

TECHNICAL HANDBOOK SLABS AND COUNTERTOPS

Processing – cleaning - maintenance:

POLISHED QUARTZ,

JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and ROCFACE
Textured Quartz

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PRODUCTS FOR SLABS AND COUNTERTOPS CLEANING PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE



STONE CLEANER
1 litre bottle and
150 ml spray bottles.



SOLVENT STRIPPER
1 litre tin.



STONE TILE CLEANER
1 litre bottle and
150 ml bottles.



STONE KIT
No. 3 150 ml bottles:
STONE TILE CLEANER
STONE CLEANER-spray
JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR-spray



JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1 litre tin and
150 ml spray bottles.

SLABS AND CUT-TO-SIZE ITEMS

Section I

SHIPPING, HANDLING AND PROCESSING

Loading and Shipping Stone Italiana Slabs

Stone Italiana slabs should be loaded vertically on suitable wood or metal frames (typically an A-frame).

When loaded on a truck or into a container, the slabs should be loaded with the finished sides facing each other, so that the rough sides rest against each other. As for **JAIPUR**, **GRAIN**, **LUNARE** and **RocFACE** collections, the finished surfaces must be suitably protected with a proper film. Failure to follow these precautions may result in **irreversible** scratching of the surface.

Use chains to secure the slabs to the truck and/or inside the container. Be careful not to put the chains in direct contact with the slabs; use a wood shim in-between the chains and the slabs. Failure to do so may result in chipping or breakage of the slabs. We recommend that you do not use straps, as they cannot guarantee a secure grip on the slabs and can endanger the load being carried.

Handling and Storing Slabs in the Workshop

To move the slabs around the stoneworking shop, use lifting equipment fitted with neutral-rubber lined clamps. If you wish to lift the slabs by means of metal ropes, we recommend that you use plastic-covered ropes to prevent direct contact of the metal with the stone surface, which otherwise might be damaged during the lifting operations.

Ideally, the slabs should be stored indoors and should be protected from direct sunlight.

In case of outdoor storage, cover the slabs with a dark cloth.

Direct exposure to sunlight might result in colour changes, which are more evident on the exposed surfaces.

Exposure to atmospheric agents might cause **irreversible** deterioration of the slab surface. Slabs must be positioned in such way to prevent warping, using two support points.

Weight of 305x140 cm slabs:

3 cm thick: 320 kg approx.

2 cm thick: 215 kg approx.

1.3 cm thick: 141 kg approx.

Slabs Processing Guidelines

Due to their remarkable hardness, Stone Italiana quartz slabs require the use of blades, tools and abrasives designed specifically for use on recomposed quartz stone.

Do not to use unsuitable products.

Failure to do so can result in damaged edges, scratching and breakage of the slab, even some time after installation of the finished top.

SLABS CUTTING

To cut Stone Italiana slabs, use a bridge saw or a jib saw.

The machine table must be square with the saw blade.

A continuous flow of cold water is required to ensure proper cooling.

Use a saw blade especially designed for recomposed quartz stone, with narrow segment and proper bond (not too hard). The diameter of the blade depends on the type of cutting machine in use.

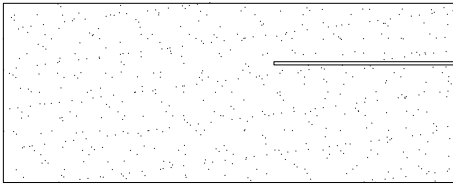
The peripheral speed of the blade should be in the range of 22 to 28 linear metres per second; this value is calculated based on a blade diameter of 350 mm, according to this formula:

$diameter \text{ (expressed in metres)} \times (3.14) \times 1400$
(= motor revolutions per minute) / 60.

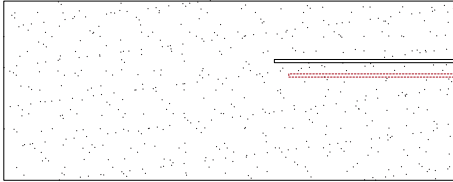
The cutting feed rate should be in the range of 1 to 1.5 lm/minute.

