

Maintenance and Care

For Internal & External Cladding in Honed &
Textured Surfaces

MAINTENANCE AND CARE *FOR INTERNAL & EXTERNAL CLADDING IN HONED AND TEXTURED SURFACES*

Increase the longevity and beauty of your natural stone products by cleaning and protecting your stone. .

It is generally recommended that external cladding is specified in a textured or honed finish to provide greater durability and keep your stone looking beautiful for longer. Polished finishes are prone to weathering and scratching and not suited to this type of application.

STONE SELECTION

It is critical to consider the performance expectations of your stone selection, including any need for a non-slip finish, ease of cleaning along with all the design, styling, and aesthetic requirements.

Natural Stone cladding products include Marble, Travertine, Limestone and Granite which are available in a range of different surface finishes which may affect the level of cleaning and maintenance required.

All these points impact on design and styling along with requirements for general care and maintenance. Consult our showroom staff for a quick easy route to the right answers with minimal amount of consultation.

SEALER

For enhanced performance it is recommend that all-natural stone cladding be sealed with **Aqua Seal Gold +** by Sealers Plus

A premium penetrating sealer designed specifically for natural stone resulting in a surface that is more practical to clean and maintain.

Re-application of **Aqua Seal Gold +** approximately every two years will ensure the longevity and performance of your stone.

PRE-SEAL WET AREAS

For cladding exposed to a waterline, shower and/or regularly exposed to water, optimum performance is achieved by a 6 sided dip sealing in **Aqua Seal Ultra Block** prior to install.

Tiles that were dip sealed prior to installation will be required to be sealed on completion with **Sealers Plus Aqua Seal Gold +**

REJUVENATE

Exposure to the elements and ultraviolet light can result in fading of natural stone over time is a reality but more so with some colours.

On lighter neutral colours it is less noticeable than with darker grey or charcoal, however really it is product specific so best to check in with our showroom consultants for advice on this matter.

To enhance or enrich the colour of a weathered stone refer to **Enhance N Seal** by Sealers Plus

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Generally, external feature walls call for minimal maintenance in terms of cleaning; one may consider cleaning with high-pressure water to remove dust & dirt.

For periodic heavy duty cleaning then **Sealers Plus Stone Wash +** or **Xtreme Clean +** can be used to remove dirt, grease, grim & soap scum.

Always test first in an inconspicuous area to determine ease of application, dilution rate, colour stability & desired results. End user to determine the suitability of the product for their own use.

The frequency of this will vary depending on the product, environmental factors and level of traffic or use.

EFFLORESCENCE

Efflorescence can occur on any external natural stone finish at any time due to salts and impurities from any water source. Minimise risk of Efflorescence by use of Efflock as an additive to water when used at any stage of the install process.

If the cladding is installed on a masonry background, the substrate should be waterproofed prior to installation. This will minimise weeping of moisture with impurities from the background, (bricks, render or concrete panels), through to the stone surface resulting in efflorescence.

If efflorescence does occur, then it should be cleaned promptly with diluted **Oxi Treat +** however if left over time and exposed to sun and general weather conditions over time, it can become difficult if not impossible to remove.

PRODUCTS

All sealing and cleaning products are available to purchase directly from Stone Tile Warehouse at 62 Westchester Road, Malaga (08) 6558 0511 or our Bernini showroom at 181 Hay Street, Subiaco (08) 9388 1178

- Sealer Plus **Aqua Seal Gold +**
- Sealer Plus **Enhance N Seal**
- Sealer Plus **Ultra Block**
- Sealer Plus **Oxi Treat**
- **Efflock**
- Sealer Plus **Stone Wash +**
- Sealer Plus **Xtreme Clean +**

For further assistance with cleaning, sealing and maintenance please do not hesitate to contact our showroom representatives.