AUSTARON SURFACES



Care & Maintenance



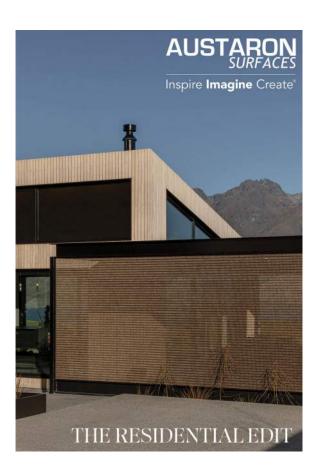


ABOUT STARON SOLID SURFACES

Staron Solid Surfaces are the ideal solution for residential and commercial surfacing needs. It is a stand-out solid, nonporous material that requires minimal care and maintenance to preserve its appearance. The longevity of Staron is enhanced by its repairability, and renewability attributes, a feature that distinguishes it from other surfacing materials that in time may require complete replacement.

ABOUT AUSTARON SURFACES

Austaron Surfaces caters to the building industry with a diverse range of quality surfaces. Not just decorative, our collection of surfaces provides solutions for various areas of commercial and residential projects, in both indoor and outdoor environments.



Download The <u>Residential Edit</u> to view a collection of projects that showcase our portfolio of brands.

In a world where spaces demand both durability and aesthetics, Staron Solid Surfaces emerge as a reliable choice. Its resilient nature not only simplifies maintenance but also offers the advantage of cost-effective longevity, surpassing the lifespan of alternative surfacing materials. With the right care regimen, your Staron application will endure the test of time, the below recommendations will assist selecting of the most appropriate cleaning method.

General Care and Maintenance : Residential

Clean the Staron Solid Surfaces in your home by wiping the surface with a soft cloth or sponge and warm soapy water using a good quality dishwashing liquid.

Complete the cleaning process by drying the surface with a soft cloth or paper towel.

Commercial

Similar to a residential environment, Staron can be cleaned in a commercial application by wiping the surface with a soft cloth or sponge and warm soapy water using a good quality dishwashing liquid. Complete the cleaning process by drying the surface with a soft cloth or paper towel.

If there is no easy access to warm soapy water as is the case in a foyer joinery application, use an ammonia-based cleaner (e.g Windex) and a soft cloth for a convenient cleaning process (cleaning products that leave a residue are not recommended).

There are many colours available in Staron Solid Surfaces and each colour can be supplied with a different type of finish by a Staron certified fabricator/installer. Dark colours in countertop surfaces and particularly dark colours that have been finished to a gloss, like anything else, will potentially show signs of use, such as scratches and soap residue, more readily than light-coloured solid surface materials. Therefore, a gloss finish generally requires additional care and maintenance to retain its original lustre.

Different cleaning techniques are required to remove stubborn stains and minor scratches depending on the type of finish and colour as detailed in the following instructions (Note: please contact your certified fabricator or installer if you are uncertain which type of finish is applied to your Staron).

DO NOT attempt to repair deep scratches, chips or burns, contact a certified Staron fabricator/installer.



Deep Clean

Matt Finish: One of the standard option finishes delivered by your certified fabricator. It is a low or no-sheen finish and is recommended in all high-use areas. This finish is also for applications that have bright lighting as it reduces light reflection.

Selected dark Staron colours may not be suited to a matt finish, speak with your Staron fabricator for advice on selecting the best finish for your colour selection.

Cleaning Method: Scrub in a small, even circular motion with a wet sponge and an abrasive cleanser such as Jiff®, Gumption®, Bar Keepers Friend® or baking soda.

Fine grade steel wool and Scotch Brite pads can be used on matt finish applications. Patch test first on an inconspicuous area.

Darker colours tend to require more attention than lighter colours.

Satin Finish: This is the most common standard finish delivered by your certified fabricator. It has a slightly higher sheen than a matt finish.

