STONETECH® Maintenance & Care
Polished Marble
MCI-1106

LATICRETE

Globally Proven
Construction Solutions

NOTE: For all recommended products: read the entire product label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Avoid skin and eye contact. Always wear appropriate safety equipment during product use.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Routine, daily maintenance of polished marble surfaces will involve keeping dirt, dust and other soiling from building up. Spills, food and other potential staining materials need to be cleaned up in a reasonable period of time. Regular sweeping and light damp mopping is advisable. For larger installations these processes remain the same; only the scale will change.

Highly alkaline, acidic, ammonia based, abrasive cleaners, or bleach may damage polished marble and/or grout surfaces and may also degrade an applied sealer, adversely affecting stain repellency. The use of a gentle cleaner specifically formulated for polished marble, grout and sealer maintenance is the best assurance of not harming the polished marble, grout or degrading any applied sealers.

Maintenance Cleaning

Both routine damp mopping and monthly scrub cleaning of polished marble surfaces can be accomplished with STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner and Protector. This type of cleaning can be accomplished using a bucket and mop while a wet/dry vacuum is helpful for cleaning big floors. For commercial applications a swing machine fitted with a brush or pad or an auto-scrubber will help maintain larger installations.

1. For routine cleaning of polished marble with a cleaner and protector:

STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner and Protector (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.
1. Dilute STONETECH Revitalizer Cleaner and Protector (Concentrate) with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector (Concentrate)	Warm Water
Spray Refill	1 part	1 part
Light Duty	1 part	4 part

2. Apply diluted solution with a damp mop, towel, sponge or low pressure sprayer.
3. Rub surface lightly and remove any excess cleaner. No need to rinse.
4. Repeat if necessary for heavily soiled areas.
5. Let area dry completely before using.
Refer to data sheet DS 1207 for more information.

STONETECH® Revitalizer Cleaner and Protector (Ready-To-Use)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.
1. To refill 709mL spray bottle, use a funnel.
2. Spray or pour directly onto soiled area.
3. Wipe clean with a dry towel, lint free cloth or sponge. No need to rinse.
4. Repeat for heavily soiled areas using a non-abrasive scrubbing pad.
5. Wipe clean with a dry towel.
Refer to data sheet DS 1207 for more information.

2. For routine cleaning of polished marble with a cleaner

STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear and gloves when handling concentrate. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Dilute STONETECH® Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate) with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water
Light Duty	1 part	64 parts
Heavy Duty	1 part	32 parts

2. Apply mixed solution with a damp mop, sponge or appropriate professional cleaning equipment.
3. Clean entire area with mop, changing cleaning solution often to ensure that soil is not redeposited.
4. Wipe or rinse cleaned area.
5. Let area dry completely before using.

Refer to data sheet DS 1203 for more information.

STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner (Ready-To-Use)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear and gloves when handling concentrate. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Spray or pour directly onto soiled area.
2. Wipe clean with a dry towel, lint free cloth or sponge. No need to rinse.
3. Repeat for heavily soiled areas using a non-abrasive scrubbing pad.
4. Wipe clean with a dry towel.

Refer to data sheet DS 1203 for more information.

NEW INSTALLATION PRE-GROUT TREATMENT

Grouting cleanup is often easier when the polished marble is sealed prior to grouting. Light coloured or porous polished marbles are susceptible to grout staining and may benefit from sealing prior to grouting.

A simple water test can be performed to identify if the tile is porous. If the marble darkens after applying water to the marble surface and waiting for 5 minutes, the tile is absorbent and applying a sealer prior to grouting may aid in clean up after grouting. On a polished marble tile that does darken with water a single application of sealer is generally sufficient as a pre-grouting treatment.

For a pre-grout sealer for polished marble:

STONETECH® Heavy Duty Sealer

Pre-Grout Sealer Application

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Make sure surface is clean and free of waxes and coatings. STONETECH® Heavy Duty Sealer may be applied to damp surfaces one hour after standing water has been removed. Surface temperature should be between 10°C - 26°C. Ensure that the area is well ventilated during application and until the surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until treated surface is dry.

1. Ensure cap is closed and sealed, and shake well before use.
2. Mask off surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer using a paint pad, roller, brush or low pressure sprayer.
4. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 10-15 minutes. During this time, keep the surface wet with sealer, adding more sealer as needed. DO NOT ALLOW SEALER TO COMPLETELY DRY ON THE SURFACE.

5. Thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with clean absorbent towels.
6. A second coat may be needed for porous, absorbent surfaces. If a second coat is required, it should be applied within 30-40 minutes from the initial application as directed in steps 3-5.
7. Allow sealer to cure for 24 hours prior to grouting.
8. Clean tools used during application with water.

Refer to data sheet DS 1197 for more information.

RESTORATIVE DEEP CLEANING

Polished marble tile and grout installations can become heavily soiled over time. Restorative cleaning processes will help return these surfaces to a more acceptable appearance.

