

SANTAMARGHERITA® MARBLE

INSTRUCTION FOR CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF COUNTERTOPS

POST-FABRICATION CLEANING

Once the slabs have been fabricated, remove any residue with water and a clean cloth. Thoroughly dry the surface.

Deep clean the surface by spraying a neutral or slightly alkaline pH detergent specifically designed for marble based engineered stones, and consistently spread it with a non-abrasive sponge. Allow the detergent to work for 5 minutes, then thoroughly rinse with water until the detergent has been completely removed. Remove the excess water with a cloth and allow to dry.

If the surface is dull or shows dull areas after this process, rinse again and allow to dry. If the surface still shows dirt or dull areas, repeat the whole deep cleaning process.

CLEANING AFTER INSTALLATION

During the installation mask the joints and insure that the silicone will not drip or flow out of joints onto the surface.

Only use a neutral silicone to install the countertop. Remove the excess hardened silicone with a new razor blade, being careful not to scratch the surface.

Once the installation is complete, deep clean the surface using a neutral or slightly alkaline detergent specifically designed for marble based engineered stones by spreading it consistently with a sponge. Allow the detergent to work for 5 minutes, then rinse with water until the detergent is completely removed. Remove the excess water with a cloth and allow to dry.

DAILY CLEANING

For daily cleaning of Santamargherita® marble surfaces, use a damp cloth or paper towel and, if needed, a small quantity of neutral pH detergent specifically designed for the daily cleaning of marble based engineered stone surfaces. Spread the detergent on the surface and let it work for some seconds, rinse with a cloth or water, then carefully dry the surface.

CHEMICALS TO BE AVOIDED

Acidic liquids commonly used, such as vinegar, lemon, soft drinks, fruit juices, wine, etc. can erode the tiles, causing the loss of polish of Santamargherita® marble surfaces. Avoid exposing Santamargherita® marble to chemicals and solvents, especially paint removers, that might contain trichlorethane and methylene chloride.

Keep solvents, acetone, alcohol, paint thinners, detergents containing bleach, laundry bluing, highly alkaline liquids such as bleach, caustic soda or oven cleaners, acids, oily soaps, markers or ink, abrasive and micro-abrasive detergents away from the surface. Should any of the above listed liquids drip on the marble surface, remove it immediately and thoroughly rinse with water.

Avoid using any detergent not specifically designed for marble surface, especially acidic and highly alkaline determents. Finally, avoid using highly abrasive sponges that may scratch the surface.

DETERGENTS TESTED AND APPROVED BY SANTAMARGHERITA R&D

Deep cleaning detergents (neutral or slightly alkaline pH):

FILA BRIO	Fila Industria Chimica Spa
LEM 3	Bellinzoni Srl
NEUTRAL CLEANER	Faber Chimica Srl

Daily cleaning (neutral pH):

BRIO TOP	Tenax
FILA REFRESH	Fila Industria Chimica Spa
HYGIENIX *	Bellinzoni Srl
NEUTRAL CLEANER*	Faber Chimica Srl

*Slightly alkaline pH product

Notes: Brio Top, Fila Brio, Fila Refresh tested not diluted

LEM 3 tested at 1:10 dilution

Fila Cleaner tested at 1:30 dilution

Hygienix tested at 1:30 dilution

Neutral Cleaner tested at 1:100 dilution

The detergents must be used at the dilution suggested by the manufacturer.

SPECIAL SURFACE PROTECTION

On the market you can find many waxes and surface treatments specifically designed for marble based engineered stones, that help to enhance the surface's brightness, to improve the resistance to pedestrian traffic or to protect the surface from a casual contact with staining liquids. These products help in protecting the surface, but don't make it stain proof: they can help in prolonging the time frame needed to take action and clean the surface from a staining liquid, but do not offer any complete protection

IMPORTANT! - The content of this recommendation is based on our experience. Although we strive for thoroughness and accuracy of the information we provide, SANTAMARGHERITA® this is not a warranty and we can't take any responsibility for the exactness and applicability of this document.