

# Care and Cleaning of your new Alpha Stone Concrete Countertops



Alpha Stone Concrete

Thank you for your choosing Alpha Stone Concrete for your Concrete Countertops. Over time your countertops will have subtle changes according to their environment. Colors may deepen and become more saturated. Each concrete product develops its own patina and becomes more distinctive with use, care and age.

Concrete sealer allows concrete to breath, eliminating water vapor build up during the cementious hardening. This process will continue over the years as your concrete product gains hardness and strength. Concrete countertops may acquire temporary dark areas of liquid spills, when steam filled pot lids are placed on the countertop surface or where a warm cup of coffee sits. The areas quickly disappear and are no cause for alarm. Wiping excess liquids quickly will reduce the occurrence of these temporary dark areas.

Concrete has an alkaline nature and reacts to contact with acids. Examples of acidic substances are vinegar, lemon or lime juice, and red wine. These liquids can stain and etch the concrete if ignored over time. The concrete sealer will safeguard against most damage. Prompt, proper removal will further reduce the possibility of these stains. Acid-based cleaning chemicals can also etch your concrete countertop, which should only be cleaned with a neutral or mild alkaline-based cleaner.

Oil containers should not be left for long periods of time on the concrete countertop. Oil spills should be cleaned with a mild non-abrasive soap as soon as possible. Grease and oils may penetrate the sealer and cause a patina in that area. Often this patina can become a beautiful accent and enhance the overall character of your concrete countertop.

Never use your countertops as a cutting board for food preparation. Concrete countertops are very hard and may damage knives. Avoid placing hot pots and pans directly on the concrete countertop, please use a hot-pad or trivet. The heat from these can damage the sealer.

Use a mild non-abrasive soap to clean your Concrete Countertop. Cleaners with ammonia or citrus are not recommended. Avoid harsh chemicals (lacquer thinner, acetone, denatured alcohol) for cleaning.

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