

END-USER

MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS DIRESKO STONE

Diresco is the only producer of compound stone in Northern Europe and stands for quality, which is constantly being improved thanks to the efforts of all personnel at all levels of the company.

Diresco Stone is – even more than the most durable natural stone – scratch resistant, waterproof, colour-fast and size-retaining, frost and corrosion-resistant, and has outstanding mechanical strength. This “Engineered Stone” can be used without problems in virtually any environment and under the most diverse conditions.

It can also be combined perfectly with other materials, such as stainless steel, stone, wood or glass.

The slabs are available in three thicknesses:

- 12mm
- 20mm
- 30mm

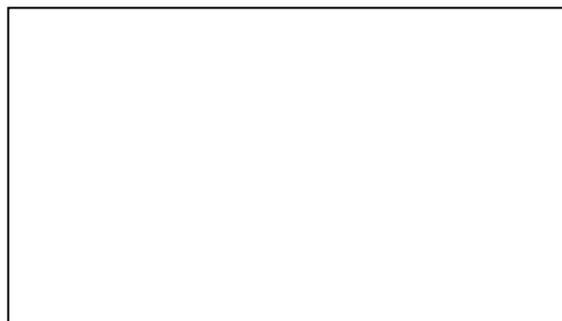
and in three finishes:

- Polished
- Easy Clean (honed)
- Anticato (shot-blasted – not in all colours)

The standard size of our slabs is 300 x 140 cm.

For more information, please visit or contact:

- a. our website www.diresco.be
- b. our sales department (info@diresco.be or tel: +32(0)089 856 944)
- c. your dealer:



DAILY MAINTENANCE

Normal maintenance is the simplest way to keep Diresco Stone shiny and radiantly beautiful for years. Daily cleaning with a moist cloth and a neutral cleaning product (such as dishwashing liquid) or a solution of vinegar with water is sufficient.

Specialised dealers also have specific maintenance products for quartz composites available (e.g. LITHOFIN Easy Clean).

If a more intensive cleaning is required, a mixture of warm water and CIF **CREAM** (white neutral) is recommended.

Do not use a normal household abrasive cleanser and most definitely do not use any bleach-based products. Clean the blade with a clean towel and then rinse it with sufficient warm water.

Stubborn stains can usually be removed by applying undiluted CIF CREAM with a soft sponge. Rub forcefully on the stain and rinse with sufficient amounts of clean, warm water.

Spilled drinks and/or food should be cleaned off as quickly as possible! Due to the aggressive characteristics of coffee and tea, they are more difficult to remove after they have dried.

Materials that harden after drying (such as chewing gum, mustard, grease, ...) should first be scraped off using a blunt, plastic scraper.

The slab should then be cleaned with a solution of household vinegar and water (always follow the manufacturers instructions). Then rinse with clean water.

CAUTION!

- Never use an abrasive cleaner. They can damage the polished layer and cause dull stains.
- Be certain not to use an abrasive sponge or steel wool.
- Do not use cleaning materials that contain bleach or ammonia, or that have a pH value higher than 10. Therefore, be careful with some dishwasher tablets.
- Some aggressive chemicals – such as, for example, oven cleaners or caustic sodas for clearing drains – can cause lasting damage to the surface.
- Do not use any silicone-based products.
- Avoid contact with marking inks and printing inks.
- **NEVER** place hot pans, cooking pots or equipment directly on the surface...always use a trivet!
- Quartz is harder than metal (kitchen knives). Always use a cutting board when handling food to avoid getting metal traces on the material. Knives also get blunt quickly if they come into contact with the slab.
- Never sit or stand on the slab. That will prevent cracks due to extreme tension.
- Because the material is so dense (non-porous), bacteria and moulds do not have a chance to establish themselves. Our quartz composite is therefore ideal for food-preparation and is accepted as a surface in the H.A.C.C.P. Hygiene Plan.

USING HONED AND ANTICATO (SHOT-BLASTED) DIRESKO STONE

The surface structure of these finishes has changed from polished (sealed) to a surface full of barbs. That makes the slab more susceptible to fingerprints and/or grease stains.

To prevent that, it is best to rub an anti-stain product (such as LITHOFIN MN PROTECTOR for composite) into the slab before starting to use it.

That will fill up the barbs with the substance. This treatment can be repeated if necessary, but be aware that the colour gets deeper every time.

Always make sure that the untreated surface is always cleaned well before starting that treatment. For Anticato versions, always clean the slab first with a high-pressure cleaner so that the 'hollows' don't contain any cutting residue or dirt.

If the surface is not cleaned properly, such residue may again become visible after the treatment.

We advise using, for example, LITHOFIN MN EASY CLEAN after the treatment has been completed. To bring out the colour -- especially for the Anticato version -- you can use a colour enhancer available from specialised dealers.

Caution! This is not an anti-staining product and is therefore not sufficient, on its own, to protect the slab. Combination products (anti-stain/colour enhancer) are also available, however. Please consult your supplier.

If these guidelines are followed well, you will have few problems, if any.

You should remember, however, that the colour in these versions is less even than in the polished versions.

GUARANTEE

All complaints concerning our compound stone slabs must be made in writing to the distributor within 28 days of the stone being delivered.

