

# WORKTOP SEAL



ACID RESISTANT, COLOUR ENHANCING TREATMENT FOR STONE WORKTOPS, TABLES ETC. SUITABLE FOR ALL STONES, CONCRETE, PLASTER ETC.

## Data Sheet & Application Instructions: Worktops, counter tops and furniture etc

**WORKTOP SEAL - an additional acid and stain protective finish for all stone and stone-like work surfaces and cladding in kitchens, bathrooms & wet-rooms etc; domestic and commercial.**

**Worktop Seal** is a revolutionary stone treatment. It provides a beautifully natural appearance, with little surface coating. It is very hard-wearing, waterproof, stain resistant and chemical resistant. It is easy to apply and easy to maintain.

### **Extra Protection for work surfaces:**

Worktop Seal adds an extra dimension to the protection offered by Stonetect. It is specially formulated to resist the powerful chemicals often present in food, drink, toiletries and domestic cleaning products.

### **Natural Beauty:**

Worktop Seal enhances the natural colours and patterning of the stone. There is hardly any surface coating, so stone still feels and looks like stone.

### **Deep Down:**

The Worktop Seal treatment soaks deeply into the surface of the stone, strengthening some softer materials and providing deep down protection even when the stone is worn after years of use.

### **Easy Living:**

A surface treated with Worktop Seal is easy to live with. It is easy to clean and rarely needs re-applying. There is no residual smell, once Worktop Seal has dried.

### **The Professional Choice:**

Worktop Seal is specifically designed to be easy to apply for both the professional and DIY-er; its careful formulation means that on most surfaces no special skills are needed.

### **Product Range:**

**WORKTOP SEAL** comes in the following grades:

**MATT:** Gives a flat matt finish.

**MID-SHEEN:** Gives a mid-sheen finish, that can be buffed up to a higher sheen if required.

**GLOSS:** Gives a finish with a high sheen, and can be polished to a high gloss with the correct equipment. Suitable for outdoor use.

### **Useful Additives:**

The following additives can be easily mixed into any of the above Worktop Seal products:

**CATALYST/ACCELERATOR:** This additive speeds up the drying/cure times of Worktop Seal. This additive is supplied with Worktop Seal and is included in the price, but if you want a longer working time you don't have to use it.

**WHITENING ADDITIVE FOR PALER STONES:** This additive can dramatically reduce the darkening effect of Worktop Seal on pale stones such as marble or limestone.

Useful Pre-Treatments:

Some more porous stone will require pre-treating with **STONETECT** or **SWIFT SEAL ULTRA**; see their data sheets for full info.



For further advice please contact us on:

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or

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**Product appearance and availability:**

Worktop Seal is a semi-opaque, thin liquid, available in 250ml, 1L & 5L containers.

**Application:**

Worktop Seal is applied in one coat, to non-porous surfaces, See full instruction sheet for details.

**Coverage:**

Approximately 12-18m<sup>2</sup> per litre, depending on the texture of the surface and how it is applied.

**New or previously untreated surfaces:**

The surface should be wiped down, or cleaned if covered in dust from the quarry. The surface must be totally dry before using Worktop Seal. More porous surfaces must be pre-sealed with at least one coat of Stonetect. See Stonetect Data Sheet for full information.

**Pre-treated or older surfaces:**

If the surface has been varnished, stained, waxed, oiled or treated with any other non-recommended product then this must be removed before treating with Worktop Seal. If your surface has been used for any time at all before sealing, then it must be cleaned before Worktop Seal is applied.

**Filling holes and gaps:**

Fill holes, cracks or other defects with a non-wax, resin-based filler.

**Sanding/finishing before applying:**

If applying onto very highly polished surfaces some pre-treatment is required to provide good adhesion. For some stones this can be done easily, but denser stones like granite require specialized equipment and knowledge, and this work should only be carried out by experienced operatives. Please ring us for further advice.

**Safety equipment:**

Rubber gloves, 'Organic Vapour' or 'Solvent Fumes' labelled face mask, eye protection; e.g. goggles (all available from us or good DIY shops).

Wear overalls or work clothes.

**Job equipment:**

- Triple-C Sponge Applicator (highly recommended), or small sponge or cloth, for applying.
- Paint tray or polythene bowl wide enough to take applicator etc (25 cm width).
- Clean cotton cloths for polishing off. We can provide these if required.

**Toy & Food safety:**

Worktop Seal is totally safe to use on toys and is also food safe, once it has fully cured. Please allow 5 days before using the sealed item to ensure complete curing of resin.

**Health & Safety:**

The Worktop Seal range is safe and easy to use, as long as you follow the instructions on the next page and take the following precautions:

**Non-spray applications:**

Wear gloves and goggles. Do not get the sealant on your skin; it will be very hard to remove once it has dried and in rare cases it may cause a mild rash.

