



## **Stontex Platinum Stone Sealer Application Method & After Care Maintenance**

**Stontex Platinum Stone Sealer** is a premium grade water based stone impregnator that penetrates into the pores of stone to protect against oil and water based stains, whilst still allowing the treated stone to breathe and retain its natural colour.

### **How to use**

1. ALWAYS TEST PRODUCT ON A SMALL AREA FIRST and allow a 24-hour cure time to check results.
2. Surface must be clean, dry and free of residues.
3. Generously apply STONTEX PLATINUM STONE SEALER using low-pressure hand sprayer, clean brush or lamb's wool applicator. Avoid contact with surrounding areas.
4. Allow for a minimum of 30 minutes for product to penetrate the surface then thoroughly polish off any excess product residue with clean, dry, white cloths, towels or similar.
5. Leave the product to cure for at least 60 minutes, then repeat steps 3 and 4. Total application rate is approximately 15-20m<sup>2</sup> / litre depending on surface absorption. A third coat may be required for premium stain protection on very porous surfaces.
6. Avoid contact with moisture for a minimum of 8 hours after application. Full curing takes 4 weeks.
7. Use an organic solvent for e.g. methylated spirits to clean equipment.

**Notes:** STONTEX PLATINUM STONE SEALER will not prevent etching from acidic liquids, or physical surface wear. The level of enhancement will vary dependent on the type of material being treated. It is advised to test on a sample piece before applying the product to your surface. Eventually, wear and tear and cleaning will affect the enhancement and sealing performance. Reapplication of the product will be needed.

### **Application Rate**

Total application rate is approximately 15-20m<sup>2</sup> / litre depending on the porosity of the surface. Refer to the sealer application rates for more information .



## **Advanced Application Guidelines**

### **1. NOTE: STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER WILL NOT BEGIN TO CURE UNTIL ALL EXCESS PRODUCT RESIDUES ARE THOROUGHLY POLISHED OFF THE SURFACE**

Denser surfaces will have lots of excess to remove, and thorough removal is crucial.

### **2. DO NOT APPLY STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER TO SURFACES ALREADY TREATED WITH AN IMPREGNATOR OR SEALER because the result can be patchy and uneven.**

### **3. TESTING STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER**

STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER will work reasonably well the day after application, but it takes 3 to 4 weeks for all of it to cure inside the treated material. It is important to allow 4 weeks of cure time before performing tests, so the sealer is fully cured and working optimally.

### **4. Achieving optimum stain repellence**

After 8 to 12 hours of curing the treated surface can get wet and will provide reasonable water and oil repellence, but to reach optimal oil and water repellence the STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER must cure fully which can take up to 4 weeks.

### **5. Recommended tools to use to apply STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER**

a. STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER should be applied to smooth surfaces with a lamb's wool (sheepskin applicator or cloth so the sealer is spread evenly over the surface. Spraying is not recommended for polished surfaces.

b. For rougher, more textured surfaces, use a pump sprayer. Be cautious as spray mists can cause unwanted darker speckles on surfaces of surrounding areas.

### **6. Make sure to protect surrounding areas with a tarp, plastic, removable painters tape or other suitable material to avoid unwanted application on those areas. In the case of a mistake, immediately use acetone and rub the affected areas to remove the STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER**

### **7. Applying STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER on vertical surfaces**

On vertical surfaces you have much less dwell time than on horizontal surfaces as a liquid sealer will run down the wall if a substantial amount is applied. You need plenty of dwell time for the product to penetrate sufficiently. The way to do this is to apply 3-4 light coats of STONTEX PLATINIUM STONE SEALER instead of 2 generous coats. Apply each successive coat before the previous one dries (wet on wet, approximately 10 minutes between coats). Place tarp or plastic sheets below to catch the excess drips.



