

# Clean Regularly

Clean your granite countertop at least once a day with warm water and a mild detergent using a soft cloth or sponge. Avoid using acidic or abrasive cleaners, as they can damage the surface. Rinse thoroughly and dry with a clean, soft cloth or paper towel.

# Use a Cutting Board

Granite countertops are scratch-resistant, but they can still get scratched if you cut directly on them. Always use a cutting board to protect your countertop from scratches.

# Sealing Surfaces

Some granite countertops are porous and can absorb liquids, leading to stains and damage. Apply a granite sealer on the surface every year or according to our guide on the back. Make sure the surface is clean and dry before applying the sealer.



# Avoid Stains

If a spill occurs on your granite countertop, clean it immediately. Granite countertops can be vulnerable to acidic spills such as wine, vinegar, or citrus juices. Be sure to clean these items immediately and not allow them to linger on the surface. If it leaves a stain, remove it using a granite-safe stain remover. Avoid using harsh chemicals or scrubbing too hard, as it can damage the surface.

# Avoid Impact

Granite is a strong material, but it can still crack or chip if you drop heavy objects on it. Avoid impact by placing heavy items gently on the countertop.

# Avoid Excessive Heat

Granite countertops can withstand heat to some extent, but they are not completely heat-resistant. Avoid placing hot pans, pots, or other hot items directly on the countertop. Use trivets or heat-resistant pads to protect your granite countertop from heat damage.

# Other Things to Avoid

Avoid using generic cleaning products such as bleach, glass cleaners, de-greasers, or other household cleaners. These products may degrade the granite sealer, leaving the stone more vulnerable to staining. We sell Regent Stone Product's Protect and Shine at our showroom. Also, avoid storing toiletry products directly on your counter top surface. Hair products, perfumes, colognes, nail products, creams, and lotions have a tendency to spill or leak and go unnoticed. Even when sealed, a substance that remains on the surface for an extended period may stain granite. Instead, store these products on a shelf or decorative tray.

# Determining if Granite Needs Sealed

Always water test your granite before applying a sealer to determine whether or not your stone needs sealed. Follow these steps:

Drip a puddle of water on your countertop, note the time, and observe. If the puddle darkens quickly, then sealing your granite is required...multiple coats and annually for 3 years is recommended, and be quick about wiping up spills.

If it takes 4-5 minutes to darken... again a few coats of a good impregnator/sealer should be applied and re-sealing every 3-5 years may be needed. (Re-test when the time comes.)

If it darkens in 10-15 minutes, then apply a sealer, following the directions carefully. Probably only one coat needed and should be many years before re-sealing is necessary.

If the puddle doesn't darken or takes 30 minutes or longer, then you have a very dense stone that is next to impossible to stain. Sealing granite countertops in this category is really not necessary and should not be done. Sealing granite unnecessarily can cause unwanted problems.

# Granite Sealing Guide

Clean the surface: Start by cleaning the countertop thoroughly with a granite cleaner and a non-abrasive cleaning pad. Make sure you remove all traces of dirt, debris, and stains.

Apply the sealer: Spray on the sealer, silicone impregnator, that is in your provided care kit. Be sure to cover the entire surface, including the edges and seams.

Let it dry: Allow the sealer to penetrate the granite approximately 15-30 minutes

Buff the surface: After the sealer has dried, use a clean white cloth to buff away any excess residue. This will help give the granite a shiny, polished finish.

Repeat: If necessary, repeat the process of applying the sealer and allowing it to dry until you have achieved the desired level of protection.