For cutting at 45°, we recommend the use of a special blade for 45° cuts.

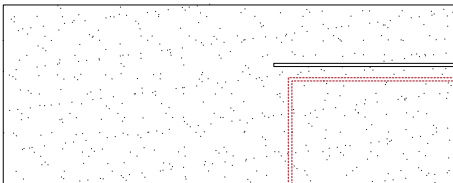
(TAB. 1) PROCEDURE FOR L-SHAPED CUTS



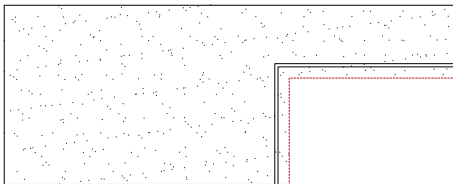
1ST CUT



2ND CUT



3RD CUT

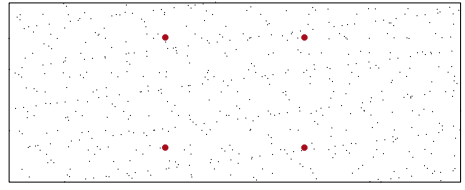


4TH CUT

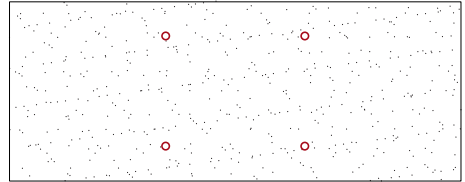
Procedure for L-shaped Cuts

To make accurate L-shaped cuts on Stone Italiana surfaces, make a first lengthwise cut to the desired size and then make another cut parallel to the first one, at about 4-5 cms from it, to relieve any strains in the slab. Then make the third cut, i.e. the second cut to size, perpendicularly to the first cut. Proceed with the fourth cut, parallel to the third one (i.e., the perpendicular one), at a distance of about 4 – 5 cms.

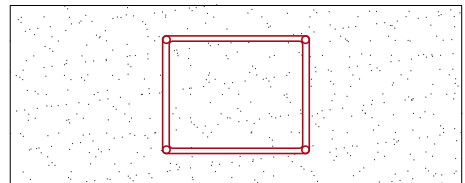
(TAB. 2) PROCEDURE FOR ROUGH SQUARE AND RECTANGULAR CUT-OUTS



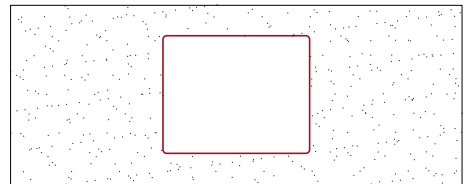
1) MARK THE VERTICES



2) DRILL OUT THE CORNERS



3) JOIN THE HOLES MAKING A THROUGH CUT



4) CUT-OUT WITH ROUNDED CORNERS

Procedure for Making Rough Square and Rectangular Cut-outs

To make square cut-outs always use dedicated tools for recomposed quartz.

- Place the piece to be cut on the machine table (bridge saw, CNC, etc.), with the polished side up.

1) and 2) Mark the vertices of the intended cut-out and then bore through holes in correspondence with the vertices you have just marked, using a 30 mm diameter bit.

3) Join the holes with a through cut, so as to complete the cut-out.

4) Corners should always be rounded, rather than sharp-edged.

(TAB. 3) EDGE POLISHING AND/OR BRUSHING**BULLNOSE MACHINE**

THICKNESS	FINISHING	WHEELS	TREATMENT
		Wheels series for POLISHED, JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE, RocFACE finishings	Diamond brushes series for JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE, RocFACE finishings
1,3-2,0-3,0	POLISHED	2M-3M-4M-600-800-1000	
1,3-2,0-3,0	JAIPUR	2M	46-80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	GRAIN	2M	60-80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	LUNARE	2M	60-80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	RocFACE		36-46-80 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR

