MARBLE

Smokey Mountain Tops guarantees the performance of marble, under normal use, as installed for the period of one year from the date of installation. This warranty does not cover replacements, corrections, or any results of misuse, including, but not limited to, improper maintenance or normal wear and tear. This warranty does not cover any variations in colors, markings or inconsistency of the marble once the customer has approved the material for fabrication. This warranty covers installation only, and in no way, provides a warranty against scratches or staining by human error, pitting/ fissures (natural occurrences), or etching in the material.

NATURAL STONE IS A PRODUCT OF NATURE AND IS THEREFORE SUBJECT TO ALL ITS INHERENT VARIATIONS. CAST VEINING, MARKINGS AND COLORATION OF THE FINAL PRODUCT MAY VARY. THE SLABS ARRIVE TO OUR LOCATION WITH THE FACE ALREADY FINISHED AND NATURAL STONE MAY HAVE SMALL PITS OR MARKS OR IRREGULARITIES IN TEXTURE OR SHINE THEREFORE IT IS IMPORTANT TO VIEW AND APPROVE THE SLAB BEFORE FABRICATION WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

The Calcium Carbonate, of which marble is composed, is highly susceptible to attack by acidic agents. Marble is readily dissolved by acids, even very dilute acids, however the actual results of acidic exposure will vary with the nature of the acid. Examples include, but not limited to, vinegar, lemon juice, certain cleaners, etc.

STAINING: Discoloration of the marble, whether general or localized, is staining. Staining may be the result of exposure to a variety of exterior substances, or to internal occlusions in the stone or structural elements.

Some of the most common types of staining and the causative agents are:

1. Oil / grease stains
2. Dyes and inks
3. Organic stains: Organic stains are caused by direct contact with decomposing organic matter, such as leaves, flowers, tea, or coffee.
4. Metallic stains: Two major categories of metallic staining are based on either iron or copper.
5. General dirt, soot and pollution
**CRUMBLING**: This condition is due to a certain brittleness or tendency of the stone to break up or dissolve. It may be caused by an inherent weakness in the stone or gradual breakdown of the binder or crystalline structure, or it may be the result of external factors affecting the strength and durability of the marble.

**CHIPPING**: The separation of small pieces or larger fragments, frequently at the corners or edges is known as chipping. These fractures are generally caused by deterioration, by accident, or vandalism.

**CRACKING**: This condition is manifested by the appearance of narrow fissures ranging from less than 1/16 to 1/2-inch-wide or more in the stone. It results from a variety of causes, such as structural overloading due to settlement or a flaw in the material. Minor cracking may be no problem, in and of itself, but it can be an indication of structural problems and the cracks can be a source of entry of water into the interior of the stone.

**BRUISING**: This is the appearance of white spots on the marble, which can be caused by an object being dropped or some other force against the stone. Even the slightest mishap could potentially cause bruising due to the soft nature of the stone.

The stone will be sealed at/before the time of install. This will help, but not prevent staining. Marble needs to be regularly maintained and sealed.

The previous information is directly from the Marble Institute of America.

*For more information and resources please visit www.marble-institute.com.*