Sealing Natural Stone

WHY SEAL NATURAL STONE?

Natural stone is porous, meaning it can absorb liquids, oils, and stains.
Sealing provides a protective barrier that helps:

- Repel water, oil, and contaminants
- Prevent staining and etching
- Maintain the stone's color and finish
- Extend the stone's lifespan

STONES THAT TYPICALLY REQUIRE SEALING:

Stone Type	Sealing Recommended?	Notes
Marble	Yes	Soft and porous; seal regularly
Dolomite	Often	Harder than Marble but some varieties are porous
Limestone	Yes	Very porous; highly absorbent
Travertine	Yes	Requires sealing for both filled and unfilled varieties
Granite	Usually	Less porous but still benefits from sealing
Quartzite	Often	Hard but some varieties are porous
Onyx	Yes	Fragile and easily stained

HOW TO TEST IF YOUR STONE NEEDS SEALING:

Water Test (Absorbency Test):

1. Clean the surface and let it dry
2. Pour a few drops of water on the stone
3. Wait 5–10 minutes
4. If the water darkens the stone or is absorbed, it's time to reseal

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SEALER:

1. Penetrating (Impregnating) Sealers

- Absorb into the stone.
- Offer protection from within.
- Ideal for most natural stones.
- Often invisible once dry.

2. Topical Sealers

- Form a protective coating on the surface.
- Can enhance gloss or color.
- Best for interior, low-traffic areas or decorative use.
- May require more frequent reapplication.

Always choose a high-quality, stone-specific sealer. Avoid generic surface sealants. Seek for professional advice.

HOW TO SEAL NATURAL STONE – STEP-BY-STEP

What You Need

- Stone-safe sealer
- Microfiber cloths or soft lint-free rags
- Foam brush or paint pad applicator
- Gloves
- Mask (for ventilation-sensitive products)

Timer Steps

1. Clean the Surface Thoroughly: Use a pH-neutral stone cleaner. Allow the stone to dry completely (24 hours if recently washed).
2. Apply the Sealer: Shake the sealer bottle well. Apply evenly using a cloth, brush, or paint pad.
3. Let It Soak: Allow the sealer to penetrate for 5–15 minutes (check the product label).
4. Wipe Off Excess: Buff off any residue with a clean, dry cloth. Do not let the sealer dry on the surface.
5. Cure Time: Allow the surface to cure undisturbed for 24–48 hours.
6. Repeat if Necessary: For porous stones, a second coat may be needed after the first has cured.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU SEAL NATURAL STONE?

Stone Type	Typical Resealing Frequency
Marble, Limestone, Travertine	Every 6–12 months
Granite, Quartzite	Every 1–2 years
Slate, Onyx	Every 6–12 months
Dolomite	Every 6–12 months

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

- Sealing dirty or wet stone
- Applying too much sealer or letting it pool
- Not wiping off excess sealers
- Using non stone specific sealers
- Using sealer over wax

FINAL TIPS

- Keep a log of sealing dates.
- Always follow manufacturer instructions.
- When in doubt, consult a stone care professional.

*Always use an experienced service provider.

*This document is written as a general guideline.
FUM Australia Pty Ltd has neither liability, nor can they be responsible to any person or entity for any misunderstanding, misuses, or misapplication that would cause loss or damage of any kind, including loss of rights, material,orpersonalinjury,orallegedtobecauseddirectlyor indirectlybytheinformationcontainedinthisdocument.