

## Care and Maintenance

### CONCRETE TABLETOPS

#### Does your concrete stain?

Our concrete is very stain-resistant, much more so than most natural stone. The sealer provides excellent protection against acids and oils without sacrificing the look and feel of polished concrete. This stain resistance, however, develops slowly, so for the first two weeks following application, we ask that you be extra careful with water and oils. It also cannot handle anything with a lot of chlorine, so please don't use bleach, Chlorox or C-L-R products on it. Regular chlorinated water is perfectly safe, though. The sealer is vulnerable to some foods: yellow mustard and orange soft drinks such as Crush will leave a faint stain if they are not cleaned up promptly. These stains can be removed by light sanding and re-applying the sealer.

#### How often does it need to be re-sealed?

Depending on how much the surface is abraded, either by scrubbing or sliding plates back and forth over the same area, the sealer may need to be touched up after a year or two. If you're uncertain whether you need to re-seal, you can wipe the surface with a damp cloth; areas where the sealer has worn off will absorb water so they will temporarily turn a darker shade of grey. If you do need to apply a sealer, you can use a stone sealer available from any stone and tile store.

#### What should we clean it with?

A damp cloth is the best choice for regular dusting or wiping up fresh spills. Any gentle cleaner, such as a mild natural dish soap, will also do well. Avoid anything containing chlorine bleach, hydrochloric acid and products such as Ajax, Comet or similar abrasive powders; at best, you will dull the surface, and at worst, you may rub out the sealer altogether.

#### Can we put hot things on it?

Our concrete is very resistant to occasional heat such as that from a hot frying pan. However, it cannot tolerate extreme overheating such as a torch flame in contact with the surface.

#### Will it chip?

Yes, if you hit it with a stone, ceramic or metal object. Often, the first impact will not cause any visible damage, but repeated impacts in the same spot can weaken the concrete sufficiently that a slight bump could become the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back. We can usually repair chips, but the repairs are not invisible.

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Please Note: The care instructions provided are here to assist you in the care, maintenance, and enjoyment of your Stylegarage products. Under no circumstances are we responsible for any results of the use, proper or improper, of these methods.