

SASSO  BELLO

“Specializing in Stone & Tile Care”

*A Professional
Guide To
Stone & Tile Care*



***“Allow us to take care of your
stone, so you can appreciate
those things that matter most.”***

From the Stone & Tile Care Specialists

SASSO  BELLO

Congratulations!

You made a wonderful choice. The natural stone or premium tile you selected combines durability with an elegance and beauty you will enjoy for years to come.

Some simple yet important maintenance will keep the finish of your stone or tile as lustrous and pristine as it was on the day it was installed. Following the easy-care do's and don'ts in this booklet will extend the life—and preserve the value—of your stone or tile.

The **SASSO BELLO** Product Chart at the end of this booklet lists the products we recommend for maintaining your natural stone or premium tile.





Photo courtesy of Bedrosian and Steiner Fine Art & Design

PROTECTIVE SEALER

Natural stone can be surprisingly absorbent. **SASSO BELLO** protective sealers fill in natural pores so spills remain on the surface for easy wiping before the liquids have a chance to penetrate your stone.

Sealers are available in various formulations based on the type of stone, whether the area will be used heavily and requires extra protection, and your design preferences. You can select our *Enhancer* sealer that gives an impression of aged stone, or you can choose a clear sealer that highlights the stone's natural color. The **SASSO BELLO** Product Chart at the end of this booklet will aid you in your sealer selection.

While kiln-fired ceramic or porcelain tile is nearly impervious to liquid, tile grout is cement-based, very porous, and easily stained. Use a penetrating sealer like **SASSO BELLO's** *Heavy Duty Sealer* to protect grout joints against water- and oil-based stains.

AVOID ALL-PURPOSE CLEANERS

After your natural stone or premium tile is treated with a **SASSO BELLO** sealer, cleanup will be quick and easy—a soft cloth dampened with water can clean most minor spills. However . . . If your water is “hard” and has a high mineral content, the minerals in your water may stain your lovely new stone or tile.

Common household cleaners may contain incompatible minerals or abrasive chemicals. These cleaners can weaken the sealer's protective properties, making the stone and tile grout susceptible to stains. Never use products that contain lemon, vinegar, bleach, or ammonia, which can etch the polish, discolor the surface, or even scratch your stone.

Only cleaners specifically formulated for natural stone or tile should be used. We recommend **SASSO BELLO's** *Revitalizer*, which cleans with a gentle, pH-neutral formula that removes soil and mineral buildup while reinforcing the original protective coating.



GENERAL MAINTENANCE

You can easily maintain the natural luster and elegance of your stone and tile by following some simple precautions.

KITCHEN COUNTERS

Foods and beverages can stain and weaken tile grout and damage stone. Seemingly harmless items like orange juice, coffee, vinegar, wine, tomato products, mustard, and many soft drinks are highly acidic and will etch, discolor, or even scratch most marble, limestone, and travertine.

While sealing will give you time to wipe up a spill, it cannot stop the chemical reactions, such as etching, that dull the finish of natural stone. Etch marks on stone surfaces resemble water spots or a worn polish.

Exercise caution with foods and beverages. Remember to always use coasters and placemats on acid-sensitive stone such as marble, limestone, and travertine.

Tile and acid-resistant stones such as most granite, slate, and sandstone will typically not etch.

FLOORS

Dust your interior stone and tile floors frequently using a clean, untreated, dry dust mop. Abrasive sand or dirt particles can damage natural stone surfaces. Mats or area rugs inside and outside your entryways will help minimize damage. Also, be careful when using a vacuum cleaner as the metal or plastic attachments and wheels can scratch the surface.

Damp-mop to clean your stone with a diluted solution of **SASSO BELLO's** *Stone & Tile Cleaner*.

BATH AND OTHER WET AREAS

Periodic use of **SASSO BELLO's** recommended products like *Revitalizer* or *Stone & Tile Cleaner* will remove soap scum and bacteria deposits. In the bath or other wet areas, using a squeegee after each use can minimize these common residues.

