

## Should tile discolored by vinegar be resealed?

**Q.** I used vinegar to clean my shower tile. It is textured marble mesh mounted black and white mosaic tile. I didn't know I shouldn't use vinegar. Now they are discolored. Do I just need to re-seal it? Thank you!

**A.** The acid in the vinegar chemically reacted with the calcium carbonate in the stone, causing etch damage, which is something completely different from staining. If the stone were smooth, a qualified restoration contractor could hone the stone to remove the damage and polish to restore the finish, but this stone is textured, which complicates matters. Even a professional restoration contractor may have a hard time restoring your stone using polishing powders. It depends on the level of etch damage. The bottom line is that this is not a DIY job, and sealing the stone will not remove the discoloration. If you do not have a stone and tile restoration contractor, we can recommend a vetted, experienced contractor for you. Just fill out our [online contact form](#), and we will see if one of our PROS is in your area.

Online URL:

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