

# **CLEANING AND CARE GUIDE**

FOR MATERIAL SURFACES

**STEININGER**

**MATERIALS**

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## BETON

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- STEININGER products are subject to the guideline „Formed concrete surfaces (fair-faced concrete)“ edition June 2002 produced by the Austrian Society for Concrete and Construction Technology, A-1040 Vienna, Karls-gasse 5; [www.concrete-austria.at](http://www.concrete-austria.at)
- Concrete develops its surface during curing, which can only be influenced to a limited extent. Therefore, the CLIENT has no claim to a specific pattern or a specific structure of concrete elements.
- Fair-faced concrete is a natural product and is therefore subject to external factors, such as open porosity of the concrete, slight cupping of the panels, hairline cracks, etc. These shall not constitute grounds for a complaint • Concrete has shrinkage holes and small pores, and therefore cannot be completely sealed. Deposits and staining are to be expected with use.
- Due to their high net weight, concrete worktops exceeding certain dimensions are prone to cracking (particularly around the hob/sink, drill holes, etc.). In such cases, we cannot accept any liability and therefore recommend using a design in several parts.
- Our concrete worktops should not be exposed to high temperatures for long periods (e.g.: putting hot pans etc. down on them).
- When chopping on the concrete surface, a chopping board and an appropriate mat should always be used.
- With pans etc. trivets or protective mats must be used.
- Concrete takes 28 days to dry completely, during which time cracks are more likely to appear.
- Variations in humidity can result in cracks in the concrete.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Concrete surfaces are delivered impregnated (oiled).
- Depending on use and visual perception, the concrete surfaces need to be refreshed every 6 – 9 months using an appropriate impregnation treatment.
- A bottle of impregnation agent is supplied free of charge on delivery or can subsequently be ordered from [steininger.designers](http://steininger.designers). Caution: risk of spontaneous combustion!
- Store cleaning cloths, application sponges, cleaning paper, scouring pads, filters, etc. as well as any material remnants in non-combustible containers with tight-fitting, self-closing lids or under water.
- Any type of spills (particularly red wine, lemon juice, etc.) should be wiped off immediately and not allowed to dry.
- Use only water for cleaning, towel down with dry cloths
- Do not use scoring pads. We recommend soft cotton rags or microfibre cloths

## NATURAL STONE | GRANITE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Inclusions, colour variations and material characteristics that occur in natural stone, such as hairline cracks, quartz veins and matt pores in reflected light, are absolutely normal, as are colour or structural variations compared with sample worktops. These in no way constitute an impairment of the value of the material. Even within one worktop, some variation is to be expected.
- In some cases, loose veins, holes or continuous open blemishes may need to be filled with mastic, but this does not constitute an impairment of value.
- Do not chop directly on the surface and always clean up spills immediately
- Do not place any hot pots or pans directly on the work surface.

## CLEANING AND CARE

- Every natural stone worktop from our sales range is to be impregnated with the supplied impregnation agent before being used. This largely prevents colour changes.
- Impregnation of the material should be repeated every 6 – 9 months depending on use of the worktop.
- We also recommend using the surface care product available in our sales range for daily care. Impregnation and daily care with the intended surface care product significantly reduces the likelihood of staining.

## NATURAL STONE | MARBLE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Marble is not scratch-proof or heat-resistant. Do not allow liquids to dry on the surface.
- Marble is not heat-resistant, so avoid putting hot objects down on the worktop.
- Heat marks go too deep and therefore cannot be removed.

## CLEANING AND CARE

- Of all natural stone worktops, marble worktops are more susceptible to staining, so take care with all types of liquids and wipe any spillages off the surface immediately.
- The surfaces should only be cleaned with lukewarm water and surfactant-free cleaning agent (e.g. washing-up liquid) and then wiped down with pure water.
- Due to its low degree of hardness, marble is not scratch-proof, so you should not chop directly on the surface.

## QUARZ COMPOSITE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Inclusions and colour variations that occur in quartz composite are absolutely normal and in no way constitute an impairment of the value of the material.
- Due to its high quartz content, this composite material is highly scratch-proof and cut-resistant. Metal abrasion may occur on the surface, but can be cleaned off and in no way constitutes an impairment of the value of the material.
- Quartz composite is only heat-resistant to a certain extent (maximum 60 degrees), so we recommend using a trivet or protective mat to prevent thermal shock or discolouration.
- Avoid applying high levels of force with sharp or hard objects.
- Avoid contact with aggressive chemicals, such as drain cleaner, oven cleaner, pickling agent, caustic soda solution, (printing) ink, highlighter, solvent, cleaning agent containing chloromethyl, nail polish remover, mild bleach, etc.
- Do not use degreasers with a high mineral content or very powerful cleaning agents such as Cillit Bang.
- Refrain from using metal scourers.

