

# Black Galaxy Doctored?

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I have "rings" on my countertop...used cleaners and even applied 511 impregnator. So...now what. How do I get rid of all the junk that I put on top of it so that it can shine again?

Dear Vicki:

Unfortunately I've got some bad news for you: you've been taken with a maliciously doctored slab of Black Galaxy.

There used to be only one quarry of that stone and the material still coming out of it is one of the most bullet-proof rocks that money can buy for a kitchen countertop. However, good things don't last long, do they?... Many other quarries opened up in the same region in India and some of them produce a material that's inferior in quality; namely it never gets black as a consequence of the polishing process like the good stuff does.

What to do?

Very simple: apply some sort of black makeup to it and sell it as it were the good stuff!

It's a full-fledged criminal activity in breach of the consumer protection act that's been going on for years by now and counting. The stone industry is very aware of it, but nobody seems to be interested in doing anything about it.

Bottom line, the rings that you have are the consequence of some acidic substance that became in contact with your stone surface and peeled off the back "shoeshine". It will only get worse, alas and there's no remedy. I don't know who gave you the brilliant idea of applying an impregnating sealer to it, but now you have to deal with an insult over an injury.

But I wouldn't worry much if I were you: you have a case as big as America and easy win in court should your fabricator refuse to replace your countertop, no questions asked and apologizing profoundly to boot.

We at [marblecleaning.org](http://marblecleaning.org) can help you, but only if you're willing to fight the injustice. Pardon me to be blunt, but we have no time to waste with quitters.

May I ask you now to please read and e-sign our Statement of Purpose at: <http://www.marblecleaning.org/purpose.htm>  
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Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

[www.marblecleaning.org](http://www.marblecleaning.org) "The **Only** Consumers' Portal to the Stone Industry Establishment!"