

HOW TO CLEAN AND MAINTAIN YOUR TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE FLOORS

Travertine is a characteristic stone made by the precipitation of calcium carbonate at geothermally hot springs or limestone caverns. Similarly created, Marble is a metamorphic rock formed by the recrystallization of limestone which occurs when limestone is exposed to extremely high temperature and pressure. In spite of the fact that both travertine and marble stone are regarded to be exceptionally versatile and durable, it is still true that your floors will need special care and routine maintenance.

SEALING

The most ideal approach to keep your natural stone flooring in flawless condition is by sealing both during and after installation. Both travertine and marble are characterized by tiny pores that make it susceptible to staining or discoloration caused by spills or chemical cleaners and without sealant are likely to absorb the liquid, leading to the development of mold.

It is likewise critical that you use the correct type of sealant for your travertine or marble tiles as anything of low-quality or made for a different material could be ineffective on your tile. There are two types of sealants that can be used for natural stone floors i.e. the infiltrating one and the surface sealer. The first will saturate your tiles' pores and fill them to keep out dust, dirt, and moisture. The second is a surface sealer to further prevent moisture absorption and decrease the odds of staining. Keep in mind that when you apply the sealers, the shades and hues of your tile may deepen.

CLEANING

The best approach to clean your travertine or marble floors and to keep them looking flawless and immaculate is by mopping them routinely. Mopping should only be done with warm water and never with any abrasive or acidic chemicals that could potentially strip the sealant away. Be sure to wring out the mop prior to mopping so as to not oversaturate the floors either. Even with sealers, water can penetrate into the tiles or grout lines causing discoloration or mold.

If needed, to disinfect your floors use only a tablespoon of gentle dish soap per gallon of water. A clean mop with only water should be run over the surface after to ensure no soap was left behind.

When mopping is complete, we recommend toweling it dry instead of allowing the tiles to air dry to avoid leaving moisture on the surface of the tiles for an extended period of time.

GROUT LINES

It is essential that the grout lines are not overlooked when taking the time to clean your travertine or marble flooring. Grout can be quite notorious for eventual discoloration as years of dust and dirt accumulate between cleanings. The best way to clean your grout is with a baking soda mixture. Mix equal parts water and baking soda into a paste and using a small brush, scrub the mixture into the grout. Use a clean mop with warm water to rinse away your mess and then towel dry.