

# Product Care & Maintenance



hardtopix

1777 DeWent Drive | Jenison, MI 49428

## EVERYDAY MAINTENANCE:

It is recommended that you use a neutral cleaner to clean the concrete surface. Wipe up food or other spills after they happen with a soft cloth – especially acidic, alcohol-based or oil-based spills. Never use abrasive cleaners, acidic cleaners, oil soaps or furniture polish as these products may make the surface slick or soften the finish. Never use vinegar or ammonia and water as a cleaning solution as they act as a stripper and will damage the finish.

Use a little Maguire's Ultimate Quik wax periodically to help spills cleanup a little easier and help prevent micro-scratches that occur with everyday use. Simply apply a light, tight coat and wait until it dries to a dull finish. Once dry, buff by hand with a clean, soft cloth. Waxing the countertop is not required to keep the countertop sealed properly but does assist with cleaning and micro scratches.

## SUGGESTED PRODUCTS:

Most household products will not harm the finish. Here are a few products that will work great to clean your new countertops.

(Avoid the use of Abrasive Cleaners)

Mild Soap & water  
Lysol All Purpose  
Seventh Generation All Purpose  
Simple Green  
Windex  
Mr. Clean Multi-Purpose Spray  
Fantastic  
409

## CAUTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Do not cut directly on your concrete surface. It won't damage the concrete, but it might damage the sealer, which protects the concrete. Always use a cutting board when cutting and preparing foods.

Avoid placing hot pots and pans directly on your concrete surface. Concrete is very heat resistant, but again, the concern is damaging or discoloring the sealer. Use a trivet or a hot pad.

Avoid dragging sharp, hard objects across the concrete surface to prevent scratching. Minor white scratches should be

expected throughout the piece from use over time. Applying Pledge or wax every now and then can fill in minor scratches and give your pieces a nice sheen.

Acidic foods and beverages such as lemon juice, mustard, vinegar, wine, soda, tomatoes, bananas, pumpkins/gourds, etc., perfumes, colognes, and cleaners that contain vinegar or citric acids, and other harsh chemicals or solvents such as ammonia, acetone, hydrogen peroxide, etc. should be avoided or cleaned off of your concrete surface as soon as possible. These substances may "eat" through the sealer, leaving a light hazing, and could possibly expose or stain your concrete. There are of course other items and products that may damage your sealer. We have tested against the most typical, but please use standard precautions to keep your concrete protected. Avoid abrasive soaps, cleansers, or scrubbing pads that can wear down the sealer. We recommend using mild, non-abrasive, non-ammonia, non-citric acid, non-vinegar, non-bleach soaps and cleaners.

Please use standard care and precautions with your concrete products. Concrete is extremely durable, however, it is not invincible. Excessive force can do damage to your piece.

Scratches can be avoided on countertops by utilizing wood, stone or manmade cutting boards. Never cut directly on the concrete surface, as this will damage the finish and could compromise the sealer. Be aware that the sealer, though highly resistant to heat, should never come into contact with a pot or pan directly off the stove. Use the correct heat-resistant pads under these implements to keep from damaging the sealer on your concrete counters.

The best way to keep your concrete countertop looking its best is to understand its limitations. If you follow these maintenance techniques and take proper care, you will enjoy your counters for many years.