

While granite is often associated with strength and resilience, it *can be damaged* by cleaning products that are perfectly safe to use on other surfaces. Follow the instructions below to keep your granite in tip-top shape for years to come.

DAILY CLEANING:

Use mild dish soap and water along with a soft sponge or micro-fiber cloth. Wring out excess water, as granite can be stained by standing water, and wipe the entire surface. To prevent water damage and streaking, dry your tops with paper towel or a soft cloth.

REMOVING STAINS:

No matter what your granite is stained with, baking soda is a great place to start.

- Water stains can be removed by mixing hydrogen peroxide with baking soda and applying to the affected area.
- Oil stains can be removed by applying a paste of water and baking soda to the spot, covering with plastic wrap and leaving overnight. Follow by cleaning according to the soap and water instructions above.

SEALING:

Granite must be sealed periodically. You can apply a penetrating sealer a few times a year, depending on use and cleaning. To tell if it is time to seal your granite countertops, simply take a few drops of water and sprinkle on your tops. If it beads up, you are all set, no sealing required at this time. If it sinks in (use your baking soda and water paste to get the spot out!) it's time to seal it.

DO NOT USE:

Avoid the items below, they can etch and dull the finish of your granite. They can also wear away your sealer over time.

- Household acids including vinegar, lemon, lime, and citrus
- Ammonia or ammonia-based cleaners like Windex
- Bleach
- Steel wool
- Scrubby sponges