

# MARBLE, GRANITE, SLATE & STONE

## CARE INSTRUCTIONS

The natural beauty of marble, granite, slate and stone has captivated people throughout the ages, working its way into the manufacture of furniture with alluring elegance and sophisticated style. Telling a story about centuries of geological formation, each of these materials has a unique beauty alive with natural characteristics that personalize each and every piece of furniture created from them. The irregularities within these natural materials perfectly accent the human design of furniture further creating a look that is deeply appealing to the eye. However, like with any other investment, great care must be taken in the preservation of these materials to extend the life of your furniture.

### SEALING

The most important thing that you can do to protect the marble, granite, slate or stone on your furniture is to apply one of the numerous sealers available at any major home improvement store. Since stone is a porous material, a high-grade sealant will protect it from any dirt or spills penetrating into the marble, granite, slate or stone thus ruining the natural beauty of your furniture. Once a proper sealant is properly applied, the stone material should be protected against the dust, dirt and spills that come from everyday use.

### CLEANING

It is equally important to regularly clean any marble, granite, slate or stone with warm water and a clean non-abrasive cloth or sponge which protects the applied sealant and maintains the beauty of its outer appearance. It is extremely important to use cleaners specifically designed for use with marble, granite, slate or stone as conventional cleaners may contain lemon, vinegar or acids that may wear away the sealant and etch the surface of the stone. The abrasiveness of scouring powders or creams will also scratch the smooth surfaces doing damage to the furniture's beauty.

### SPILLS

Life happens, and so do spills. Quickly dealing with any spills that occur is the best defense against any damage that may result from the seal being eaten away and the spilled substance etching the surface of the stone. Many substances, such as orange juice, coffee, tomato products and soft drinks, are highly acidic and should be cleaned up right away. To clean up food spills scoop it up with something that will not scratch the surface, blot with a dry, white cloth and clean the area with a safe cleaner. To clean any liquid spills blot the area with a clean, white cloth, turning it frequently, to soak up any excess liquid and clean the area with a safe cleaner.

### REPAIRS

The best way to repair any damage or etching and restore the beauty and natural finish to your marble, granite, slate or stone is to have the surfaces professionally refinished and properly resealed.

### HELPFUL HINTS

Use coasters under drinking glasses and mats under hot dishes or any object that may scratch the smooth surface.  
Be sure and dust frequently.  
Clean up spills immediately.  
Use only cleaners specifically made for natural stone surfaces.  
Do not clean with abrasive cleaners or cloths that may scratch the surface.

