

# Taj Mahal care

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NATURAL STONE CARE · MANUFACTURER-COMPLIANT (NSI) · 5 MIN READ

# How to Clean Taj Mahal Quartzite: Science-Backed Protocol

A manufacturer-compliant guide to daily care, sealing checks, and safe stain removal for Taj Mahal quartzite.

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## Taj Mahal Care

QUARTZITE CARE AND SEALING

Taj Mahal is quartzite, not marble. It is extremely hard, but the sealer that protects it is acid-sensitive. Many slabs sold as Taj Mahal include softer zones that can etch.

This protocol follows guidance from the Natural Stone Institute (NSI), MSI Surfaces, and Daltile. Prohibited methods include vinegar, Windex, lemon, bleach, and abrasive pads.

Use this guide for daily neutral cleaning, sealer testing, and safe stain removal.

# **The science: what is Taj Mahal quartzite?**

## **The material**

Taj Mahal is quartzite, a metamorphic sandstone composed of 90-99% quartz crystals fused by heat and pressure.

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## **The hardness**

Quartzite ranks around 7 on the Mohs scale, harder than granite and most steels.

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## **The vulnerability**

The stone itself is acid-resistant, but the sealer is not. Some slabs marketed as Taj Mahal are softer dolomitic quartzites that can etch, so Clean Era treats all Taj Mahal as acid-sensitive.

## **Part 1: Myth vs. Science**

These myths reflect the most common home-remedy searches.

### **Myth #1: It is harder than granite, so I can use vinegar and lemon.**

**Science: False.** While quartz is stable against mild acids, the protective sealer is not. Acidic cleaners strip the sealer, leaving the stone porous. If the slab contains calcite inclusions, acid can dissolve them and cause permanent etching.

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### **Myth #2: Use Windex to make it shine.**

**Science: False.** Most glass cleaners contain ammonia, a high-alkaline solvent that degrades impregnating sealers. Over time the surface loses luster and becomes more prone to water staining.

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### **Myth #3: Taj Mahal is bulletproof and never stains.**

**Science: False.** Quartzite is low-porosity, not non-porous. If unsealed, oils and pigments can penetrate micro-pores. Reseal every 12-18 months to keep it protected.

## Part 2: The Clean Era Protocol

### Step A: The daily clean (Neutral is key)

**The agent:** pH-neutral stone cleaner or mild dish soap in warm water.

**Method:** Mix 1 tsp mild soap in 1 quart warm water. Wipe with a soft microfiber cloth and avoid abrasive pads.

**Dry:** Buff immediately with a clean cloth to prevent mineral deposits.

**Why:** Tap water minerals can leave hard-water spots that require harsh chemicals to remove.

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### Step B: The sealer check (Water drop test)

**Frequency:** Every 6 months.

**Test:** Place a 1-inch water puddle in a high-use area and wait 10-15 minutes.

**Verdict:** Beading means the sealer is active. A dark ring means it failed and resealing is needed.

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### Step C: Safe stain removal (Poultice method)

**Organic stains:** Soak a paper towel with 12% hydrogen peroxide or stone stain remover. Cover with plastic wrap and wait 24 hours.

**Oil stains:** Use a baking soda and water paste, cover, and wait 24-48 hours.

**Note:** Do not scrub. Poultices lift stains out of pores without driving them deeper.

## Summary for your home

### NEVER USE

Vinegar, lemon, Windex, bleach, abrasive pads, or magic erasers.

### ALWAYS USE

pH-neutral stone cleaner, microfiber cloths, and a yearly sealer check.

### GOLDEN RULE

Treat Taj Mahal as acid-sensitive, even though it is physically hard.

## Manufacturer verification data

### MSI Surfaces

Warns against vinegar, lemon juice, ammonia, and bleach because these chemicals damage sealers and can dull the polish.

### Arizona Tile

Notes quartzite has a more open structure than granite and requires active sealing. Acid-based foods can etch if calcite traces are present.

### Clean Era note

We treat Taj Mahal as acid-sensitive by default to protect slabs with hidden calcite veins or mislabeling.

## FAQ

### Is Taj Mahal marble or quartzite?

It is quartzite, not marble. Some slabs marketed as Taj Mahal are softer dolomitic quartzites, so treat all Taj Mahal as acid-sensitive.

### Can I use vinegar or lemon on Taj Mahal quartzite?

No. Acids break down the sealer and can etch any calcite inclusions. Use pH-neutral cleaner and dry immediately.

### How often should Taj Mahal be sealed?

Test the sealer every 6 months with the water-drop test. Most countertops need resealing every 12-18 months depending on use.

## Download the taj mahal quartzite protocol

Use the printable PDF to share with homeowners, housekeepers, or vendors.

### Taj Mahal Quartzite Protocol (PDF)

Myth vs fact guidance, sealer testing, and safe stain removal.

[Download PDF](#)

## Clean Era standard

Clean Era uses manufacturer-compliant, science-backed protocols so your stone surfaces stay protected and beautiful.

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