**DO's and DON'Ts for Marble**

* **DO** clean up spills immediately to minimize damage to your stone.
* **DO** use trivets or mats under hot dishes and cookware.
* **DO** use place mats under china, ceramics, silver and other objects that can scratch the stone's surface.
* **DO** use coasters under glasses, especially if they contain alcohol or citrus juices.
* **DO** clean surfaces regularly.
* **DO** use marble sealer to protect the stone.
* **DO** use a tray for toiletry products in the bathroom to protect the surface from the damaging chemicals contained in many toiletry products.
* **DO** dust mop marble floor tile regularly.
* **DO** use door mats inside and out along with runners and area rugs on marble floors.
* **DON'T** wait to clean up spills on stone.
* **DON'T** use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners or tub cleaners.
* **DON'T** use vinegar, bleach, ammonia or other general-purpose cleaners.
* **DON'T** use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleansers or soft cleansers.
* **DON'T** use alkaline cleaners not specifically formulated for stone.
* **DON'T** use scouring powders and abrasives because they will scratch the surface.
* **DON'T** Place toiletry products directly on the countertop surface.

**Care & Maintenance of Marble Countertops and Floors:**

Marble is porous, and easily stained and is etched by acids. Avoid setting beverage glasses directly on marble as they leave rings. Fruit juice, carbonated beverages or other acids will etch (remove shiny surface) if allowed to remain on marble. Wipe up acid spill immediately, and wipe surface with wet cloth. If surfaced is etched, polishing may be required.

Natural stone is very porous. The best way to prevent stains is to treat the surface with a protective sealer. The sealer fills in the pores and repels spills on the surface, allowing you time to completely wipe it away.

Dust mop interior marble floors frequently using a clean non-treated dry dust mop. Sand, dirt and grit do the most damage to natural stone surfaces due to their abrasiveness. Mats or area rugs inside and outside an entrance will help to minimize the sand, dirt and grit that will scratch the stone floor. Be sure that the underside of the mat or rug is a non-slip surface. Normally, it will take a person about eight steps on a floor surface to remove sand or dirt from the bottom of their shoes. Do not use vacuum cleaners that are worn. The metal or plastic attachments or the wheels may scratch the surface.