

Granite is an *igneous* stone composed of quartz, feldspar, and mica — exceptionally hard, heat-resistant, and broadly acid-tolerant. Polished granite is highly stain-resistant; honed and leathered finishes are more porous and need more attentive sealing. Special note: **Absolute Black honed granite** traditionally accepts a mineral-oil treatment to deepen its tone (see Sealing).

DAILY CARE

- **Wipe spills** with a damp cloth. Granite tolerates acids better than marble or limestone but oils and dyes still penetrate honed surfaces.
- **Clean with a pH-neutral stone cleaner** and warm water. Diluted dish soap is acceptable for occasional cleaning on polished granite.
- **Use cutting boards.** Granite will dull knives quickly and dark granites can show fine scratches.
- **Use trivets for very hot pans.** Granite is heat-resistant but thermal shock from a 500°F skillet on a cold winter slab can crack thin sections.
- **Re-buff Absolute Black honed** with a microfiber after each cleaning to keep its matte tone uniform.

WHAT TO AVOID

- × Highly acidic cleaners on lighter granites containing calcite or iron — can etch or rust-bloom.
- × Bleach and ammonia in regular use — can degrade sealer and lighten feldspars over time.
- × Abrasive pads, steel wool, scouring powders.
- × Solvents (acetone, lacquer thinner) for routine cleaning — strip the sealer.
- × Plumber's putty around the sink — leaves a permanent dark halo. Use 100% silicone instead.

STAIN REMOVAL

Stain	Treatment
Oil / grease	pH-neutral degreaser. Set stains: poultice with acetone or mineral spirits + diatomaceous earth.
Organic (wine, coffee, food)	12% hydrogen peroxide + a drop of ammonia. Sunlight bleaches minor stains.
Rust (cans, hardware, iron-bearing minerals)	Non-acid stone-safe rust remover. Never use phosphoric/HCl rust removers — they can pit lighter granites.
Hard-water lime / scale	pH-neutral lime descaler formulated for granite. Avoid CLR and household lime removers — too acidic.
White haze (sealer residue, hard water film)	Methylene chloride-free sealer stripper, or ammonia + water 1:4. Re-seal after.

Poultice method: Mix absorbent powder (diatomaceous earth or kaolin) with the appropriate solvent into a paste. Apply ¼–½" thick, cover with plastic wrap, tape edges, dry 24–48 hrs, scrape off and rinse with distilled water. Repeat as needed.

SEALING

Most granite ships pre-sealed from the factory. Polished granite needs only periodic top-up sealing; honed and leathered granites require more frequent attention. Always use a **penetrating impregnating sealer** — never a topical wax or polish.

STAIN-PROOF (Dry Treat) · Premium Impregnating Sealer

Best-in-class penetrating sealer for polished and honed granite. ISO Class 5 stain resistance. Food-safe.

Re-seal: Polished: 10–15 yrs · Honed/leathered: 5–7 yrs

Tenax · Proseal-P Premium Natural Effect Sealer

Premium impregnator with no color shift. Excellent for richly patterned granites where color fidelity matters.

Re-seal: Every 4–5 years

Mineral Oil — Absolute Black & dark honed granites only

Food-grade mineral oil *after* the impregnator has fully cured. Wipe a thin film monthly and buff dry. Deepens the jet-black tone and masks micro-scratches.

Do not apply to polished or light-color granite — it will leave a sticky film.

Re-seal: Refresh every 2–4 weeks at first, then monthly

HOW TO SEAL

1. Clean thoroughly with pH-neutral cleaner. Allow 24 hrs to dry.
2. Apply impregnating sealer with a soft cloth in an even coat.
3. Dwell 5–15 min, then buff off *all* excess before it dries.
4. Apply a second coat after 10–15 min on honed/leathered finishes.
5. Allow 24 hrs before use. Full bond cures over 3–4 weeks.
6. Annual test: water should bead on a clean, dry surface. If it soaks in, re-seal.

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE

- **Daily:** Wipe with pH-neutral cleaner.
- **Monthly (honed/leathered):** Apply mineral oil if Absolute Black; otherwise inspect for new stains.
- **Annually:** Water-bead test. Re-seal honed/leathered granites if water absorbs.
- **Every 5–10 years:** Top-up impregnating sealer on polished granite.