How to Remove Residual Acid Cleaner

Q. We installed a marble shower wall, and the contractor used an acid to clean it. We had it professionally repolished, but it keeps getting etched after we take a shower. What's causing the etching and how do we correct it?

A. If you are using acid cleaners, then this is the cause of the problem. I will assume that you are using a stone-safe, pH-neutral cleaner.

It's possible that some residual acid in the grout or the pores of the stone is bleeding out when you take a shower. Try rinsing the shower wall with a solution of baking soda and water. Prepare approximately one cup of baking soda to one gallon of water, and flood the wall several times with this solution, which should neutralize any residual acid.

If etching occurs again, I would recommend that you have an experienced stone restoration contractor evaluate the problem. To locate a qualified PRO in your area, contact us.

Fred Hueston
Chief Technical Director, SurpHaces
President, Stone Forensics

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