

Do Not Apply a Silicon Impregnator Over a Stain

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If natural stone is stained, applying a silicon impregnator is a bad idea. The stain should be addressed first. Once the stain is removed, then apply the impregnator.

Fred Hueston, Chief Technical Director of Surface Care Pros and owner of [Stone Forensics](#) explains, “Don't apply a silicon impregnator over a stain. If you have, chances are that you have sealed the stain into the stone permanently.”

Already Applied Impregnator Over a Stain?

If you are reading this article AFTER applying impregnator over a stain, do not apply a poultice. Here's what to do instead. Hueston suggests, “You may be able to use very strong solvents such as methylene chloride to remove the sealer and have better luck than attempting a poultice on the stain. Methylene chloride can be found at your local paint store or home center. It is sold as paint stripper.”

Cautions About Methylene Chloride

When working with methylene chloride, read the product label and take the appropriate precautions. Hueston explains, “Methylene chloride is a very strong solvent and can be very hazardous to work with.” With prolonged exposure, liver and kidney damage are a possibility. Heat, sparks, or flames can cause it to ignite. Limit exposure, store and dispose of it safely, and do not mix it with other chemicals.

If you do not want to use such a strong chemical, Hueston suggests, “There are also new strippers that are safer to use than methylene chloride. These go by the name of *safe strippers*.”

Learn More

For more information, register to earn a Stone Restoration Master Course Certificate. You'll learn how to restore natural stone floors, countertops, and walls, engineered stone, and granite floors, using the most efficient and effective restoration procedures. Also included in this program is the Stain Care Pro course with a one-year subscription to the Stain Care Pro app and Understanding Sealers.

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