



# Soapstone Care & Maintenance Guidelines

Congratulations on the purchase of your Home Depot Soapstone countertop. Soapstone is non-porous, stain resistant, durable countertop surface that will provide you with many years of comfort and satisfaction. Maintaining your Home Depot Soapstone is simple and easy.

**Oiling:** Naturally, Soapstone is light gray in color. It's signature charcoal color appears when the stone is exposed to water, grease, and oils. Liquids cause the stone to oxidize, which darkens the stone's color and really brings out the natural beauty. Over time, soapstone will naturally develop a darker patina. To help expedite oxidation and to ensure uniform coloring, it is recommended that you treat your stone with mineral oil from time to time.

**Initial Oiling Prep** (items needed: sponge or clean rags, water)

- Once your soapstone is installed and glue has set for 24hrs, you can prepare your surface for its mineral oil application.
- Wipe away all dust residue with a sponge and clean water.
- Once dust is removed and surface is clean and dry, your soapstone is ready for its first oiling.

**Remember:** Mineral oil is non-toxic and safe for food preparation surfaces

**Initial Oiling** (items needed: a few dry clean rags, small paint brush (optional), mineral oil)

- Pour mineral oil directly onto soapstone and rub into the entire surface with a rag (paint brush can be used for hard to reach corners).
- Once the surface is covered, let sit for 1 hour.
- Next, wipe off the excess oil with another clean, dry rag.

**Remember:** Soapstone does not absorb oil, over time it will evaporate and need to be replenished.

**Maintenance Oiling** (items needed: a few dry clean rags, small paint brush (optional), mineral oil)

- Follow-up oiling will ensure your soapstone is looking great. However, the oiling treatment frequency will depend on the individual homeowner. Some prefer applying the treatment once a month for a year; others are completely finished oiling after a couple of months.
- Soapstone installed around a sink may need more treatments throughout the year, as opposed to soapstone countertops installed in an area with less traffic.
- **Pro Tip:** During normal usage, if your soapstone has noticeable dark spots appearing from water, this can be an indication that an oiling treatment is needed.

## **Everyday Cleaning:**

For simple cleaning use a dish rag or sponge with hot water. For more complex or greasy messes, use a gentle liquid cleaner or your household dish washing detergent (e.g., Dawn Original dish washing liquid) with warm water and a non-scratch scrub sponge.

Follow these simple care and use guidelines and your Home Depot Soapstone countertop will provide you with many years of trouble free use. Please visit our website at [www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com) for additional info.

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