

LEAFLET FOR MAINTENANCE OF SHREENATH'S "BLACK MARBLE"

MAINTENANCE OF MARBLE

Some informative clarifications for fitting of BLACK marble on floor: -

- Flooring should be laid after walls/ceiling is plastered.
- Prefer to start flooring from top storey in multistoried structure.
- . Use larger size of marble slabs to avoid number of joints.
- A cushion of lime concrete/cement concrete 2½" thick should be given below flooring for two purposes: -
 - i) To reduce transmission of sound from one floor to another.
 - ii) For thermal insulation for the lower storey.
- Base mortar should be well compact below stone to avoid hollow sound.
- Use good quality white cement paste/slurry beneath marble stone and in joints while laying.
- Floor should be properly cured and polished as per requirement thereafter.
- Fill the cracks with adhesive be fitting.
- Layout should be planned and checked before fitting.

Taking care of marble:

Marble is the most sought after building material in the present day. Be it building a home of one's dreams or a business firm, the first and final word in flooring and construction is marble. But most users don't know the inexpensive and easy methods of sustaining the durability and beauty of marbles for years.

Maintenance

- Floor should be cleaned daily with dry/damp mop and weekly/fortnightly with mild soap solution, cleaner.
- Don't use harsh cleaning agent or any cleaner, which from acid after adding water.
- Since marble stone also breath, we should not use any sealer treatment over.
- Stains should be cleaned / washed away immediately.
- Marble scrubbing should be within a month by scrubbing and used the hand liquid soap after the scrubbing.
- Buffing in a year on Granite polish.

There are some other inflictions, which affect marbles:

STUN MARKS:

Pinpoint pressures inflicted on marble due to high heels of women or blunt pointed instruments cause tiny explosions inside the crystal of the stone. They appear as white stun marks on the surface of the marble. They are difficult to remove. Grinding/honing can reduce the number of stuns but some travel through the entire thickness of the stone.

WARPING:

It is believed that the water fills the pores of the stones and when the water evaporates the orientation of the stone's crystal changes and causes warping. Grinding green marble flat to cure it of warping usually fails, since additional water is introduced during the grinding process. So the green marble warps again. Which means, the only way to prevent warping is to install it properly with a non water-based material such as epoxy. You could even seal the back of the tile with epoxy and install it in a water-based system.

Do not attempt to seal the back of the tile with a silicone sealer. The silicone acts as a water-repellant and will cause the setting material to fail, resulting in bond loss.

SCRATCHES:

A process called 'honing' removes scratches on the surface of marble. Like grinding, it too requires the use of abrasives but it is not as aggressive. Both these processes give fair amount of smoothness to the marble. And, to maintain the shine on the surface of marble, a process called recrystallization or vitrification or even incorrectly referred to as 'marble polishing' is used.

GRIT SIZE	PURPOSE
36MB	To level the highly uneven surface*
60MB	To level the slightly uneven surface
120MB	To remove marks of grit size 36 & 60 & other scratch marks
220RB	To remove marks of grit size 36 & 60 & other scratch marks
320RB	To remove marks of grit size 36 & 60 & other scratch marks
400RB	To polish the surface
600RB	To polish the surface
800RB	To polish the surface
1200RB	To make the surface shine
10X RB	To give the final shine and touch on the surface

MB - Magnesite Bond **RB** - Synthetic/Resin Bond

* If the surface is leveled, this abrasive can be ignored.

NOTE: This process is only a recommendation. Final results may vary depending on efficiency of the operator/quality of grinding abrasive and machine etc. Approximate time required to achieve a 'shiny' mirror polish is 24 working hours for every 100 sq.ft. with one machine. However, the duration may vary depending on the skill and discretion of the operator. No chemicals (liquid or powder) are to be used in the process mentioned above.