

Alape^U

Care notes

General information

The information given here is based on the current state of the art and technology. It does not offer any form of guarantee. Each user is personally responsible for informing himself/herself about the suitability of cleaning and care products before purchasing them. Manufacturers of cleaning and care products generally provide information about the effect and application areas of their products. Improper use or the use of unsuitable cleaning agents will void the Alape warranty.



Polished glass (Counter tops)

Light dirt can be removed with clean water and a soft sponge or cloth. Conventional glass cleaners can also be used. More severe staining should be removed by applying a mild household cleaner directly to each spot. Paint stains can be removed with methylated spirit, acetone or white spirit. Rinse subsequently with copious amounts of clean water. Do not use sharp-edged tools (razor blades, scrapers) as they can leave scratch marks.



Satinized glass (Counter tops)

To keep the satinized glass in good condition, the slightly rough surface needs to be treated with greater care than polished glass. Soiling can be washed off in the usual way using plenty of water, a soft sponge, a shammy leather or commercial glass cleaner. To avoid clouding, the counter top should be dried using a clean cotton cloth, wiping repeatedly in the same direction.

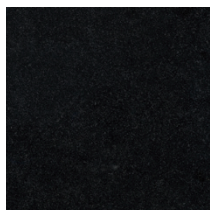
Natural stone (Counter tops)

Each natural stone top is a single piece, crafted by nature millions of years ago and with a unique colour, structure and pattern. Therefore, potential colour differences or cloudiness as well as pores, disseminations, hairline fractures and quartz veinlets are absolutely normal and in no way indicate a reduction in the stone's value. All Alape natural stone counter tops go through an impregnation process at the factory. Minor spills thus dry on the surface and can normally be removed more easily. If you establish that water no longer drips off the surface and is instead absorbed by the stone, renew the impregnation. Such impregnation, however, should be seen in general only as a supplementary protective measure. It does not ultimately alter natural stone's level of resistance to acids or soapy water.



Limestone and sandstone

Impregnation cannot make natural stone, such as limestone or sandstone, totally resistant to stains. Therefore, do not allow fluids to stand for hours on the counter top; remove them immediately. The following tips nevertheless help to preserve natural stone's appearance: Materials that contain lime, such as sandstone and limestone, can be eroded by acid maintaining the stone's natural condition over the years can therefore only be guaranteed by avoiding the use of any acidic cleaning agents. Caustic detergents and also vinegar or lemon-based cleaners should definitely not be used, as otherwise the lime within the natural stone will mix with the acid and change into gypsum causing the colour to fade and the polished surface to become tarnished.



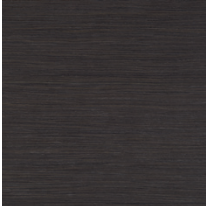
Granite

Acid-proof materials, such as granite for example, are relatively resistant to getting dirty. Polished surfaces can simply be cleaned with water. Use of any abrasive cleaning agents should certainly be avoided. The amount of water and detergent used should be kept to the minimum required. Stubborn dirt should be removed spot by spot using a brush and, if necessary, a pH neutral cleaning agent. Universal and domestic cleaning agents, such as washing-up liquid, are not suitable for cleaning natural stone. They clog up the pores and over time make the surfaces look greasy.



Wood effect laminate (Counter tops and furniture)

No special care and cleaning products are necessary for wood effect laminate surfaces. The best protection is daily cleaning with a moist cloth that is able to alleviate slight dirt at an early stage without issue. Always use a dry cloth for drying off afterwards. For stubborn stains (e.g. lime deposits), allow a mild cleaning agent without abrasive components to take effect for a short time, and then wipe dry. Do not use furniture polish and wax-based cleaning agents. They tend to fill structures in the veneer surface and become an adhesive layer that binds in the dirt.



Real wood veneer (Counter tops and furniture)

Real wood veneer surfaces can be wiped off with a dry duster. Please ensure that you always wipe in the direction of the wood grain so that all dirt is removed from the pores. A damp chamois leather or fine-pore sponge cloth should be used to remove more stubborn dirt. A mild detergent can be added to the water, but no cleaning agents containing abrasive materials, acid, solvents or grease may be used! Cleaners containing ammonia, acetone, nitro and synthetic resin thinners are not suitable. This applies also to furniture and wax-based cleaning agents, which can accumulate in the wood surface structures. Careful drying with a soft cloth is essential in all cases.



Firniss (Counter tops and furniture)

Minor soiling can generally be removed with a soft, damp cloth. Stubborn soiling can be removed using a mild soap solution. Any damp surfaces should then be wiped dry. Do not use cleaning products which are aggressive, abrasive or contain alcohol or solvents. Polishes and waxes should also not be used. Alape also advises against using steam cleaners or tools with sharp edges, e.g., razor blades.



High-gloss paint (Furniture)

High-gloss surfaces exhibit visible signs of use more quickly than matt surfaces. Therefore, high-gloss surfaces need to be handled more carefully. After a long period of use, slight scratch traces may arise. These do not impair use. For cleaning, use a soft, damp cloth and wipe the surface without applying great pressure. Then wipe dry with a soft cloth. For this purpose, use a household, water-soluble cleaning agent. Do not use aggressive or abrasive agents, or polishes and wax. Moreover, Alape advises against using a steam cleaner. Normal glass cleaners are much more suitable for removing stubborn dirt.



Chrome

Use a washing-up liquid solution to remove slight dirt. Alternatively, treat the surface with a chloride-free glass cleaner. Subsequent polishing with a soft, dry cloth gives the surface a dazzling shine. Please avoid the use of products which contain hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, cleaners containing soda or solvents, abrasive powders or bleaches/silver cleaners.



Mirrors

Not all cleaning agents are suitable for the mirror surfaces. Chemical agents such as alkaline lyes or acids should not be used as a general rule. Glass cleaners can also damage the mirrors' coating if used incorrectly over longer periods of time. It is thus important to use large amounts of clean water. This avoids the abrasive effect of the dirty particles. We recommend adding gentle washing-up liquid to warm water as an additional cleaner for stubborn stains. Wring out the window chamois well before you clean the mirror surface. When you wipe the mirror dry, pay particular attention to the lower mirror edge. Remove any drips with a soft, dry cloth.



Glazed steel

Normal dirt can be easily removed with a soft, damp sponge or microfibre cloth. We recommend using a commercially available, non-abrasive household cleaner for cleaning purposes. Aggressive cleaning agents and devices can damage the surface and should thus not be used. As limescale deposits can attack the surface in the long term, the basin and washstand should be cleaned regularly to avoid the accumulation of limescale in advance. If limescale deposits should arise nonetheless, you can remove them by using a lukewarm water-vinegar solution thinned in the ratio 1:1. Important: do not use vinegar essence that has not been thinned. Then rinse well with water.



Glazed steel with easy-care surface

The easy-care surface forms a barrier between the glazed steel and the partially aggressive deposits that arise particularly in the case of water containing limescale. The barrier alters the surface tension and allows drops of water to drip away more optimally. However, an easy-care surface nonetheless does not prevent very small amounts of water from remaining in the basin, and limescale residue from remaining after evaporation. The easy-care surface allows you to remove such deposits without you having to apply force. Long-term damage from limescale deposits is prevented. To remove dirt, we recommend for you to use a soft, non-scratch sponge, and a commercially available, non-abrasive household cleaner. Never use aggressive cleaning agents that scratch the surfaces and thus can damage the surface protection. The same applies to cleaning devices that can be damaging or abrasive to surfaces.

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