

How to clean oil marks on unsealed slate floor

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We just laid a slate kitchen floor. It has been grouted but we hadn't gotten to sealing it yet and it now has oil/grease marks (from food like cookie crumbs or a little oil splatter from the stove). How can we remove those before we apply the sealant? Thank you.

Dear Lisa:

When it comes to stain removal, either you buy one of those expensive "Professional kits" (that no true professional ever uses!) 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.marblecleaning.org/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 sealing of your slate floor, as an alternative to a regular impregnating sealer, which would not alter the current hue of your stone, you could consider the application of a good-quality impregnator/color-enhancer like MB-6. While effectively sealing your stone, it would give you permanently the same look as if the stone were wet (without the sheen, though). Just a thought... :-)

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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