

grease and holes in travertine

Authored by: **Maurizio Bertoli** [mailto:mbstone.com]

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I have a travertine dining room table and have two questions. First, I had left some buttercream frosting on a paper on top of the table, but the grease seeped through into the table. Can I get that out without special products or is there something that you would recommend. The second is that there are holes in the tabletop (of course) that the factory did not seal. Can I seal those and if so, how and with what? Any information would be great! Thanks! Sherri Feldman

Dear Sherry:

First the holes: you can easily fill them with color-matching caulk. Fill it in excess (so that it mounds a bit), let it dwell for 1 minute or less, and then "shave" it flush with the surface of the stone. Clean any film residue around the hole immediately with you fingertip wrapped around a damp piece of terry-cloth. Done!

Now, about your grease stain...

When it comes to stain removal, either you buy one of those expensive "Professional kits" (that true professionals seldom use!) 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.

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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