EDGE POLISHER

THICKNESS	FINISHING	WHEELS	TREATMENT
		Wheels series for POLISHED, JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE, RocFACE finishings	Diamond brushes series for JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE, RocFACE finishings
1,3-2,0-3,0	POLISHED	Green-Black-Red-Yellow White-Blue	
1,3-2,0-3,0	JAIPUR	Green	80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	GRAIN	Green	46-80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	LUNARE	Green	46-80-120 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR
1,3-2,0-3,0	RocFACE	Green	36-46-80 JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR

2M-3M-4M (Magnesite wheels)

EXCELLENT FINISHING: **600-800-1000** (Resinoid diamond wheels series) ADRIA ABRASIVI

36-46-80-120 (Diamond brushes series **MAFLEX-DIA**) VENETA ABRASIVI

Green-Black-Red-Yellow-White-Blue (Diamond wheels series **DIAHARDXT**) VENETA ABRASIVI

GOOD FINISHING: **6M-8M-12S** (Magnesite wheels), economic wheels alternatives to the above indicated resinoid diamond wheels: **600-800-1000**

Edge Polishing and/or Brushing

To polish and/or brush the edges of Stone Italiana slabs it is possible to use a standard edge polisher.

Check that the part to be shaped is perpendicular to the machine table and that a continuous flow of clean water is supplied, to ensure a good quality of the finished product, as well as proper cooling.

The belt feed rate depends on the slab thickness and it is usually included between 0.75 and 1.5 lm/minute.

For polishing applications, the wheel diameter should be 130 mm and pressure should be in the range of 1.5 to 2.5 bar, depending on the mechanics and type of abrasive. Use abrasives specifically designed for use on recomposed quartz. The type of abrasive used will affect the machine adjustments. Once polished, the edge should be cleaned with a safe descaler or neutral detergent. Neutral wax can be

applied for an improved finish.

Table 3

For brushing applications, use diamond brushes (yellow coloured); the series to be used are 36 – 46 – 60 – 80 – 120.

The finished edge must be cleaned and treated just like all JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE surfaces.

Bullnose Edge Polishing

A standard edge polisher must be used to polish bullnose edges on Stone Italiana slabs.

Check that the part to be shaped is perpendicular to the machine table and that a continuous flow of clean water is supplied, to ensure a good quality of the finished product as well as proper cooling.

When using a machine fitted with fixed profile wheels, the belt feed rate can be twice faster than a standard machine.

Use abrasives specifically designed for recomposed quartz; the type of abrasive used will affect the machine adjustments.

Once polished, the edge should be cleaned with a safe descaler or neutral detergent. Neutral wax can be applied for an improved finish.

See table 3 (Page 5)

Glueing

Use standard adhesives for natural stone, i.e., one-component, polyester-resin based products (resin + hardener). Adhesives can be transparent, tintable with paste or powder tints and polishable.

The surfaces to be glued to each other should be thoroughly cleaned.

Only rough surfaces can be glued together. These surfaces must be flat, to ensure a smooth finish.

Scrape off any excess product with a plastic knife and a cloth, before complete curing of the adhesive.

Curing time varies depending on the amount of hardener used. Curing will take longer if tints are added to the adhesive. Transparent and light colours will take about 20 minutes to cure, while medium and dark colours will take 25 to 30 minutes approximately.

We recommend the use of coloured adhesives.

C.N.C.

Use tools designed specifically for recomposed quartz stone.

Cuts made with a 200 mm dia. blade on 3 cm thick slabs should be made in two passes, with a cutting feed rate of 1 lm/minute; the peripheral speed of the blade should never exceed 25 lm/second (*for the calculation, pls. see the relevant formula in "SLABS CUTTING" above*).

For all other types of machining, please consult the User's manual of your CNC machine.

Notes

- The abrasives to be used on recomposed quartz are: magnesite, resinoid, metal / diamond abrasives.
- For undermount holes, use nylon bushes only. The use of metal bushes are not recommended.
- Do not reinforce a countertop, whether 2 or

3 cm thick, near a cut-out or hole, as the reinforcement might weaken the top itself in the area around the cut-out, by making the material stiffer and, consequently, less flexible.

Handling and Packing Stone Italiana Countertops

All finished tops should always be handled and carried in an upright position (i.e., vertically). Use a 50/100 micron polythene cover to pack tops.