Step-by-step application instructions are on the back label of all **SASSO BELLO** products. Be sure to follow them closely.



Photo courtesy of Bedrosian and Steiner Fine Art & Design

BATHROOM COUNTERS

Perfume, toothpaste, mouthwash, and other common toiletries contain acids and other ingredients that can weaken sealer or damage your stone's surface. Wipe up all spills promptly and clean regularly with the recommended product for your stone or tile.

MANAGING STAINS AND SOILING

Common household spills may occur as a result of cooking near, playing on, and just simply living with fine stone and tile. For those occasions where a spill cannot be prevented, **SASSO BELLO** uses specially formulated products to remove residues from cooking oils, everyday food spills, and cosmetics such as hairspray.

FOOD AND DRINK

Quickly scoop up any spilled food, taking care not to use metal utensils that can scratch the stone or tile. Wipe liquid spills with a clean, dry cloth. Spray the area with **SASSO BELLO's** cleaning products and wipe with a clean cloth. Repeat if necessary.

MUD

Let the mud dry completely. Remove dried mud with a soft plastic or nylon brush. Spray the affected area with a suggested **SASSO BELLO Stone & Tile Cleaner**. Wipe dry with a clean cloth. Repeat if necessary. If a dirt stain remains, contact one of **SASSO BELLO's** professionals.

EXCRETA

Even the best-behaved pets and young children may have accidents, particularly when ill. Vomit and bodily wastes should be cleaned as quickly as possible to minimize acid damage. Dispose of the waste, spray with *Revitalizer*, and wipe with a clean, white cloth.

Chemical disinfectants should NOT be used. If you are concerned about bacteria, you may clean with *Pulire* before applying the *Revitalizer*.

OILY STAINS

Oil-based stains from salad dressing, cooking oils, butter, or some cosmetics can be removed with **SASSO BELLO's Oil Stain Remover**.



DO'S AND DON'TS

- **DO** use **SASSO BELLO's** sealers to protect your stone and tile.
- **DO** clean up spills immediately to minimize damage to your stone and tile.
- **DO** use trivets or mats under hot dishes and cookware.
- **DO** use placemats under china, ceramics, silver, and other objects that can scratch your stone's surface.
- **DO** place a small rug or a mat at entryways to trap dirt and sand from normal foot traffic.
- **DO** dust or carefully vacuum countertops, islands, vanities, and floors frequently.
- **DO** use coasters under glasses, especially if they contain alcohol or citrus juices.
- **DO** clean surfaces regularly with **SASSO BELLO's Revitalizer or Stone & Tile Cleaner**.
- **DO** call **SASSO BELLO** for assistance with stubborn stains.
- **DON'T** wait to clean up spills on stone. Clean up as quickly as possible.

- **DON'T** use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners, or tub and tile cleaners.
- **DON'T** use vinegar, bleach, ammonia, or other general purpose cleaners.
- **DON'T** use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleansers or soft cleaners.
- **DON'T** use alkaline cleaners not specifically formulated for stone.

Questions?

If you still have questions, please visit our website at SassoBello.com. We have collected a trove of maintenance information to help you understand the world of stone and tile.

You'll find comprehensive care instructions, do-it-yourself project tips, video demonstrations, answers to frequently asked questions, and ordering information for **SASSO BELLO** products.

You may also call our customer service staff at **916-427-2040**. Let us help you find the solution that's right for you.

PROTECT



CLEAN



TRANSFORM



SASSO BELLO PRODUCT GUIDE

This guide will help you choose the right **SASSO BELLO** professional product for your particular stone and tile care needs. ✓ = **FOR SALE**.

