

# SMEARY/PATCHY TILES - NATURAL STONE

Always follow manufacturers guidelines – these can be downloaded from the relevant product page on our website. We always recommend conducting a test in a discreet area prior to a full application of the product. Wear appropriate clothing and protective wear, such as gloves and glasses.

On occasion, it is possible for natural stone tiles to appear smeary in certain lights, you may even notice foot-prints on the surface. The smears or streaks present can occur from the following:

1. Over application of sealant
2. Under application of sealant
3. Trapped dirt
4. Grout residue

As a first point of call, it is advisable to test two affected tiles with Lithofin Power-Clean, using the method described in our Deep Clean Guide. Should there be no change, it is often worth testing a tile for the over application of sealant (method below). If unsuccessful, we recommend speaking with the Lithofin team to assess the correct remedial method for your floor. In some cases, the sealant will need to be removed, tiles cleaned and sealant re-applied.

What you will need:

- Lithofin Stain Stop MN
- Stiff Brush
- White Towel

Over application of sealant

The over application of sealant is due to the excess sealant not being buffed off the tile at the time of application. If Lithofin Stain Stop MN was used, it may be possible to 're-activate' the sealant, in order to then buff away the excess. Please note this is not possible with Stain Stop Eco or Stain Stop W as they are non-solvent based.

Begin by testing one tile in a discreet area - generously apply Lithofin Stain Stop MN to the surface of the tile for 8-10 minutes, scrub and continuously move the product around the tile every minute with a stiff brush. Remove all excess using a white towel and buff the surface of the stone completely dry. After a further 10-15 minutes assess the look and feel of the tile, the tile should feel smoother compared to an untreated tile which can have a sticky texture. Should the test be conducive to resolving the issue, continue to treat the floor in small controlled sections (1-2m<sup>2</sup> at any one time).

If this test does not achieve the desired result, it is likely the smearing has been caused by grout residue, trapped dirt or the under application of sealant. Please speak with the Lithofin team who will be able to advise further.

Lithofin technical helpline: 01962 732 126

Always keep pets and children away from any treated areas until the product has been removed.

## QUORN STONE