Do not use "bubble wrap" (air bubble plastic sheets), wood, cardboard or polystyrene in direct contact with the top. Use a layer of polythene in between the quartz surface and the packaging material.

Information and Guidelines for Cleaning and Maintaining Stone Italiana Quartz Countertops

PRODUCTS NEEDED

STONE TILE CLEANER is a slightly acidic cleaner easy to use. It effectively removes greasy dirt as well as hard water marks. It has to be used to wash and clean the top surface after processing. **STONE TILE CLEANER** can be used on all Stone Italiana materials excluded those containing mother of pearl (Lido, Poloperla, Pittiperla).

It is available in 1 litre and 150 ml bottles.

STONE CLEANER is an easy-to-use neutral detergent, specifically developed by Stone Italiana for the routine cleaning of all its materials, included those containing mother of pearl (Lido, Poloperla, Pittiperla). It is available in 1 litre and 150 ml spray bottles.

SOLVENT STRIPPER is the product suitable for removing silicone residues. It is available in 1 litre tin.

All of these products have been specifically designed and developed for Stone Italiana. There are no equivalent cleaning and protective products in the market place today. The use of other than Stone Italiana recommended products are not advised.

STEPS

- 1) **Washing and cleaning in the fabrication shop, immediately after processing;**
- 2) **Cleaning after installation.**

STEP 1)

Washing and cleaning in the fabrication shop, immediately after processing
(except for materials containing mother of pearl)

Product needed:

- **STONE TILE CLEANER**

(slightly acidic cleaner).

Give the surface a preliminary washing to remove greasy dirt marks from handling and manufacturing equipment, as well as any lime scale deposits left by the water used in the cutting process; clean the surface with running water and rub it with a cloth to remove the most superficial dirt.

For dark materials generally, during the work-

ing process, it is recommended to dry the surface quickly to avoid that the dirty water may cause halos and marks difficult to remove.

1a) CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- Wet the surface uniformly with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part **STONE TILE CLEANER** and two parts water) and allow it to stand for about 10 minutes
- **Gently** rub the surface with the green side of a yellow/green pad, until complete removal of all dirt left by the fabrication process
- Rinse thoroughly with running water
- Dry with air or, possibly, allow to dry out naturally.

For products containing mother of pearl (Lido, Poloperla, Pittiperla) use **STONE CLEANER** in pure form instead of **STONE TILE CLEANER**.

Absolutely avoid using acid or slightly acidic detergents, as they might irreversibly damage the shells.

1b) Problems due to wrong application of STONE TILE CLEANER or STONE CLEANER and remedial actions

If dirt persists, it means that:

STONE TILE CLEANER or **STONE CLEANER** have not been applied evenly. Repeat the cleaning process from the beginning.

If the surface has not been scrubbed at all or has not been scrubbed well enough: Repeat the cleaning process from the beginning.

If the surface looks dull, it means that:

It was not rinsed properly. Thoroughly rinse the surface again and dry it.

1c) Products NOT to be used

- Alkaline and basic products: These products can irreparably discolour the surface of polished materials.
- Detergents containing Sodium hypochlorite (bleach): these products can irreparably discolour the surface of polished quartz material.
- Cleaners containing Marseille soap or silicones (commonly referred to as *Polysiloxane* on the product labels): the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt in the polished quartz material surfaces.

- Clean & Wax products: the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt in the polished quartz material surfaces. If they have been used, try to clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** (do not use on materials containing mother of pearl).

Polished quartz countertops must not be treated with any protective product.

STEP 2) Cleaning after installation

Stone Italiana countertops should be treated just like any other kitchen item. Avoid handling them with greasy or dirty hands and install them with utmost care. This will make cleaning easier.

The initial cleaning after installation should be extremely accurate and should be performed with special precautions.

The products needed are:

- **SOLVENT STRIPPER**
(to remove silicone residues),
- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(slightly acidic cleaner),
- **STONE CLEANER**
(neutral detergent).

