

FuturaStone of Colorado
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Guide to Maintaining, Cleaning and Resealing FuturaStone

FuturaStone has the advantage of being the most worry-free surface we know about—other than dirt. You don't have to worry about scratching it, denting it, dragging heavy furniture across it, parking cars on it, and it is especially resistant to stains. However, there are two things to keep in mind:

1. FuturaStone's epoxy wears down gradually from exposure to UV radiation (sunlight), which is why we recommend a reseal every two to three years, especially for outdoor applications.
2. Cleaning FuturaStone is slightly different from cleaning other surfaces, and our recommendations are different for indoor and outdoor applications. It sometimes, but we have some great pointers from our time cleaning and refinishing our client's installations.

Our customers take pride in the appearance of their porch, and quite understandably, they are concerned about the care of their FuturaStone flooring. Fortunately, FuturaStone is so hardy (rock hardy, in fact) that the list of things that damage it is much shorter than the list of things that don't. Here is our dead-simple list of do's and don'ts when it comes to FuturaStone cleaning.

The Ultra-Simple FuturaStone Maintenance Guide

These six easy considerations are all that 95% of our customers will ever need, and if you want to save yourself some time, I wouldn't blame you for skimming over #1-6 and putting this guide in your sock drawer. If you confront a 5% contingency, you can always get this guide out again (or view it on our website) to quickly learn how to deal with the situation.

1. Be sure to **reseal FuturaStone every two to three years**. Do not wait until stones come loose; that will make the surface look pock-marked, especially when we wash the dirt out of there to prepare it for a reseal, which can only be completely restored by replacement.
2. If it gets dirty, **the best way to clean it is with a power washer**. Any kind of cleaner or solvent will not hurt it, however, if you do not have access to a power washer. If a power washer doesn't get the job done, consult the advanced cleaning section of this guide.
3. **Don't strike FuturaStone with hard objects** like pickaxes or bowling balls. Again, you can slide heavy metal furniture across it or park a Mack truck on it, but repeated impact, as with a jackhammer, will crack the FuturaStone and break it loose. Even if that happens, however, a simple patch will fix it (call us at 970-980-5668).

Advanced Cleaning

It probably will not come to this, but on occasion, we confront a particularly pernicious stain. For just such occasions, we have a small troubleshooting manual for you here, according to application (Indoor or outdoor) and the type of stain.

Outdoor Stains

Since most applications are outdoors, and the outdoors are particularly dirty, we will start with that, and break it up by the kind of mess you are likely to encounter out of doors.

Dirt, debris and the like.

For most anything, our favorite way to clean FuturaStone is with a powerwasher. A detergent can help a bit, but for dirt only, the powerwasher will clean out a surprising amount of filth and often renew the appearance of the FuturaStone like you wouldn't believe.

Be forewarned that if it has been more than two or three years since your least reseal, a few pebbles may break loose with the washing, and start to leave pock marks. If this is the case, it is too late to worry about it. The rock would break loose anyway. Get a reseal as soon as possible or consider a reinstallation (a reseal is best, truly).

If you don't have a powerwasher about and you still want a cosmetic clean, you can deck scrub FuturaStone with a push broom and detergent (biodegradable if outside), then rinse with a hose. If inside, scrub it and mop it as you would with any hard floor.

Grease

This is where a good grease-busting detergent will come in handy. We recommend Simple Green (available at most big-box stores and hardware stores). Also, we recommend power washing for good measure.

Paint

A paint thinner will work fantastically here. Dab it on, let it work its magic, scrub it and rinse.

Goo

Goo gone, or similar product, will not damage FuturaStone, and can come in handy with sticky substances like chewing gum.

Rust

We haven't seen this problem much, but when it does happen, we have found no way to clean it up, whatever the surface. If you normally have problems with rust, be forewarned that FuturaStone can also be stained by rust, such as underneath a drain pipe. CLR (Calcium Lime Rust) might help a bit, but we've never seen a rust stain fully come off. If anyone has managed this feat, we would be much obliged to hear from you.

Scum

There seem to be different kinds of scum. Most of them wash up with a powerwasher. If that doesn't work at all, try a solvent. If that doesn't affect the stain, who knows? Cover it with a patio chair or something, and if you can, let us know. We like to know what we are up against, and perhaps we will have a solution for you.

Other epoxies

It's a sad tale. Sometimes a do-it-yourselfer will venture to the home depot, buy an epoxy resealer and figure it is the same thing as FuturaStone epoxy. Unfortunately, this usually leaves FuturaStone with a mucky white scum as if it were sealed with molten marshmallow. This damage is not only unattractive, it is irreversible and voids the warranty, which is the main reason we recommend letting us conduct any reseals, or at least use FuturaStone epoxy and DIY resealing instructions. Inquire during a bid if you would prefer to handle reseal maintenance yourself so we can arrange to sell you some, at cost (this still voids the warranty, though).

Indoor applications

In general, just treat indoor FuturaStone as you would any other indoor flooring, except please feel free not to worry about scratches, even if you drag the oven on it.

General soiling

A vacuum will pull up most dirt or dust. Spills of milk or juice mop up just as normal, and water typically evaporates from within the pores, without puddling. A deck scrub will get up any grime that may

Water, milk, juice, etc.

Mop it. We were concerned at first that some of these things would soak into cracks or something and start smelling, but we have not run into a problem with any of these spills on FuturaStone.

Red wine

Mop it up. No baking soda or vinegar necessary (unless you also got some on a white dress or something).

Pet accidents

As normal, scoop, scrub and mop. Use disinfectant at your discretion.

Further Questions?

Are there any cleaning problems or solutions we have missed? Please use FuturaStone of Colorado's contact form at www.RiverStoneFloors.com. If you have any questions, the [FAQ page](#) on the website is the best place to get support, anytime.