

SIQUARTZ

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLEANING PROCEDURES SIQUARTZ

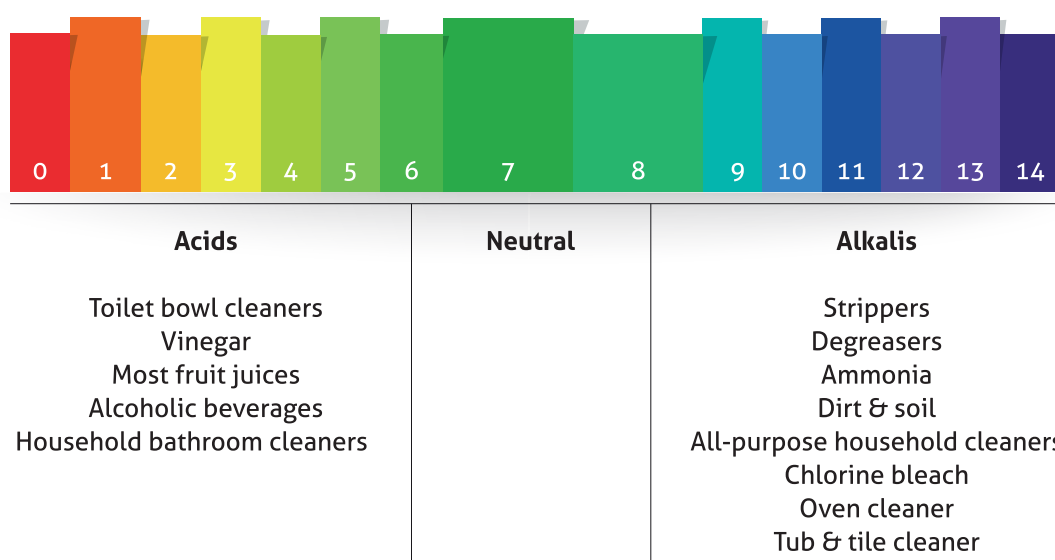
SiQuartz quartz requires very little maintenance to keep the surface looking its best. It is a non-porous material, therefore cleaning with a damp cloth and warm clear water is all that is required.

DAILY CLEANING

For routine cleaning, simply wipe down your surface with a damp cloth or paper towel and a pH neutral cleaner for natural stone.

The pH activity level is what determines the best maintenance cleaner for SiQuartz. For example, most neutral cleaners have a pH balance of 7; however, some neutral cleaners are stronger than others because they have higher pH activity levels. Some neutral cleaners are not active enough to thoroughly clean the quartz surface, while some neutral cleaners are too active for it.

The chart below provides the range of available cleaners and their respective pH levels. The cleaners that work best to clean SiQuartz quartz should always have a pH level of 7-6 for safe, effective and streak-free cleaning.



Granite cleaners that are available at Lowe’s, Home Depot or local grocery stores are typically pH neutral and can safely be used to clean SiQuartz. Make sure about its pH before using it.

Soap

Surfactants in some soaps may leave a greasy film on the surface. The film can feel sticky and is very difficult to remove. In this case, Bar Keepers Friend® Soft Cleanser can be used to remove any film or haze created by those surfactants.

Cleaning up spills right away, before they dry

Use a nonabrasive cleaning pad such as a white 3M Scotch-Brite™ Light Hand Pad coupled with pH balance cleaner for natural stone such as Soft Scrub® All Purpose Cleanser or Bar Keepers Friend® Soft Cleanser. Denatured alcohol could be also used, if needed.

Removing stubborn stains and dried spills

Any multi-purpose cleaner or detergent can be safely applied on these stains if water is used to cleanse the surface thoroughly off the detergent residues after treatment.

For extra-stubborn spills, use Scotch-Brite™ Light Duty Scrub Sponge. Scrubbing done with the above-mentioned products would not damage your SiQuartz quartz surface. Surfaces should never let dry out without rinsing thoroughly any residual cleansers.