## **Precautions**

If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Keep out of reach of children. Do not take internally. Apply when surface temperature is between 5-35°C (40 – 95°F). Avoid moisture contact with the surface for six hours after application. Protect surrounding areas from over-spray. Keep away from drains, plants, water and soil. Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking. Wear suitable solvent-resistant glove, protective clothing, safety goggles and an organic vapour respirator during application. Avoid inhaling vapour or spray mist and ensure area is well ventilated. Avoid applying in windy conditions. Wash hands thoroughly. In case of fire: Use foam or dry chemical powder or carbon dioxide to extinguish. If swallowed: immediately give a glass of water. If skin contact occurs remove contaminated clothing and wash skin thoroughly. If in eyes: wash out immediately with fresh running water. If you inhale vapours or mist: relocate to fresh air. If symptoms persist contact a physician. Spillage: take up mechanically or with absorbent material such as sand or saw dust.

## **Impregnating / Penetrating Sealers – What they do and don't do**

Impregnating sealers work by repelling water, or, water and oil, not by blocking the pores of the material or creating a physical barrier. Because of this: Impregnators cannot stop acid etching of acid sensitive surfaces including the following stones: Marble, limestone, travertine and onyx. These stones contain calcite, a form of calcium, which reacts and dissolves on contact with acids, even mild acids such as lemon juice, cola and wine. In populated urban areas, rain can be acidic. The use of acid sensitive materials outdoors is not recommended as discoloration and acid damage may occur.

Impregnators do not make surfaces impervious to staining. Given enough time, or enough pressure, water and oil can penetrate, so spills should be wiped up in a timely manner.

Impregnators do not provide a physical barrier and therefore do not provide protection from physical wear and tear, scuff marks or dirt being ground into the texture or pits of rough surfaces.



## **General recommendations for surfaces sealed with an impregnator**

Walk on/walk off mats and regular sweeping or vacuuming minimize grit (sand particles) which will scratch many surfaces. Note: Impregnating / penetrating sealers do not protect against physical wear and coatings scratch more easily than most flooring materials.

Wipe / mop up spills as soon as possible. Impregnating sealers are 'breathable' i.e. the pores of the surface remain open so moisture can escape by evaporation. They work by repelling water (hydrophobic) or oil and water (oleophobic) not by blocking the pores. If left long enough spills can penetrate and leave a stain.

Acid sensitive surfaces, including marble, limestone and travertine will be damaged on contact with acidic substances such as lemon juice, cola, vinegar and wine. These surface materials contain calcite, a form of calcium, which reacts and dissolves on contact with acids. Impregnating sealers don't stop liquids from making physical contact with the surface and therefore cannot prevent acid etching. Clean up acidic spills on acid sensitive materials ASAP to minimize damage.

### **Cleaning up spills:**

First lift as much of the spill as possible with paper towel, a cloth or other absorbent material.

Mop up the remaining spill with warm water. Adding **STONTEX MULTI CLEAN** or other suitable cleaner to the water should aid cleaning and help to neutralize the acid.

If the spill has been left too long and has dried or caused a stain, refer to the section on stain removal.

### **Regular Cleaning**

- 1) Light cleaning can be performed as regularly as necessary to stop build up of grime and dirt.
- 2) Daily light cleaning may be required in high traffic commercial areas, with spot mopping of spills in food court areas.
- 3) **STONTEX MULTI CLEAN** or other suitable pH neutral or mild alkaline cleaner is recommended.
- 4) Cleaners with detergents can leave a residue which is difficult to rinse off and collects dirt.

### **Heavy Duty Cleaning**

1. Heavy duty cleaning is performed if the build up of dirt and grime is too much for normal cleaning.
2. For indoor floors in homes this is easily avoided by regular light cleaning.
3. On commercial surfaces, due to high volume traffic, grime can build up despite daily light cleaning efforts. **STONTEX HEAVY DUTY GRIME REMOVER** can remove the most stubborn of dirt build up.
4. Heavy duty 'Spring' cleaning can be performed every 3 months, monthly or more often if necessary provided a suitable cleaner and non-damaging tools are used.