Quite often, silicone residues are not removed properly and accurately from the top surface after installation. Therefore, it is essential that the edges to be sealed, both on the top and on the backsplash, have to be properly protected by applying paper tape along their length.

NEVER remove silicone residues by scraping the surface of the top, always use **SOLVENT STRIPPER**: pour the stripper on the residues and allow to stand for at least 15 minutes until the silicone, previously solid, starts turning jelly-like. Gently scrape away the liquid silicone with a plastic putty knife and then **slightly** rub the surface with the green side of a yellow-green pad, until all residues are removed. Once the top has been installed properly and all silicone residues have been eliminated, clean it with **STONE TILE CLEANER** and rinse thoroughly (except for products containing mother of pearl, on which you may only use **STONE CLEANER**).

2a) CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- Wet the surface uniformly with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part **STONE TILE CLEANER** and two parts water) or with undiluted **STONE CLEANER**, for materials containing mother of pearl
- **Gently** rub the surface with the green side of a yellow-green pad, so as to remove all residual dirt
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry.

PROCEDURES BY THE END USER

Stone Italiana kitchen tops are absorption resistant; however, stains should be removed within 16 hours of their formation, regardless of the type of stain.

Routine clening

Product needed:

- **STONE CLEANER - spray**
(*neutral detergent*).
- Use the neutral detergent **Stone Cleaner - spray** form (undiluted) or any other common household tile cleaner.
- Wet the countertop surface **uniformly** with the detergent, rub gently with the soft side of a yellow / green pad, rinse thoroughly and dry with a cloth.

Extraordinary clening

Products needed:

- **STONE CLEANER - spray**
(*neutral detergent*),
- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(*slightly acidic cleaner*).

All of these products have been specifically designed and developed for Stone Italiana. They are like no other cleaning and protective products available in the market place today. The use of products other than Stone Italiana is not recommended for the extraordinary cleaning and treatment of the countertops. Should the routine cleaning not be effective or in case of stubborn dirt caused by hard water, red wine, sparkling wine, coffee, tea, blood, cooking oils, tomato sauce, food residues, fatty and greasy substances, hot oil spills, we recommend to clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** (*slightly acidic cleaner*), except for materials containing mother of pearl on which you may only use **STONE CLEANER - spray** (*neutral detergent*):

- Wet the surface **uniformly** with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part of **STONE CLEANER - spray** and two parts of water) and allow to stand for about 10 minutes
- **Gently rub** the surface with the green side of a yellow / green pad, until all dirt is removed from the surface
- **Rinse thoroughly**
- **Dry** with a cloth

In case of stubborn stains, apply **undiluted STONE TILE CLEANER** (except on materials containing mother of pearl) directly to a yellow / green pad, **rub gently** with the green side of the pad and **rinse thoroughly**.

NOTE

The purity and the deepness of the **Superblack** black tonality could make more visible a sort of light abrasion effect if compared to other light colour Stone Italiana collection.

Section III

Information and Guidelines
for Cleaning and Maintaining
Stone Italiana Quartz Countertops

PRODUCTS NEEDED

STONE TILE CLEANER is a slightly acidic cleaner easy to use. It effectively removes greasy dirt as well as hard water marks. It has to be used to wash and clean the top surface after processing. **STONE TILE CLEANER** can be used on all JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and ROCFACE finishing materials. **STONE TILE CLEANER** is available in 1 litre and 150 ml bottles.

STONE CLEANER is an easy-to-use neutral detergent to be used during the first 4 days after application of the protector. It is available in 1 litre and 150 ml spray bottles.

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR is the product to be used to protect the finished countertops.

It is available in 1 litre tin and 150 ml spray bottles. A 1 litre tin will be enough for at least 10 kitchen tops with a surface area of 4 – 5 sq. metres each.

SOLVENT STRIPPER is the product suitable for removing silicone residues. It is available in 1 litre tins.

STONE KIT is a package of products for the cleaning and the maintenance of Stone Italiana countertops.

It is composed by No 3 small 150 ml bottles of: **STONE TILE CLEANER**, **STONE CLEANER** spray and **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR** spray.