The following restorative surface cleaning processes are done in preparation for resealing or for specialised surface cleaning circumstances. These cleaning processes should not damage the polished marble surface, however, these types of heavy duty cleaning may degrade or strip many sealers from the application.

Depending on the type of soiling or staining, select one of the following options:

For cleaning grease, oil, dirt, dry soil, or to prepare for resealing:

STONETECH KlenzAll™ Cleaner (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants while handling concentrate. Ensure work area is well ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying. The following is a restorative surface cleaning process which is done in preparation for resealing or for specialised surface cleaning circumstances. This process should not damage the marble surface, however, this type of heavy duty cleaning will degrade or strip many sealers from the application.
1. Dilute concentrated STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water	pH
Light Duty	1 part	8 parts	10.7
Medium Duty	1 part	4 parts	11
Heavy Duty	1 part	2 parts	11.3

1. Apply mixed solution with a mop, clean cloth or low pressure sprayer. Avoid applying cleaner on unintended surfaces.
2. Lightly scrub with a scrub brush or floor machine as needed.
3. Remove STONETECH KlenzAll Cleaner using a clean cloth, wet/dry vacuum or damp mop.
4. Rinse area well with clean water. Allow area to dry completely.
5. Some surfaces may require additional cleaning. If so, repeat steps 2 – 5 above.
6. Once the surface is dry, reseal the cleaned area with a STONETECH sealer, as appropriate. (e.g. STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer).

Refer to data sheet DS 1204 for more information.

Removal of efflorescence, mineral deposits, and calcium based staining:

This type of restorative surface cleaning process is typically performed with an acidic cleaning compound. The use of acidic cleaners will damage or affect the surface appearance of polished marbles. Surface refinishing may be required to remove mineral based deposits or stains from a polished marble surface. Consulting a stone restoration professional is recommended.

Removal of epoxy or single component grout hazes, stripping topical coatings, acrylic finishes or heavy waxes:

STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of application and desired results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Ensure work area is well ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until surface use resumes. Avoid contact with surfaces not intended to be treated. Avoid applying in direct sunlight. Should not be used in extreme temperatures. Recommended application temperature range is between 10 °C - 32 °C.

1. SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING. Do not dilute before applying.
2. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper over the area with a paint brush, mop or paint pad. DO NOT APPLY WITH A SPRAYER. Immediately remove STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper from unintended surfaces with a wet cloth to prevent potential damage to those surfaces.
3. Allow STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper to swell as follows:

Haze/Coating	Surface Type	Age of Haze / Coating		
		24 Hours	1 Day to 7 Days	>7 Days
Epoxy Grout Haze	Tile	1 – 3 minutes	3 – 5 minutes	10 minutes
Epoxy Grout Haze	Stone or Masonry	1 – 3 minutes	5 – 10 minutes	10 minutes
Coatings*	Tile	1 – 5 minutes		
Coatings*	Stone or Masonry	1 – 5 minutes		10 minutes

Application time may vary depending on the surface texture and age/thickness of grout haze.

* Coatings such as varnish, lacquer, sealer, wax, paint, polyurethane, acrylic, and stain.

4. Do not let STONETECH® Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper dry on the surface. If STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper starts to dry, add additional STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper to keep surface wet.
5. Agitate surface with a nylon scrub brush or pad after testing a small area first to make sure that brush or pad will not scratch the surface. Surface can be wet with water to enable easier removal of epoxy grout haze or coating.
6. Wipe up residual STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper with clean, dry cloth or wet mop. A wet/dry vacuum can be used for larger area.
7. Rinse surface well with clean water.
8. More than one application may be required, repeat steps 1 through 7 as necessary.
9. Surface traffic may begin 2 hours after removal of coating or when surface is completely dry.

Refer to data sheet DS 1206 for more information

For cleaning and removing soap scum:

STONETECH Soap Scum Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear and gloves. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Spray STONETECH Soap Scum Remover directly on soiled areas. Avoid applying onto unintended surfaces.
2. Wipe surface with clean, dry cloth or scrub with stiff nylon brush as needed.
3. Rinse area well with clean water.
4. Wipe area dry with clean cloth.
5. Repeat as needed for heavily soiled areas.

Refer to data sheet DS 1266 for more information.

For cleaning and removing mold and mildew:

STONETECH® Mold & Mildew Stain Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear and gloves. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying. Do not mix this product with other household cleaners or metals.
1.   Spray STONETECH Mold & Mildew Stain Remover directly on soiled areas. Avoid applying onto unintended surfaces.
2.   Clean surface with non-abrasive sponge or stiff nylon brush as needed.
3.   Rinse area well with clean water.
4.   Repeat as needed for heavily soiled areas.
Refer to data sheet DS 1267 for more information.

