

# honed limestone

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We bought a home with three showers that have honed limestone walls and floors. After two weeks of use in one shower, the floor and bottom walls turned spotty and yellow and dark brown, blackish stains. The spots look deep in the stone. The cleaning of shower was done frequently with natural stone cleaners. The shower had been sealed prior to use. Next the tile contractor had it sanded and acid washed to remove stains but stains around wall are still visible. What is going on. The shower is dried quickly after use but the shower looks horrible. The tile contractor does not know what to do. Is honed limestone not a good material to use in shower?

Dear Tina:

Two things to start:

1. By saying limestone you're saying very little "if anything at all. There are many different (and I do mean **different**) kinds of limestone that span from dense and (almost) acceptable rocks, to limestone that will actually fall apart under running water, and everything in between.

So which limestone do you have?... L

2. It is never a good thing to apply a sealer to stone in a wet environment.

That said, your problem is most likely irreversible and could be a combination of three factors: 1. The particular limestone. 2. The possibility of a faulty installation (how are the grout lines?... Are the tiles set "butt-joint" to one another?...). 3. The unnecessary sealing.

In addition to that, your report that, of all things, they acid-wash (!?!!) your limestone in the pathetic attempt to remove the stains, speaks volumes about the professional knowledge of the parties involved.

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Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

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