



the natural stone & tile specialists

1/36 Seton Road
Moorebank NSW 2170
Australia

Ph: (02) 9734 6937

Fax: (02) 9601 7292

ABN: 46 129 380 025

Email: sales@spiritsealers.com

Web: www.spiritsealers.com

GRANITE GUIDE

POLISHED

Sealing:

- **Spirit Pre-Seal** can be used on the back of the tiles to prevent moisture stains bleeding through from the glue.
- **Spirit Water-based Premium Seal** or **Spirit Hard Surface Seal** (solvent-based) can be used to final seal the tiles and grout to protect the stone from staining.

HONED

Sealing:

- **Spirit Pre-Seal** can be used on all six sides of the stone to prevent water marking during the laying procedure. This will also work as an excellent grout release.
- **Spirit Water-based Premium Seal** or **Spirit Premium Seal** (solvent-based) can be used to final seal the tiles and grout to protect the stone from staining.
- **Spirit Glossy Seal** can be used on floors internally to achieve a gloss finish; this product should NOT be used in bathrooms where slip resistance is needed.

EXFOLIATED OR SANDBLASTED

Sealing:

- **Spirit Pre-Seal** can be used on all six sides of the stone to prevent water marking during the laying procedure.
- **Spirit Water-based Premium Seal** or **Spirit Premium Seal** (solvent-based) can be used to final seal the tiles and grout to protect the stone from staining.
- **Spirit Uni-Seal** can be used internally or externally to give the stone a wet glossy look, this should NOT be used on water features or wet areas such as; showers, bathrooms or around swimming pools where slip resistance is needed.
- **Spirit Glossy Seal** can be used on floors internally to achieve a gloss finish. This product should NOT be used in bathrooms where slip resistance is needed.

CLEANING

For all types of Granite finishes:

Grout Smear, Rust & Oxide

- **Spirit Phosphoric Acid** can be used; the stone should always be rinsed thoroughly with **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** to neutralize the acid.

Heavy Soiling, Oils & Soap Scum

- **Spirit H.D.C** can be used to remove heavy soiling from the grout and stone.

Efflorescence, Salts & Minerals

- **Spirit Efflorescence Off** should be used to remove stubborn salts and minerals.

Mould, Mildew, leaf marks, Tannin, animal droppings

- **Spirit Bright As** should be used to remove these organic substances.

General everyday cleaning

- **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** or **Spirit Rejuvenate** is the ideal maintenance cleaner.

CLEANER & SEALERS FOR THE TILING INDUSTRY

CLEANING & SEALING CHINESE GRANITE

Granite Imported from China has proven very popular and is being used in commercial and residential areas. Many of the popular colours are very light and more often than not very porous as well. Several issues surrounding the use of the granite have arisen and need to be understood prior to use of this stone without the disappointment of post fixing problems. Almost all of these problems have to do with the visual result achieved and the ongoing maintenance or cleaning of the stone.

Starting with a little known problem but often experienced water marking. Water marking is reverse staining that occurs when a piece of granite is exposed to water and chemicals generally associated with cements or other fixing materials. This moisture is absorbed into the dry granite which dissolved minerals in the granite. As this moisture dissolves and migrates through the granite and works its way to the surface to dry, the minerals are left behind and almost always alter the colour of the stone. The problem with that is that the contaminants show a much darker colour than the balance of the stone and a resulting stain remains and can be impossible to remove thru cleaning efforts. This stain is often on the edge of the granite where the grouting occurs, and the mark can surround the tile and look like picture framing.

Another form of this type of staining is where areas of the stone will have a blotchy effect at any location on the tile. The same effect but random thru out the tile. It would be fair to note that up to the present, there is no known method for removing this type of marking. It is also fair to note that the use of **Spirit Pre-Seal** will prevent this from occurring.



SEALING TO PREVENT STAINING DURING THE LAYING PROCESS

Spirits Pre-Seal is a water based seal that works by penetrating into the stone. After drying the seal will stop capillary action in the stone. This will prevent any water or water based staining materials from absorbing into the stone. This is very important in stopping water marking from occurring during the laying process and assist future stain prevention by providing a foundational product that performs for many years. **Spirit Pre-Seal** will not affect adhesion or interfere with the laying of the stone, but will act as a grout release to assist in the removal of grout haze without having to use strong acids. If the granite is not going to be exposed to oil or food that may contain oil, then pre-seal will act as a final seal with years of performance. If the area is going to be used for entertainment or food areas, the stone should be further sealed with **Spirit Premium Seal** or **Spirit Water-based Premium Seal**. Premium Seal is an advanced impregnating seal that will penetrate the stone and will give years worth of protection against oils and foods stains.

SEALING AFTER THE LAYING PROCESS

If the stone has been pre-sealed and the fixing has occurred, the cleaning process can begin. This method occurs whether pre-sealing has been used or not. Post sealing occurs when the stone needs final sealing to prevent staining from food sources, weather, animals or most other difficult cleaning situations. Post sealing will allow the stone to be cleaned using normal cleaning methods.

Firstly the granite should have been laid for at least 3 days to allow any grouting to be dry enough to be cleaned without damage. If there is a grout smear on the granite the process begins with a light acidic clean using **Spirit Phosphoric Acid Cleaner**. This product diluted 8 to 1 will remove the grout haze and any other mineral issue on the stone. Rinsing to neutralize the stone after this process will insure a clean neutral surface to seal. If the stone is soiled with general soiling or organic stains the cleaning can be completed using **Spirit H.D.C** which is an alkaline detergent. H.D.C will remove most issues but still should be rinsed and neutralized to allow the stone to dry and soil free. Once the stone is clean and dry the final sealing process can begin.

By using a lambs wool applicator or sprayer you can apply **Spirit Premium Seal** or **Spirit Water-based Premium Seal** in a clean and uniform manner. The coverage rate on most granite is 8 square meters per litre. This will provide years worth of protection against staining and environment. If slippage is not a concern **Spirit Uni-Seal** can be used to provide a glossy wet look, and will provide excellent protection against spills and stains.

When ongoing Maintenance is required, the first question relates to general cleaning. Spirit recommends using **Spirit Neutral Cleaning** as a general cleaner or a daily cleaner. When the area is heavily soiled, then **Spirit H.D.C** should be used. H.D.C is a heavy duty cleaner which will degrease and clean hard to remove markings.

Please Note: This is a general guide only. For detailed information please contact Spirit www.spiritsealers.com