



Care and Maintenance Tips Beautiful Cast Polymer Products for a Lifetime

More and more consumers are choosing cast polymer products to beautify the kitchen and bath. Products such as counter tops, lavatories, vanities, shower bases, bathtubs, enclosure sets, whirlpool baths and molding accents come alive with the custom colors, shapes, textures, and designs of cast polymer products.

Cast polymer products are man-made, chemically-bonded, mineral-filled, polymeric materials which are molded and hardened to a solid material in a variety of shapes to meet the design needs of today's homeowner. Cast polymer products are commonly known as cultured marble and cultured granite.

Cultured marble and granite products are usually manufactured with a high-gloss coating, called a "gel coat", applied during the manufacturing process, which becomes an integral part of the product.

How can owners keep the "good as new" look of these products for a lifetime of beauty and service? Just follow these tips:

For cultured marble or granite

- Use liquid detergent for regular cleaning to remove mineral deposits and soap scum. Restore dull surfaces by using liquid cleaning compound (such as is used for cars), followed by a light application of liquid wax or paste. Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool, scouring pads, scrapers, or sandpaper on any part of the surfaces.
- To remove built up hair spray, paint or other difficult stains from the surface, use turpentine, denatured alcohol, or paint thinner. Be careful not to use turpentine or paint thinner on the hydrojets in a spa or plated components - damage to the plastic coatings may result.
- To remove plaster or construction residue, scrape the surface slightly with a wooden edge and wash with liquid detergent. Never use wire brushes or metal tools on any part of the cultured marble surfaces.
- If the stain is from hard water or mineral deposits, try using a cleaner for removing iron, calcium, or other such mineral deposits that are in your water supply. Most cleaning chemicals will not damage the gelcoat as long as label instructions are followed.

Today's cast polymer products are made with top-notch raw materials and superior quality control standards. The result permits a total kitchen and bath concept with products that last longer, look better – yet still allow freedom of color and design-versatility at an affordable price.