

# Marble Fireplace painted over

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Have recently had a paint stripping company remove several layers of paint and wall paper believe it or not from a fire place in a 125+ year old tenement flat I am renovating. Initially we thought what was left was a dark grey/black slate stone - however the paint stripping company now believe the fireplace is white marble and had been painted over!! NIGHTMARE!!! Can this be restored? If so how? Can I do it myself? Or is it too late and the paint has soaked completely into the stone and the damage is irreversible!!! please, please help! I am gutted that previous occupants of this house have been so stupid!!

Dear Michelle:

• Can this be restored? If so how? •

It sure can! By a bona fide stone restoration contractor.

• Can I do it myself? •

No.

The good news is that no paint could ever soak into marble, and therefore I can be restored. It will be probably be a very expensive proposition, but it can be done by the right professional.

Ciao and good luck,

Maurizio Bertoli