## CLEANING AND CARE

- Standard kitchen care products that are non-corrosive and abrasion-free can be used for daily care.
- For stubborn dirt and limescale, a special cleaning agent or spray from the manufacturer should be used. Wash off with lukewarm water. Dry the surface with a clean, soft cloth.
- Never clean using oven cleaner, as this will damage the surface.
- Daily care with standard kitchen care products or the cleaning agent specified by the manufacturer significantly reduces the likelihood of surface staining.
- Dried stains (f.i. from food) , chewing gum, fat, nail polish can be removed with a plastic grater.

## CERAMIC

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Ceramic kitchen worktops are heat-resistant, scratch-proof and cut-resistant, very easy to clean and robust.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Household cleaning agents are suitable for cleaning and care.
- Ceramic is resistant to chemical and (in)organic cleaning agents.
- Since ceramics non porous (or is closed-pored), care products and care oils have no effect. Remove lime stains can be removed with common vinegar based cleanser and try wipe.

## ANODISED ALUMINIUM SURFACES

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Depending on the composition of the aluminium alloy of the carrier material, slight colour differences can occur in the anodised surface during the anodising process

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Cleaning should be carried out using a soft cloth or sponge without a scourer and a pure wetting solution (e.g. washing-up liquid (pH value 5 – 8) in the usual dilution).
- The coated aluminium and the cleaning agent must be cool during cleaning (max. 25 degrees).
- Internal parts can normally be kept clean by simply wiping them periodically with a soft cloth.
- Internal parts that have not been cleaned for longer periods can be cleaned with a PH-level neutral cleaning agent and a soft cloth and then rinsed with clean water. Final polishing with a soft, dry cloth will make them look as good as new.
- Soda solutions, alkalis and acids must be avoided. Grating agents must also never be used for cleaning.

## LACQUERED WOODEN SURFACES: MATT OR HIGH-GLOSS

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Wood is a natural product that can vary in appearance and characteristics.
- The paint only reaches its final hardness after three months. You should therefore treat the surface with particular care during this period.
- Clean up any standing water or spills as quickly as possible.
- An ambient temperature of approx. 20°C and a relative humidity of around 50% are to be observed in order to prevent cracking and unwanted shrinkage.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Using dry cloths can leave scratch marks. Avoid cleaning with microfibre cloths.
- Clean the wooden surface with a soft, damp cloth and a commercially available cleaning agent in the direction of the wood grain.
- The cleaning agent must not contain any scouring ingredients. Aggressive, alkaline or solvent-based cleaning products can damage the surface. Stain remover and alcohol are also unsuitable.
- Heavy soiling should be treated with a soft nylon brush and household cleaning agent diluted with water. For glue, felt pen and other stubborn stains, we recommend using dilute methylated spirit or white spirit. Vinegar-based cleaner or vinegar essence is good for tackling limescale deposits.
- After each cleaning, it is particularly important to wipe painted surfaces over with mild household cleaning agent or water. Naturally, you should then rub them dry with a chamois leather or a soft cloth.
- Do not use nitro thinners or trichloroethylene for cleaning, as this will result in streaks. Furniture polish or „Tisch-Finish 2“, a care product for solid wood worktops, will leave an unpleasant film on the painted surface. Also avoid using excessive pressure on the surfaces during cleaning, as painted surfaces are less wear resistant.

## OILED WOODEN SURFACES

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Wood is a natural product, therefore variations in surface may occur.
- „Wood oils are firing up“: this means that the grain of the wood becomes more apparent through the oiling. In contrast to lacquered surfaces, the oiled wood surface is not covered by a closed layer.
- water and puddles need to be removed as soon as possible.
- An ambient temperature of approx. 20 ° C and a relative air humidity of approx. 50% must be maintained to prevent cracking and unwanted shrinkage.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Clean the wooden surface with a slightly damp cloth and mild plant soap in the direction of the wood grain.
- Avoid cleaning with microfiber products.
- Only lukewarm water should be used, not too damp rags or aggressive household cleaners.
- Oiled wooden surfaces should be treated regularly. Post-treatment several times a year, depending on use, is sufficient.
- The table cannot be oiled too much. „Better too much than too little oil“

## CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- Apply wood oil, use a lint-free and dye-free cloth (no microfiber cloth)
- Spread oil in the grain direction, the surface should show an even saturation
- Let the oil work for 15-20 minutes
- Oil again if necessary
- Polish the surface with a dry cloth (no microfiber cloth) until the excess oil is removed.

