travertine - filled and honed - what next?

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Hi Maurizio, I've just bought 30sqm of tavertine for my new kitchen. I will get a professional expert layer in, but can you point me in the right direction as to how the layer should approach the job and how he maybe she..should finish off the floor to seal it & to polish it in order that it looks and functions as it should in a kitchen environment? Thanks in advance. Simon. ps excellent site!

Dear Simon:

Regardless of the fact that no tile setter I know of can polish stone, why on earth would you ever think at having your floor polished if you buy it honed and filled?... If you want it polished – which a strongly do not advise in a kitchen environment – you should buy the polished (by the factory) version of your tiles.

As for the application of an impregnator (a.k.a. sealer), it is optional but recommended. However, what you really have to learn is the proper maintenance of your stone. *The issue of what you'll be doing day in and day out to your stone is far more important than its sealing* and it's all too often neglected. As you can tell by reading many of this site's postings, you're not likely to get good information about it from your dealer or installer. Don't become another statistic! By logging into the Helpful Hints section of our website at: http://www.marblecleaning.org/helpful-hints.htm, you will be able to get the short version of our maintenance guidelines at no charge. The full version of it â\in a 7-page document considered by many as an industry benchmark â\in is available in pay-per-download format in our Educational Literature section at: http://www.marblecleaning.org/literature.htm.

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 "Helpful Hints― section, do spend some time reading all of the interesting FREE articles you'll find in there!

Finally, keep in mind that we need your support to help us helping you!

Will you please read and e-sign our Statement of Purpose 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!

Thank you

Ciao and good luck,

Mauri z io Bertoli

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