

# Marble kitchen counter top care

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We are re-doing the kitchen in our 100 year old Craftsman home. We are considering marble for our counter tops since it seems aesthetically appropriate for our style and age home. We were going to use "Cesarstone", but decided it had no personality. What do you think of our choice, marble, and what care would you recommend? Sealers? Thanks!

Dear Larry:

Sealers... Ah, the "magic-in-a-bottle" (better said, the magic-in-a-word!) that solves every stone problem... J

About the use of marble in the kitchen, the stone itself has nothing to do with it. It's rather a collective culture issue.

All throughout the Mediterranean basin marble is a very popular stone as a kitchen countertop and everybody enjoys it. (Limestone is not so popular, but certain types of limestone could be acceptable in relation of what follows.) In Northern Europe and all throughout North America, many like the way it looks, but nobody enjoys it!

How's that?

For the simple reason that In Southern Europe they never install a polished marble countertop (or a polished marble floor, for that matter). They install a hone-finished surface to begin with, and then they go on using and abusing it and only care for it with a good-quality stone cleaner (like MB-5). The "worse" it gets, the better they like it! It's considered "aging". It's like a pair of old blue jeans, if you know what I mean: a highly sought "lived-in" look.

While the looks of an old pair of jeans is very much appreciated in Northern Europe or in North America, too, the same principle does not seem to apply to stone. Most people over here expect their stone to look like brand-new all the time, and any "exchange" is not considered "aging", but a damage that needs to be rectified.

Hence the problem.

The question now is: regardless of your geographical location, which one of the two groups do you belong to? J

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

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli

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