## PAINTED SURFACES

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The painted surfaces meet the EU standard for coatings.
- The paint system contains no formaldehyde.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- For cleaning, add a little mild, degreasing liquid detergent (washing-up liquid) to some lukewarm water. The surfaces can be cleaned with a dampened cloth and then wiped dry.
- The cleaning oils must not contain alcohol, ammonium chloride or scouring agents.
- Apply the care product as sparingly as possible to a soft, lint-free cloth. Then spread evenly across the surface and wipe dry.

## LAMINATE | PLASTIC SURFACES

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Do not clean with cleaning agents containing scouring ingredients, nitro thinners or trichloroethylene. The same applies to furniture polish and „Tisch-Finish 2“.
- Using dry cloths can leave scratch marks.
- For light soiling, it is sufficient to wipe the surface with a soft, damp cloth and then rub it dry.
- Remove fat, sauces, blood, chewing gum and adhesive remains with kitchen paper and afterward a fat solvent and a micro fiber cloth.
- Wipe afterwards with warm water and a micro fiber cloth.
- If your water has a high lime content and leaves unsightly deposits, you can confidently revert to traditional cleaning agents such as vinegar or vinegar essence. These will help to restore the laminate to its original shine. Professional cleaning of your furniture is concluded by wiping over with a mild household cleaning agent. Naturally, you should then rub it dry.
- Not all cleaning agents are suitable for laminate surfaces. Please do not use nitro thinners or trichloroethylene, as these will cause streaks. The same applies to furniture polish and „Tisch-Finish 2“ (a care product for solid wood worktops). The gloss of the surface will be lost due to an unpleasant film. Cleaning agents containing scouring ingredients should also never be used for the professional cleaning of laminate surfaces.
- Using dry cloths can leave scratch marks.
- A dry micro fiber cloth is used for cleaning with a solvent.

## STEEL | STAINLESS STEEL | PATINATED METAL SURFACES

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Salt residue must be removed immediately. Combined with stainless steel, it can form hydrochloric acid, which then burns holes into the material.

### CLEANING AND CARE

- A commercially available cleaning agent can be used for daily cleaning. After each cleaning, rinse sufficiently with clean water, as cleaning agent deposits are difficult to remove later on.
- The best approach for coarse dirt is to soften it with brake cleaner or silicone remover and then remove it using a soft (cotton) cloth.
- Never scrape marks or encrustations off the surface. It is best to soak stubborn encrustations for a while, as this makes them easier to wipe off.
- As a general rule, after being cleaned with any kind of cleaning agents, stainless steel surfaces must always be wiped thoroughly with clean water and dried.
- You can remove limescale deposits on the stainless steel simply with a splash of vinegar in the cleaning water or ten percent citric acid.
- Never clean with wire wool, scouring pads, scouring agents or agents containing chlorine, iodine or bromine.
- Using dry cloths can leave scratch marks.
- Apply the supplied care oil to a dry cotton cloth and work it extensively into the pre-cleaned and dried stainless steel surface. The surface should not look wet after applying the care product as it should be spread very thinly.
- If the surface looks wet, wipe it with a dry cotton cloth.
- Frequent application of the care oil helps to prevent water stains for longer.

## POWDER-COATED ALUMINIUM

### CLEANING AND CARE

- Use only pure water, if necessary with the addition of a small amount of neutral detergent (pH7) and soft, non-abrasive cloths or industrial cotton wool.
- Use lint-free cloths.
- Moderate mechanical assistance in the form of a soft brush that will not damage the surface is permitted for cleaning.
- Refrain from rubbing hard.
- Remove greasy, oily, sooty substances, glue, silicone rubber or adhesive tape with aromatic-free white spirit or isopropyl alcohol (IPA).
- Do not use any solvents containing esters, ketones, polyhydric alcohols, aromatics, glycol ethers, halogenated hydrocarbons or the like.
- Do not use any grating, abrasive agents or strongly acidic or alkaline cleaning and wetting agents.
- When cleaning, the temperature of the cleaning agent and surface should be a maximum of 25°C.
- The cleaning agent must not be left applied to the surface for more than 1 hour. The entire cleaning process can be repeated after 24 hours if necessary.
- After every cleaning process, rinse with pure, clean water.