

blue spots on olive green limestone

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We just installed a limestone floor and shower enclosure in the master bath. it was sealed a few weeks ago and since then, small dark blue spots have been emerging on many tiles, and it seems like from within the stone. What could be the cause of the spots and is there any way to get rid of them?

Dear Bruce:

“What could be the cause of the spots and is there any way to get rid of them?”

I really don't have the answer to that. 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 acceptable rocks, to limestone that will actually fall apart under running water or “powder” or “bleach” (all problems with no solution), and everything in between.

So which limestone do you have, assuming that by giving me a name I can figure out what on earth it is?

That said, it could very well be a funny chemical reaction of the moisture from the setting material migrating from the back of the tiles through its surface. Maybe if left in its natural state the stone would have not reacted to it, but since there is this thing and urgency to seal every stone in sight, or else! (BTW, just out of curiosity, do you have any idea what a sealer for stone does and how it works?...) then you never know. Maybe the sealer has something to do with it having slowed down the migration of the moisture and/or even chemically reacted with it.

As for their removal, I really don't if it is possible, since I can't figure out the real nature of those discolorations; but I'm sure that the geniuses that so diligently sealed your stone will know. And if they won't, they can always ask the “ministers” of the “sealing cult” who so thoroughly and irreversibly washed their brains.

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

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