PROTECT

BulletProof Sealer: Maximum protection against the toughest oil- and water-based stains. New, advanced formula bonds with stone for improved wear resistance while preserving natural look on all natural stone surfaces. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

Heavy Duty Sealer: Provides heavy-duty, natural-look protection for all natural stone and masonry. Formulated with advanced, water-based fluorochemicals to protect against the toughest oil- and water-based stains. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

Heavy Duty Grout Sealer: Heavy-duty protection against tough oil- and water-based stains for grout on ceramic and porcelain tile. Water-based formula for interior and exterior use.

Heavy Duty Exterior Sealer: Provides heavy-duty protection against water-based stains on all natural stone surfaces. Solvent-based formula for exterior use.

CLEAN

✓ **Revitalizer:** Cleaner and Protector: Neutral pH daily cleaner and protector with built-in sealer for all natural stone surfaces.

✓ **Stone & Tile Cleaner:** Neutral pH daily cleaner for all Stone surfaces. Great for ceramic & porcelain tile.

✓ **Pulire:** Professional alkaline-based formula powers through the most stubborn organic messes on natural stone and grout surfaces.

TRANSFORM

Polish: Adds a quick, brilliant shine to polished stone without leaving a greasy film. Great for all polished natural stone surfaces.

Enhancer: Deepens the natural color of stone while providing standard protection against all stains. Water-based formula for all interior natural stone surfaces.

Our Professional Services

REPAIRS, PRODUCTS, & CONSULTATIONS

STONE REPAIR

- Repair cracks, chips, scratches, and breaks

POLISHING AND RESURFACING

- Polish marble countertops
- Polish floors
- Polish Stone showers
- Remove lippage

STONE COUNTERTOP REPAIR

- Seam repairs
- Repair cracks, chips, and scratches

TILE AND GROUT REPAIR

- Remove/replace cracked tile
- Remove/replace cracked, stained, or missing grout
- Touch up grout
- Travertine fills

STAIN REMOVAL

- Remove wine and oil stains
- Remove etching
- Remove hard water mineral deposits

CLEAN AND SEAL

- Clean stone and grout surfaces
- Clean stamped concrete
- Clean soiled walkways and driveways

PRODUCT CONSULTATION AND SALES

- Stone and Tile cleaning management
- Stone Housekeeping consultation
- Cleaning product and equipment sales



ONGOING MAINTENANCE SERVICES

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

- Establish walk-off areas
- Use of walk-off matting
- Maintenance of entry areas and outdoor environments

Preventative procedures, such as setting up entryway walk-off areas to trap the soils that naturally cling to shoes, can limit the particulate soils that enter an indoor environment. Soil control helps keep the flooring looking at its best for longer periods of time, makes routine and interim procedures more effective, and prolongs the time between restoration procedures.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

- Dry soil control
- Dry soil removal
- Routine cleaning procedures

Routine maintenance prevents the floor from deteriorating to the point that expensive restoration procedures need to be undertaken. The actual procedures used will depend on the current and desired floor condition.

INTERIM MAINTENANCE

- Buffing procedures (high and low speed)
- Burnishing procedures
- Deep scrub and re-coat procedures

When routine procedures are no longer effective and traffic areas become apparent or the floor gloss starts to dull or wear, interim maintenance is required. The actual procedures used will depend on the current and desired floor condition.

RESTORATION PROCEDURES

- Strip and refinish procedures
- Polishing of natural stone flooring
- Protection of grouted surfaces

The initial floor luster will be restored. These procedures will be used when routine and interim procedures are no longer effective. The actual procedures used will depend on the current and desired floor condition.

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SASSO BELLO professionals provide only the best quality service and products for stone and tile. Natural stone is a precious material that deserves the utmost care and treatment. The quality craftsmanship of premium tile likewise deserves respectful care and treatment.

With the proper care, your natural stone or tile will last a lifetime. At **SASSO BELLO**, we're committed to making that care as easy and carefree as possible. We promise to keep your stone and tile looking beautiful for a lifetime.

SASSO BELLO

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