Removing cooking grease

When grease from cooking is an issue, use Greased Lightning® Multi-Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser, or a comparable degreasing product, to remove the grease from the surface. Follow the cleaner manufacturer's instructions.

Permanent Markers

Keep permanent markers and inks away from your countertops. Should these materials meet the surface, clean first as mentioned above in the daily cleaning section. If the stain persists, moisten a cloth with Goo Gone®, or a comparable product, and rub it into the stain. Rinse thoroughly with warm water to remove any cleaner residue.

Sweeping off the dust and dirt with a dry mop

Spray a clean and damp dust mop with an antistatic aerosol 6 or 7 times and leave it to stay overnight to dry prior to use. Mop the floor in the morning. Scotch-Brite™ Microfiber Cloth or similar, whether dry or damp, are also successful in picking up dust and dirt from quartz surfaces without leaving any lint.

PERIODIC CLEANING

It is recommended that quartz surfaces subject to heavy traffic of use be treated (once in a month besides daily cleaning) with a heavy duty intensive and neutral cleanser, which is stronger than a daily cleaning product. Such type of a periodic cleaning will provide mirror gloss effect.

In the use of industrial cleaning machines, make sure that soft pads are used on the machines while strictly avoiding wax strippers. Customers that use industrial-cleaning machines should always use appropriate types of pad and brush. For the dense dirtiness to resolve, professional cleaning products are applied by using a cleaning machine with plastic brush or soft pad. Following the application of the cleanser, rinse the surface thoroughly with water.

ACTIONS TO AVOID

If any of the substances mentioned below come into contact with your SiQuartz quartz, rinse the exposed surface immediately and thoroughly with water.

Do not expose, in use or otherwise, SiQuartz **to abrasive or strong alkaline or acid or free radicals or oxidizers or the like** (whether high, neutral or low pH) **cleaners**. Various chemicals are corrosive and/or erosive in their ability to attack any structure including SiQuartz. Be very aware of these potential damages to your surface, especially paint removers or furniture strippers containing trichloroethane or methylene chloride.

Do not expose SiQuartz **to acetone** as it will leave a film on the countertop surface. We recommend using denatured alcohol if needed. Acetone is harmful to resins and should never be used as a cleaner.

Do not expose SiQuartz **to products including, but not limited to, bleach, oven cleaners, Comet®, Soft Scrub® with Bleach Cleanser, SOS®, products with pumice, batteries, paint removers, furniture strippers, tarnish or silver cleaners, or the like**. Do not use abrasive or harsh scrub pads. Do not apply any sealers, penetrants or topical treatments to SiQuartz under any circumstances. Such products will wear off and cause the gloss to appear dull or inconsistent.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

SiQuartz is made with pure natural quartz. Variation in the natural stone color pattern, size, shape and shade are inherent and unique characteristics to be expected with this product. This does not affect the material performance in any manner.

Color blotches are intended and designed into many designs to enhance the natural beauty. Samples are small select cuts from a slab; they do not exhibit all the characteristics of a design and therefore are not fully representative of what will be installed. Product will not be replaced due to these variations.

SiQuartz is durable and more resistant to surface damage than other stone. However, all stone can be damaged by force and no material is chip-proof. Objects hitting edges, particularly at sinks or dishwashers, may generate chips. Though a minor knife slip will dull the knife and not harm SiQuartz, no stone surface is scratch proof. Surface markings are more visible on monotone designs than multi-colored surfaces.

To prevent heat damage, do not place hot skillets or roasting pans directly onto the surface. We recommend the use of trivets and hot pads.

SiQuartz is not a seamless product; seams are visible. Where there are seams, the product pattern and shade can change.

SiQuartz quartz does not require any waxes or sealants because it is a non-porous surface. It retains its lustrous gloss and smooth surface without the need for polish or sealant.

SiQuartz recommends checking [*SiQuartz Warranty coverage and exclusions*](#)