



## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

### SPRAYED GRANITE, CULTURED MARBLE COUNTERTOPS AND SURROUNDS

**Everyday cleaning:** The best way to avoid staining your countertop is to remove liquids or sauces immediately from your countertop. If the liquid has set, use a hot wet rag to loosen and remove the caked-on debris. Use a white cloth, such as microfiber cloth free of excess fibers that could become loose and be left behind on the counter. Immerse the cloth in the cleaning solution and wipe counters thoroughly. Soak your cloth in the solution, allowing the cleaning fluid to permeate the cloth. Before cleaning the counter wring cloth out to remove excess fluid.

**Regular care:** Be sure you use cleaners that are pH balanced and include no acid or acidic type chemicals. You can create your homemade granite countertop cleaning formula. Fill a bucket or your sink with warm clean water. Combine mild dish detergent with rubbing alcohol. Mix three parts dish detergent with one part standard rubbing alcohol. Mix well and allow water to cool slightly. You want water to be very warm, but not scalding or extremely hot. Make sure your soap and alcohol are well mixed for a nice balance.

**Do not use any ammonia, vinegar, or lemon cleaners on granite.** Although granite is an extremely tough surface, it is susceptible to acidic formulas, which eat away at its surface. Vinegar, and lemon all contain more acid than is safe for granite.

**Excessive stains:** Use baking soda poultices for tough stains. Here's how you mix your baking soda poultice: Water-based stains: 1 cup of baking soda, 5 tablespoons (73.9 ml) of liquid dish soap, and enough hydrogen peroxide to make the mixture into a yogurt consistency. Oil-based stains: 1 cup of baking soda, 5 tablespoons (73.9 ml) of liquid dish soap, and enough water to make the mixture into a yogurt consistency.

**Buff and dry counters thoroughly:** Although your counters will be clean, most cleaners may leave streaks if not dried immediately. Use a microfiber cloth to dry and buff counters. This will not only remove streaks, but enhance the countertop finish and shine. Use a new dry microfiber cloth if the other cloth becomes soggy or wet. A wet cloth won't allow you to dry the counter so exchange the original cloth for something new.

**Heat:** Avoid placing hot curling irons or straighteners directly on granite top as it will burn and leave a mark. Various wall mounted accessories are available to accommodate such items.