

Dear Cindy:

â€œthe dealer told us to stay away from Travertine as it is a "disaster" to keep clean. Was he right? â€•

No, he is not right: he's plain ignorant (specifically, that is).

If cared for properly â€“ which is no biggie â€“ honed and filled travertine is a wonderful material for your project, providing that you don't get obsessed with every little â€œincidentâ€• that it will happen to it as it â€œagesâ€• and takes on its final look â€“ which, depending on the traffic â€“ could be a few years down the road.

Just learn how to take good care of it, which may include the application of a good-quality impregnating sealer like MB-4.

However, always remember that what you'll be using for the care of your stone on a daily basis is vastly more important than the sealing.

And the same thing applies to the marble in your bathroom, with the main difference being that you can't seal that one.

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And remember, every single penny of the cost of the literature will be used to support this site and its cause: **your** cause.

While you are in the â€œHelpful Hintsâ€• section, do spend some time reading all of the interesting FREE articles you'll find in there!

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Thank you

Ciao and good luck,

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