
SURFACE INTELLIGENCE · FIELD NOTE 02

Your stone is not a test surface.

A countertop can be natural stone, engineered quartz, porcelain, or a coating that resembles stone. Identify it first. The right daily routine is usually gentler than a viral cleaning recipe.

YOUR KIT

Soft cloths; surface-approved neutral cleaner; dry towel



THE VINEGAR HACK YOUR COUNTERTOP CAN SKIP. · AI-GENERATED EDITORIAL STILL LIFE

Three deliberate steps.

01 Identify the finish

Look up the installer or manufacturer care sheet. If the material is unknown, pause before using an acidic, abrasive, or alkaline specialty product.

02 Clear, then clean

Lift loose crumbs with a soft cloth. Apply the approved cleaner in its recommended dilution and wipe the surface without flooding seams.

03 Finish without residue

Remove cleaner as directed and dry with a fresh towel. Blot new spills promptly. Record persistent dull patches so you can distinguish damage from dirt.

The final check.

- ☐ Material identified
- ☐ Seams left dry
- ☐ No gritty tools or acidic DIY mixtures

Know when to pause.

Etching, chips, or deep staining may need a stone professional. Cleaning cannot promise to repair them.

Identify first. Clean second.

Always follow the surface maker's care instructions and product label. Never mix cleaning products. This guide is for ordinary household care, not hazardous-material remediation. Product-specific instructions take priority.

Related references and service information: Surface care: Natural Stone Institute Shower care: KOHLER

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