How To Remove Etching or Stains from Marble

Q. I have a ring stain from a cleaning solvent can on my marble vanity. Is there a way to remove the ring and replace the shine? I have experience and the tools for sanding, painting, and buffing cars. I was going to try buffing it like car paint but I read that on marble finishes, there is a coating (like a clear coat) that I could burn through. Is that true? Please help!! Thank you! Anthony

A. The shine on marble is achieved by means of mechanical abrasion, followed by a careful polishing technique and not by a topical coating. If you want to attempt this repair yourself, use your variable speed grinder on its lowest setting and lightly hone the etch with your diamond pads. Depending on the stone and how bad the damage is, you may only need to use the 400, 600, and 800 pads. Be very careful, because you can create depressions by being too aggressive. Following the directions on the label, use the MB-12 polishing compound with a Hog hair pad and carefully blend shine to match the surrounding areas.

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