



the natural stone & tile specialists

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TRAVERTINE 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. These products will NOT prevent acid etching.

Cleaning:

- Grout smear should be removed within 3-5 days using **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** or **Spirit Rejuvenate**, if the grout has been left on for too long and hardened **Spirit Porcelain Crème** can be used. Spirit Phosphoric Acid Cleaner or Spirit H.D.C should NEVER be used on Polished Travertine.

HONED

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. These products will NOT prevent acid etching.
- **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. This product will prevent acid etching by leaving a physical barrier on top of the stone.

Cleaning:

- Grout smear should be removed within 3-5 days using **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** or **Spirit H.D.C**, if the grout has been left on for too long and hardened **Spirit Porcelain Crème** can be used. Spirit Phosphoric Acid Cleaner should NEVER be used on Travertine.

TUMBLLED 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. These products will NOT prevent acid etching.
- **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; bathrooms or around swimming pools where slip resistance is needed. This product will prevent acid etching by leaving a physical barrier on top of the stone.
- **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. This product will prevent acid etching by leaving a physical barrier on top of the stone.

CLEANER & SEALERS FOR THE TILING INDUSTRY

Cleaning:

- Grout smear should be removed within 3-5 days using **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** or **Spirit H.D.C.**, if the grout has been left on for too long and hardened **Spirit Porcelain Crème** can be used. Spirit Phosphoric Acid Cleaner should NEVER be used on Travertine.

CLEANING & SEALING OF HONED TRAVERTINE

Travertine is a chemically deposited limestone that has taken millions of years to form. What makes the stone unique is the method of forming. Water bubbling to the surface of the earth evaporates leaving behind calcite and other minerals that form into a very hard dense stone. The fact that the stone is comprised of calcite and other sensitive minerals puts it in a class of limestone and this requires informed handling and cleaning methods.

Travertine in general is very sensitive to strong cleaning agent's especially acidic base cleaners. Hence no strong alkaline or any acid based cleaners should be used in regular cleaning systems. Only dilute alkaline or P.H. neutral cleaners should be used as a regular cleaner for travertine.

Spirit Marble & Tile Care recommended using **Spirit Neutral Cleaner** or a dilute solution of **Spirit H.D.C** (Heavy Duty Cleaner) to clean and restore the surface after heavy soiling.

In respect to areas that are not exposed to food, drinks or excessive soiling general cleaning should be carried out using **Spirit Neutral Cleaner**. **Neutral Cleaner** is a non rinse cleaner that will not leave streaks or residuals that can collect in the surface of the stone.

Filled travertine tends not to be a smooth stone on the face. Although the stone has been generally honed, the voids created by water bubbling to the surface present a cleaning challenge, for the contract cleaner. Spirit employs several techniques to routinely clean this stone.



PRE-SEALING

Generally Travertine does not require to be sealed before the laying process; this is because most travertine has a low porosity averaging around 2-3%. However some travertine has an unusually high porosity and will benefit greatly from a Pre-Seal. There are a few ways of applying **Spirit Pre-Seal**. The stone can be completely dipped in the sealer without causing adhesion issues; alternatively the face and the sides can be wiped with the sealer. Both techniques are very effective and reduce the porosity of the stone which allows the grout to be cleaned off the face very easily. Pre-Sealing also will stop all water borne contaminants and any water marking issues while allowing the stone to breathe naturally.

REMOVING GROUT SMEAR

Once the stone has been grouted the grout needs to cure for 3-5 days, this will allow it to harden enough so that the cleaning process does not remove any of the newly installed filling or grout. The grout should be removed within two weeks of installation because if the grout is left on the face for too long it can bond to the surface and be very difficult to remove. **Spirit Neutral cleaner** should be used to remove the grout; if the grout has been left on too long and is difficult to remove **Spirit H.D.C** should be used. Acid based cleaners should never be used on Travertine tiles as this can etch the stone surface.

FINAL SEALING

Sealing Travertine is always recommended as they can stain from many household liquids. **Spirit Water-based Premium seal** or **Spirit Premium Seal** (solvent-based) they're both penetrating seals which leave a natural look to the stone. If you require a gloss **Spirit Glossy Seal** can be used (internal use only). These final sealers will stop staining to the stone and the grout while helping greatly with the cleaning and general maintenance of the floor.

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

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