

A little education goes a long way... A Stone Forest vessel sink is carved from a single block of natural stone. Each sink will reflect the individual character of the block from which it was carved as well as the inspiration of the craftsman. We have found that once someone understands the inherent qualities of the natural materials that we use, it decreases the chances of disappointment down the line, and increases the customer's appreciation of these exceptional products.

Much of the carving is done by hand with calculated blows from a hammer and chisel. We do use some small diamond saws and hand-held polishing tools, but because the sinks are not "machined" each will be a little different. They will not be perfectly symmetrical and there will be small variations in size. Each block of stone also has its own personality; expressed in slight differences in the makeup of its crystalline structure. This personality is further expressed by anomalies such as veining, minor pitting, or areas of enhanced coloration. As we extract stone from different areas of a quarry, the distribution of anomalies and color of each block of granite will vary somewhat.

Black Granite – Use a sealer that states safe for granite and marble like Stone Pro Ultimate Pro sealer.

Please note our Black Granite contains round or irregular-shaped anomalies of silver, gold, or copper-colored mineral deposits. These anomalies are generally small but can range up to approximately one inch in diameter (about the size of a quarter). Please make sure you carefully review this information with your customer.

Marble and Limestone – Use a porous stone sealer like Stone Pro Porous Pro sealer.

These stones will have color anomalies, non-structural fracture lines, and inconsistent veining, Antique Gray Limestone is a good example of this characteristic. Our Desert Cream Limestone also contains fossil remnants. There are typically some voids in the surface of the stone which necessitate filling with a mixture of stone dust and epoxy that we color to match the marble or limestone as closely as possible. Please make sure you carefully review this information with your customer.

Travertine – Use a porous stone sealer like Stone Pro Porous Pro sealer.

One of the inherent characteristics of Travertine includes voids on the surface of the stone. This necessitates filling with grout that we color to match the stone as closely as possible. Please make sure you carefully review this information with your customer.

Sandstone – Must be sealed more frequently. Use a porous stone sealer like Stone Pro Porous Pro sealer.

Sandstone is a sedimentary rock. As the sand was deposited in estuaries and tidal flats eons ago it also held random concentrations of minerals that now show up in the stone as spots, freckles, "eyes" or colored patches. The occurrence of these mineral inclusions is a natural expression of this unique material. We do our best to select blocks from the quarry that carry a minimum of anomalies and do not ship those finished pieces that may have large differences in pigment. Nonetheless, all of our Sandstone vessels carry some degree of anomalies. Please make sure you carefully review this information with your customer.

Onyx – Use a sealer that states safe for granite and marble like Stone Pro Ultimate Pro sealer.

Please note that onyx is a highly variable material in terms of color, crystalline structure, and the pattern or grain of the stone. Every onyx product should be considered one-of-a-kind and this is a big consideration when it comes to ordering a custom onyx product as the customer cannot possibly know what the product will look like until they actually receive it. Please make sure you carefully review this information with your customer.

Basalt – Use a sealer that states safe for granite and marble like Stone Pro Ultimate Pro sealer.

Our basalt material has some non-structural inclusions that appear as thin white lines in the natural material. If this is not acceptable to your client, please choose another material.

Care & Maintenance:

Do not use standard plumbers putty or oil-based sealers. These products will stain the stone.

NOTE: this product may have been stored for some time before installation, it's advisable to re-seal prior to first use.

INSTALLING - Please use a stain-free putty, such as **STA PUT ULTRA** by Oatey. It is formulated for granite and marble for use on the inside of the drain to seal it to the sink.

- -Do NOT use antibacterial soaps. These typically contain alcohol or citric acid which will rapidly break down the sealer. Look for something without citric acid or at least as far down on the ingredients list as possible.
- *Wipe the basin dry with a soft cloth after rinsing for each use.*
- Clean regularly with a granite and marble cleaner, such as **STONE PRO CRYSTAL CLEAN** or **STONE CARE INTERNATIONAL GRANITE & STONE DAILY CLEANER**.
- Our stone products are factory sealed with a professional grade impregnator/sealer. All sealers will break down over time and become less effective. **NOTE: this product may have been stored for some time before installation, it's advisable to re-seal prior to first use.**
- You must maintain the seal by **applying a stone sealer several times per year**. When you notice the water not beading on the surface, as the sealer breaks down, is a good time to clean and reseal. The company that makes the cleaner you are using will also have sealers that are formulated to work with each other. Cleaners and sealers are readily available through most home centers and fabricators. See reverse for the specific type of sealer for each material.
- If staining occurs, use a stone and tile stain remover like Stone Care International's product **GRANITE & STONE STAIN REMOVER**.