All of these products have been specifically designed and developed for Stone Italiana. There are no equivalent cleaning and protective products in the market place today. The use of other than Stone Italiana recommended products are not advised.

STEPS

- 1) **Washing and cleaning in the fabrication shop, immediately after processing;**
- 2) **Applying the Protector and Packing the top;**
- 3) **Cleaning after installation.**

STEP 1)

Washing and cleaning in the fabrication shop, immediately after processing

Product needed:

- **STONE TILE CLEANER**

(slightly acidic cleaner).

Give the surface a preliminary washing to remove greasy dirt marks from handling and manufacturing equipment, as well as any lime scale deposits left by the water used in the cutting process; clean the surface with running water and rub it with a cloth to remove the most superficial dirt.

1a) **CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS**

- Wet the surface uniformly with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part **STONE TILE CLEANER** and two parts water) and allow it to stand for about 10 minutes
- **Gently** rub the surface with the green side of a yellow/green pad, until complete removal of all dirt left by the fabrication process
- Rinse thoroughly with running water
- Dry with air or, possibly, allow to dry out naturally.

1b) **Problems due to wrong application of STONE TILE CLEANER and remedial actions**

If dirt persists, it means that:

STONE TILE CLEANER has not been applied evenly. Repeat the cleaning process from the beginning.

If the surface has not been scrubbed at all or has not been scrubbed well enough: Repeat the cleaning process from the beginning.

If the surface looks dull, it means that:

It was not dried properly. Thoroughly rinse the surface again and dry it.

1c) **Products NOT to be used**

- Harsh wax removers/strippers, harsh cleaners, high-solvent products, alcohol, acetone, alkaline products, stain removers: these products can irreparably discolour the surface of JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and ROCFACE finishing materials.
- Detergents containing Sodium hypochlorite (bleach): these products can irreparably discolour the surface of polished, JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and ROCFACE finishing materials.

- Cleaners containing Marseille soap or silicones (commonly referred to as *Polysiloxane* on the product labels): the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt on the irregular surfaces and may irreparably discolour the textured surfaces of JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE materials.

- Clean & Wax products: the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt on JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE textured materials.

If they have been used, try to clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER**.

STEP 2) Applying the Protector and Packing the countertop

Product needed:

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR (*countertops protector*).

This is the only recommended specific product and the only one that will not affect the aesthetic result, while enhancing the technical features of JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE finished surfaces. Similar or substitute sealers can make the tops permeable to dirt and can cause problems and undesired effects, even months later.

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR helps the daily care and maintenance of the top, improves the appearance of the top surfaces (especially in terms of colour uniformity and depth), restores the original colour tone of dark-coloured materials and can be of help in case of problems caused by atmospheric agents or wear.

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR may only be applied on a clean countertop.

2a) APPLICATION MODE

- With a clean dry cloth, UNIFORMLY apply a thin coat of **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR** on a thoroughly dry surface

- Wait for at least 5 minutes and then start evening out the product with a soft cotton cloth. Do not leave any excess product (which looks like oily spots) on the surface. Be sure to remove any excess product with a clean cloth
- Allow the countertop to dry out naturally in the fabrication shop, for at least 15 minutes.

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR works regardless of the temperature. In any case, the top should

be allowed to dry out at a room temperature not lower than 10°/12°C.

Once completely dry, the top can be packed. The surface should be wrapped in smooth polythene.

Be sure to avoid putting the surface treated with **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR** in direct contact with wood, polystyrene or bubble wrap.

2b) Problems due to Wrong Application of JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR and remedial actions

If surface colour fading occurs, it means that:

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR was applied on a dirty and dusty or not well rinsed surface. Clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** and rinse well; then reapply **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR**, following the instructions above.

If the quartz surface shows hazy areas and/or an oily appearance, it means that:

The protector dried out properly, but the excess product was not removed before it cured. Clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** and rinse well; then reapply **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR**, following the instructions above.

If hazy areas appear in the points of contact with the polythene wrapper, it means that:

The top was packed before it dried out completely. Scrub the surface using a cloth and few drops of undiluted **STONE TILE CLEANER**; rinse thoroughly and reapply a thin film of **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR**, as instructed above.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR is a protective product that works on the surface of the top, by forming a thin protective film that will not create a shim.

