

Cleaning & Maintenance of Monson Slate Floors

Monson Slate is practically immune to all common chemicals, which makes it relatively easy to clean and maintain. Any of the usual cleaners may be used on Monson Slate, though strong cleaning solutions or acids may affect the grout joints. Since it is extremely durable and virtually non-porous, Monson Slate is not affected by strong cleaners or ammonia.

Monson Slate Floor - Cleaners

Monson Slate floors should be kept clean like any other floor, scrubbing as necessary and mopping occasionally. To scrub a natural cleft floor, use a strong solution of floor cleaner. Cover the surface and let it stand for several minutes then scrub with a stiff nylon brush. After the slate has been thoroughly cleaned, rinsed and allowed to dry, you can choose a sealer, impregnator or a coat of wax as a treatment. These treatments will allow your floor to be cleaned easier in the future.

Monson Slate Floor - Sealers / Impregnators/ Waxes/ Enhancers

Monson Slate supplied in a "natural cleft" finish may be sealed, have an impregnator, coat of wax or color enhancer applied. Any treatment should be applied following the manufacturer's recommendations. Impregnators usually do not change the color or create a glossy finish, whereas sealers may change the color and have a matte or gloss finish. Most sealers and impregnators are permanent and are very difficult to remove so it is recommended that you test how the sealers and impregnators look on sample piece before you decide to use. Waxes and resin finishes can be used on interior surfaces as well. For interior slate floors, wax will enhance the colors and make sweeping and dusting much easier. Dust and dirt will not stick as much to a waxed surface and reduce the need for mopping or scrubbing. Some acrylic and water waxes work well on natural slate for interior floors. Color enhancers are also great when you want to darken the slate but not as drastically as with sealers.

Slip Resistance

When applying any finish to slate or stone please try to preserve slip resistance. A stone's slip resistance can be dramatically changed by the application of a finish. All floors become slippery when wet and the use of some finishes can exacerbate the problem.