Keep the room you are working in well ventilated; open windows and doors. Take care not to expose other people in the same building to fumes. The smell is not harmful, but is strong. Take care to turn off re-circulating air conditioning units, to avoid spreading the smell throughout a building.

Wear an organic vapour face mask (available from us or any good DIY/hardware store).

Wear overalls or old clothes; Worktop Seal is hard to get out of fabric once it has dried. You can clean tools with thinners, or other solvent. Cured Worktop Seal can only be cleaned with our sealant remover.



**Spray applications:** Worktop Seal can be sprayed, but this MUST be done inside a spray booth and wearing full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). A full Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is available on request.

## Application Instructions:

**Worktop Seal: Matt, Mid-Sheen and Gloss grades.**

### SPONGE ON, BUFF OFF METHOD:

For a fully sealed, minimum build finish.

#### Applying:

Porous surfaces must be pre-treated with Stonetect. Highly polished surfaces **MUST** be lightly sanded with fine wet and dry paper to provide a good key for the Worktop Seal. Wipe up any dust or debris created.

Ensure the surface is clean, smooth and dry.

Make sure there is good ventilation and that you are using all the safety equipment.

The sealant should be applied using a Triple-C Sponge Applicator (cut to size if required), small sponge, or cloth.

- If possible work on a whole surface at once, eg a table top or piece of furniture. If the piece is large, try to work up to obvious joins, corners or sections at a time.
- Add the contents of the small catalyst bottle (if using) to the sealant and shake the bottle of sealant well. Pour 2-3mm of sealant into a paint tray. Load the applicator liberally and then squeeze off the surplus on side of tray.



- Apply a **thin film** to the surface. (If the sealant is visibly absorbed within a few seconds then it is best to immediately wipe this up and apply a coat of Stonetect).
- Return to the starting point and using the applicator, **without reloading it**, even the Worktop Seal out over the whole area you have just worked on, leaving as even a finish as possible.
- Allow it to soak in for a few seconds and then, using a folded cotton pad, mop up most of the unabsorbed sealant.



Using the same pad, even-out the remaining sealant to leave a very thin film on the surface. The aim is to leave a very light film that will 'disappear' as the sealant starts to dry. Make sure your cotton pad is dry, clean and neatly folded.

- If necessary, any streaks or smears can be very lightly wiped away at the 'wet' stage; don't try to do this once the sealant has started to dry. If you are not happy with the effect then remove the sealant with Triple-C Tool Cleaner & Thinners or cellulose thinners, dry and re-apply.
- Allow to cure until completely tack-free (this will take between 4 and 8 hours, depending on the temperature).

#### You can speed drying times by:

- 1: Using the CATALYST additive provided.
- 2: Making sure the room is warm and well ventilated.
- 3: Turning off air conditioning units.
- 4: Increasing the humidity in the room.

#### First use:

You can use your furniture or worktops 6 hours after the surface is no longer tacky. This is about 12-16 hours after the sealant was applied. In the first 2-3 days be very careful to wipe up any spillages immediately, and try to restrict the use of acids such as vinegar and lemon juice. After this the sealant becomes fully hardened and is ready for normal use. Even when fully sealed some oils may penetrate the Stonetect/Worktop Seal protection, so try not to leave wet oil on the surface for long periods of time. If oil does mark the surface see below.

#### Troubleshooting:

**Incomplete seal, blemishes, uneven finish or unsatisfactory finish:** If you are not happy with the finish of your stone, then follow steps above to re-apply a light coat. This will eliminate most problems.

**Scratches:** Deep scratches through the finish can be lightly painted with Worktop Seal to minimise their visual effect. Buff off excess sealant with a cotton cloth.

To remove a scratch completely you need to sand it back to bare smooth stone. Once you have the required finish, seal as above, taking care to buff in edges carefully.

**Oil stains:** If oils have left a stain, wipe over with white spirit and a cloth and allow to dry, if the stain remains the stain must be sanded out lightly as with scratches.

## Maintenance of surfaces treated with Worktop Seal:

- Wipe up spillages as soon as possible.
- Regularly wipe over with a damp cloth with a little weak concentration of detergent, or a white vinegar/alcohol based glass cleaning product.
- Wipe up grease or oil with absorbent cloth/paper etc, or wipe over with cloth moistened white vinegar/alcohol based glass cleaning product to clean area fully.
- After significant use, re-application of sealant will clean and revive worn or dulled surfaces. Clean the area first, then apply the sealant very lightly on a soft cloth or with an almost dry applicator.

#### IMPORTANT

*This information is provided in good faith on the basis of field and laboratory testing. The manufacturers will use their best endeavours to provide accurate and reliable advice on the use of their products, but it is the express responsibility of the intending user to satisfy him / herself as to the suitability for use in any particular situation, as conditions of use are outside the manufacturer's control. Materials found to be faulty in manufacture will be replaced, but no other liability, either express or implied, can be accepted.*