It can be easily distinguished from other sealers and impregnators because, if applied properly, it gives the surface a uniform appearance with no glossy spots.

JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR is produced specifically for Stone Italiana and it is unmatched in the market place, being unique for its excellent spreading and drying properties.

We recommend the use of **STONE CLEANER** to clean the countertop during the first 4 days after application of the protector.

After this period of time it will be possible to use common household cleaners available in the market place.

STEP 3) Cleaning after installation

Stone Italiana countertops should be treated just like any other kitchen item. Avoid handling them with greasy or dirty hands and install them with utmost care. This will make cleaning easier.

The initial cleaning after installation should be extremely accurate and should be performed with special precautions.

Use exclusively the neutral detergent **STONE CLEANER** to clean the countertop for the first 4 days after its installation. After that, it will be possible to use common household cleaners available in the market place.

The products needed are:

- **SOLVENT STRIPPER**
(to remove silicone residues),
- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(slightly acidic cleaner),
- **STONE CLEANER**
(neutral detergent).

Quite often, silicone residues are not removed properly and accurately from the top surface after installation. Therefore, it is essential that the edges to be sealed, both on the top and on the backsplash, have to be properly protected by applying paper tape along their length.

NEVER remove silicone residues by scraping the surface of the top, always use **SOLVENT STRIPPER**: pour the stripper on the residues and allow to stand for at least 15 minutes until the silicone, previously solid, starts turning jelly-like. Gently scrape away the liquid silicone with a plastic putty knife and then slightly rub the surface with the green side of a yellow-green pad, until all residues are removed. The above process should be repeated twice. Pour **SOLVENT STRIPPER** again on the unpolished surface and allow to stand for 15 minutes; then gently rub the surface with the green side of a yellow-green pad (more abrasive), until all residues are removed.

Once the top has been installed properly and

all silicone residues have been eliminated, clean it with **STONE TILE CLEANER** and rinse thoroughly.

3a) CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- Wet the surface uniformly with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part **STONE TILE CLEANER** and two parts water)
- Gently rub the surface with the green side of a yellow-green pad, so as to remove all residual dirt
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry.

PROCEDURES BY THE END USER

STONE KIT - Use and arrangement

Arrangement

No. 3 150 ml bottles:

- **STONE CLEANER - spray**
(neutral detergent),
- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(slightly acidic cleaner),
- **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray**
(countertops protector).

Stone Italiana kitchen tops are absorption resistant; however, stains should be removed within 16 hours from their formation, regardless of the type of stain.

After the countertop installation

Use exclusively the neutral detergent **STONE CLEANER - spray** to clean the countertop for the first 4 days after its installation. After that it will be possible to use common household tile cleaners available in the market place.

Routine cleaning

Product needed:

- **STONE CLEANER - spray**
(neutral detergent)
- Use the neutral detergent **STONE CLEANER - spray** in spray form (undiluted) or any other common household tile cleaner, avoid using aggressive cleaning agents or products which might remove the protective film and make it necessary to renew the protection.
- Wet the countertop surface uniformly with the detergent, rub gently with the soft side of a yellow / green pad, rinse thoroughly and dry with a cloth.

EXTRAORDINARY CLEANING AND RESTORATION OF THE COUNTER TOP PROTECTION

Products needed:

- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(*slightly acidic cleaner*),
- **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray**
(*countertops protector*).

All of these products have been specifically designed and developed for Stone Italiana. They are like no other cleaning and protective products available in the market place today. The use of products other than Stone Italiana is not recommended for the extraordinary cleaning and treatment of the countertops.

Extraordinary cleaning

Products needed:

- **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(*slightly acidic cleaner*),
- **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray**
(*countertops protector*).