The guarantee is void under the following conditions:

- Exterior wall cladding, swimming pool cladding or any other application in which the slab is exposed to chemicals, extreme heat, flames, or ultraviolet radiation.
- Damage caused by placing hot cooking pots or materials directly on the slab.
- Damage caused by trichlorethane, methyl chloride, paint stripper and cleaning product with a high alkaline or PH value.

Most products for home use, available in retail stores, cannot damage the slabs. Some professional cleaning services use aggressive products, e.g. for the final clean-up in new-build construction, that can damage the surface. Do not use any cleaning products based on marble flour, chlorine or bleach water.

FOOTNOTE

This information is intended solely as a guide. It must not be considered as a guarantee and serves as an aid and reference for processing and maintaining Diresco stone.

Cleaning - Protecting - Maintaining for **Composite** -Kitchen Worktops

The following is a recommendation for resin-bound artificial stones (so-called composites). These artificial stones are made of natural raw materials such as quartz, granite or marble, which are bound with premium synthetic materials. The slabs stand out because they have a low level of water absorbency, are long-lasting and easy to maintain. Though with all materials, the proper treatment is important from the beginning.

Overview of the 3 Steps *for more detailed instructions, please refer to Page 2*

1

Initial cleaning of newly installed surfaces *used surfaces: Page 2*

Lithofin MN Power-Clean -acid free- removes greasy general dirt and much more



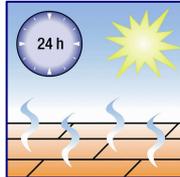
Coverage:
1Ltr./10m²



Distribute a squirt of Lithofin MN Power-Clean on the wet surface and scrub.



Rinse well with water to remove all product residues.



Allow to dry. Do not wet the surface for 24 hours.

Necessary equipment: white pad or sponge

2

Protecting against stains

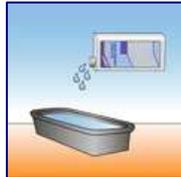
Lithofin MN Protector protects against stains and simplifies maintenance



Coverage:
1Ltr./20m²



Please note.



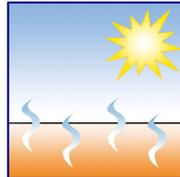
Pour product in a basin or bucket.



Evenly apply with a brush, roller or pad and let soak 10 min.



Distribute residues with a cloth.



Let dry approx. 2 hrs and protect from water for 24 hrs.

Necessary equipment: basin or bucket, roller, brush, cloth

3

Regular maintenance *additional maintenance tips: Page 2*

Lithofin MN Easy-Clean -used regularly- cleans and provides additional protection.



Coverage:
500ml



Spray the surface then wipe with a moist cloth.



Remove loose dirt with moist sponge or cloth

Necessary equipment: cleaning cloth

All products recommended in this method statement pose no health concerns once dry. The products have been tested by independent institutes. Used correctly, the products do not leave any hazardous substances on the surface.

Please follow the detailed instructions on the product label.

1 Cleaning and refurbishing used surfaces

- ◆ Treating used kitchen counters requires a thorough cleaning. All dirt deposits and care product residues must be removed from the surface of the stone.
- Lithofin MN Power-Clean should be diluted, depending on the type of dirt, up to 1:2 with water and applied thickly with a brush or sponge. Allow to work for 5 to 10 minutes.
- Scrub well and wait another 5 minutes.
- Add water while scrubbing and remove the solution from the surface.
- Rinse with clear water until all product residues are removed.
- ◆ Allow to dry for approx. 1-2 hrs before applying a protective treatment.

2 Additional information about protective treatments against staining

- ◆ Impregnators render the surface water and oil resistant, this prevents staining.
- ◆ Through the impregnation with Lithofin MN Protector, the surface becomes noticeably colour intensified and shinier.
- ◆ The surface becomes easier to maintain and maintains its appearance for many years. The active ingredients pose no health hazard once dry. (Certified by LGA, Nürnberg).
- ◆ We recommend to repeat the impregnation once a year to keep the optimal protection at all times.

Please Note:

- ◆ **Always test the product in an inconspicuous area.** Non absorbent or wet surfaces cannot be treated.
- ◆ Use impregnators only on completely dry surfaces. Otherwise, the product will not be able to penetrate into the surface. Used surfaces should first be cleaned with Lithofin MN Power-Clean.
- ◆ Remove excess product within 15 min. Rub-off dried excess using a cloth within 12 hrs.
- ◆ Impregnators do not protect against acid.

Please Note:

- △ Please follow the detailed instructions on the product label.
 - △ Artificial stones containing marble or limestone elements are not resistant to acidic substances such as vinegar, lemon juice, ketchup, wine, etc.
 - △ Do not use scratching or abrasive materials on artificial stones to avoid scratches and dull spots.
- TIP:** Avoid using leaching and degreasing cleaning products as well as layer forming products. These products negatively affect the appearance and make maintenance more difficult.

△ This information should be considered to be informal and non-binding. The products must be used according to local conditions and materials. Instructions must be read carefully and followed closely. Where no previous experience is available, or in cases of doubt, test the product in an inconspicuous area. (GB11.08bs)