For oil stain removal:

STONETECH® Oil Stain Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine that the desired results will be achieved. Make sure surface is clean, dry, and free of waxes and coatings. Ensure that area is well ventilated and keep children and pets away from the area during application and until surface is clean and dry.
1.   Using a plastic or wood spatula, stir thoroughly to mix the paste.
2.   Apply a 6mm thick layer of paste to the stain. Ensure that the paste extends at least 25mm – 50mm beyond the edge of the stain.
3.   Do not cover.
4.   Allow 48 – 72 hours for STONETECH Oil Stain Remover to dry.
5.   Using a plastic spatula, remove the dried STONETECH Oil Stain Remover and discard.
6.   Allow solvent to completely dry from the polished marble.
7.   If stain is not completely gone after drying, repeat process.
8.   Clean up residue and tools with mineral spirits.
9.   Once the surface is dry, reseal the cleaned area with a STONETECH sealer, as appropriate. (e.g. STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer).
Refer to data sheet DS 1208 for more information

Mechanical Refinishing for Polished Marble

STONETECH Honing & Polishing Powders

This refinishing process is designed for scratch, etch and wear pattern removal and will restore the marble's surface to a uniform finish and shine. Depending on the severity of the wear or damage to the marble use, in succession, one or more of the grit levels (180/280/400/600/800) of the STONETECH Honing Powders bringing the marble up to an even, uniform 800 grit finish. After the honing steps, follow with the STONETECH Polishing Powder to create the final shine.

Refinishing requires using a hand held low speed sander/polisher or an orbital sander for counters, walls or floor edges. For floors use a weighted 175 rpm floor machine 59kg – 64kg. Hand machines and floor machines need to be fitted with a natural hair pad or a white nylon polishing pad.

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to application. Make sure surface is clean, dry and free of waxes and coatings.

For refinishing to a polished finish:

1.   If surface is heavily soiled, pre-clean with STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner if needed.
2.   Mask off and protect any baseboards or adjacent areas to avoid splashing and overspray onto surfaces not intended to be treated.
3.   If you are using a variety of abrasive grits, ensure that the surface is well rinsed and a new pad is used for each changeover.

4. Apply approximately 118 mL STONETECH Honing Powder plus 237mL clean water directly onto the marble surface.
5. Refinish using a hand orbital sander or weighted floor machine at 59kg – 64kg. 175 rpm, fitted with a natural hair pad.
6. Keep compound wet while refinishing with plenty of water. Add STONETECH Honing Powder as needed.
7. Use successively higher numbered grits of STONETECH Honing Powder to close the face of the marble and follow with STONETECH Polishing Powder applied as in steps 5-10 above. Repeat as needed to achieve the desired level of shine.
8. Rinse well and use a wet vacuum or hot water extraction unit to remove all remaining compound.
9. Clean equipment with water.
10. Once the surface is dry, reseal the polished area with a STONETECH sealer, as appropriate. (e.g. STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer).
Refer to data sheet DS 1210 and DS224.5 for more information.

SEALING AND PROTECTING:

Polished marble is susceptible to staining from both oil and water based materials and sealing will help protect the marble's appearance. The cement grouts used in marble tile installations will also be more stain resistant with the application of a penetrating sealer.

For natural looking protection for polished marble and grout installations:

STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to application. Make sure surface is clean and free of waxes and coatings. STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer may be applied to damp surfaces one hour after standing water has been removed. Surface temperature should be between 10°C - 26°C. Ensure that the area is well ventilated during application and until the surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until treated surface is dry.
1. Ensure cap is closed and sealed, and shake well before use.
2. Mask off surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer using a paint pad, roller, brush or low pressure sprayer.
4. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 10-15 minutes. During this time, keep the surface wet with sealer, adding more sealer as needed. DO NOT ALLOW SEALER TO COMPLETELY DRY ON THE SURFACE.
5. Thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with clean absorbent towels.
6. A second coat may be needed for porous, absorbent surfaces. If a second coat is required, it should be applied within 30-40 minutes from the initial application as directed in steps 3-5.
7. Should a sealer residue appear, re-wet the impacted section of the surface with sealer. Agitate the surface with a white nylon scrubbing pad to loosen residue and wipe dry with a clean, absorbent towel.
8. Full cure is achieved in 24-72 hours. Use of the treated surface may resume in 6-8 hours. If use of the surface must resume sooner, cover the treated surface with red rosin paper to protect it until full cure is achieved.
9. Clean tools used during application with water.
Refer to data sheet DS 1197 for more information.

The above recommendations still apply to the following products which have undergone name changes;
STONETECH® Enhancer Sealer, renamed STONETECH® Enhancer & Sealer
STONETECH® Sealer, renamed STONETECH® Stone, Tile & Grout Sealer
STONETECH® Semi Gloss Finishing Sealer, STONETECH® Semi Gloss Finish & Sealer
STONETECH® High Gloss Finishing Sealer, renamed STONETECH® High Gloss Finish & Sealer