Should the routine cleaning not be effective or in case of stubborn dirt caused by hard water, red wine, sparkling wine, coffee, tea, blood, cooking oils, tomato sauce, food residues, fatty and greasy substances, hot oil spills, we recommend to clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** (*slightly acidic cleaner*):

- Wet the surface **uniformly** with a 30% solution of **STONE TILE CLEANER** (one part of Stone Cleaner and two parts of water) and allow to stand for about 10 minutes
- **Gently rub** the surface with the green side of a yellow / green pad, until all dirt is removed from the surface
- **Rinse thoroughly**
- **Dry** with a cloth

In case of stubborn stains, apply **undiluted STONE TILE CLEANER** directly to a yellow / green pad, **rub gently** with the green side of the pad and **rinse thoroughly**.

Should an extraordinary cleaning be performed, it might be necessary to renew the countertop protection; the need to reapply the protection depends on the use that is made of a countertop, usually it is seldom required more than once a year.

In this case, clean the surface with **undiluted STONE TILE CLEANER** and then apply **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray** (countertop protector) as instructed here below.

Extraordinary restoration of the counter top protection

Products needed:

- **STONE CLEANER - spray**
(*neutral detergent*),
 - **STONE TILE CLEANER**
(*slightly acidic cleaner*),
 - **JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray**
(*countertops protector*).
- Wet the surface **uniformly** with undiluted **STONE TILE CLEANER** and allow to stand for about 10 minutes
 - **Gently rub** the surface with the green side of a yellow / green pad, until all dirt is removed from the surface
 - **Rinse thoroughly**
 - **Dry** with a cloth
 - With a clean dry cloth, **uniformly** apply a **thin coat of JAIPUR STONE PROTECTOR - spray**
 - Wait for at least 5 minutes and then start rubbing the surface with another soft cotton cloth, until the countertop appears bright in tonality and matt in the aspect. Do not leave any excess product (which looks like oily spots) on the surface.
 - Allow the countertop to dry out naturally for at least 12 hours (one night) before using it.

We recommend the use of **STONE CLEANER - spray** (*neutral detergent*) to clean the countertop for the first 4 days after the renewal of the protection; after that it will be possible to use common household tile cleaners available in the market place.

Section IV

Faq – Frequently asked questions on STONE ITALIANA COUNTERTOPS

Can I cut food on a Stone Italiana countertop?

Stone Italiana surfaces are abrasion resistant. However, we recommend using a chopping board to cut food. Although our countertops are scratch resistant, metal can leave marks on their surface.

Can I place hot irons or pans straight from the cooker directly onto the countertop?

Stone Italiana surfaces can withstand dry heat up to **180° C**. However, the various types of pans and pots currently available in the market, with two, three and even four layers base for optimal heat conduction, can easily reach temperatures well above 180° C. Therefore, as with any countertop surface, hot pots and pans (including coffee pots and ovenware) should always be placed on a trivet or hot pad. Avoid direct contact with hot items: thermal shock can result in a crack.

Will the countertop change its appearance over time?

No. Stone Italiana quartz surfaces are designed to remain unchanged over time, as long as the cleaning and maintenance instructions provided by Stone Italiana are followed.

What cleaning and care products SHOULD I AVOID?

- Alkaline and basic products: these products can irreparably discolour the surface of polished materials.
- Harsh wax removers/strippers, harsh or aggressive cleaners, high-solvent products, alcohol, acetone, alkaline products and stain removers: these products can irreparably discolour the surface of JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE finishing materials.
- Detergents containing Sodium hypochlorite (bleach): these products can irreparably discolour the surface of polished, JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE finishing materials.
- Cleaners containing Marseille soap or silicones (usually referred to as *Polysiloxane* on the product labels): the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt in the polished surfaces and may irreparably discolour the textured and

irregular surfaces of JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE materials.

- Clean & Wax products: the use of these products will result in the formation of a dull patina permeable to dirt both on JAIPUR, GRAIN, LUNARE and RocFACE textured materials and polished surfaces.

If these products have been used, try to clean with **STONE TILE CLEANER** (do not use on products containing mother of pearl).

P R O D O T T O S T O N E I T A L I A N A - M A D E I N I T A L Y

07.2010



Reg. 0413179



MEMBER OF GBC ITALIA



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