Cleaning Method: Lightly scrub surface in a small, even circular motion with a wet sponge and an abrasive cleanser such as Jiff®, Gumption®, Bar Keepers Friend® or baking soda over affected area. Non-scratch pads are suitable for light colours, but darker colours will require more careful cleaning with a soft sponge. Scrubbing too aggressively in one area may reduce the gloss level.

Gloss Finish: A higher reflective sheen. It is important to note that a gloss finish, especially on a dark colour, will require more care and maintenance compared to a matt/satin finish. Take care not to apply the same care or cleaning methods that have been recommended for a matt/satin finish when caring for a gloss finish. If deeper cleaning is required after recommended cleaning methods, contact your certified fabricator for assistance.

DO NOT USE STEEL WOOL OR ABRASIVE CLEANSERS OR PADS OF ANY TYPE ON A GLOSS FINISH

Cleaning Method: Spray a non-abrasive product such as ammonia based cleaner [e.g Windex®] over stain, then clean in a small circular motion with a damp sponge.

Scrubbing too aggressively may reduce the gloss level, darker colours require more attention than lighter colours. After completing the above procedure, rinse with clear water and wipe dry with a soft cloth or paper towels to prevent spotting.

To enhance the visual colour clarity and hide minor scuffs, a non-silicone based cutting compound can be used. For dark colours, a few drops of Olive oil on a soft cloth then wiped with a soft dry cloth may assist in maintaining appearance for some applications. Test first on an inconspicuous area.

Stubborn Stains/Marks

Due to its non-porous nature, no stain is ever permanent on Staron Solid Surfaces, however some stubborn marks may require extra cleaning. Follow the guidelines below to remove stains that need more than a general cleaning method.

Food Stains: Tea, coffee, wine and other food products that may leave a slight residue after cleaning.

Cleaning Method: Spot clean with a dab of Jiff®, Gumption®, Ajax® or bi-carb soda with a damp cloth. Rinse and wipe dry with a soft cloth or paper towel.

Oil and Sticky Tape Residue: Cooking oil splatter and other greasy condiment residue may build up over time. In commercial fitouts the use of sticky tape can leave a tacky residue.

Cleaning Method: Add a few drops of DD eucalyptus oil to warm soapy water. Wipe the surface, rinse and wipe dry with a soft cloth or paper towel. Eucalyptus oil can be used directly to spot remove tacky tape residue then wash and dry surface.

Additional tip: Occasionally, Staron will benefit from the addition of a little diluted bleach to keep your white counters crisp and sinks sparkling. A 1:100 (1 Tbsp. of bleach to 1 litre of water) assists to disinfect the surface.

Staron Prevention of Damage

Minor damage that may accidentally occur is most often repairable by a Staron certified fabricator or repair expert. However, be sure to follow these guidelines to prevent damage to your Staron Solid Surface:

Note: Do not use citrus or silicone-based sprays or polishes as the residue left behind gives the appearance that the surface is grimy& scratched.

DO NOT attempt to repair deep scratches, chips or burns, in this circumstance please contact a certified Staron fabricator.

Description	Maintanance Tips
Exposure to Harsh Chemicals	Exposure of Staron to potent chemicals like paint removers, acetone nail polish remover, and oven cleaners can harm the surface finish. In case of contact, surfaces should be immediately flushed with water to prevent spot formation, which may necessitate extensive repairs. Nail polish removal must be done with a non-acetone based remover followed by a thorough water flush. Any accidental chemical damage should be addressed by a certified fabricator for proper repair.
Heat Damage	Staron has excellent heat-resistant properties compared to other surface materials. However, placing hot pans, as well as some heat-generating appliances such as electric grills, slow cookers or deep-fryers, may cause damage to the surface. Always use a hot pad or a trivet with rubber feet keeping it off the surface to protect Staron. Avoid subjecting Staron to extreme temperatures over 80 degrees Celcius.
Cuts and Scratches	Although scratches can be removed from Staron Solid Surfaces, it's important to avoid cutting or chopping directly on the surface to prevent damage. Additionally, it's best to lift and place items rather than dragging crockery or sharp objects across the surface. Consider consulting your Staron fabricator about obtaining a customised Staron cutting board for food preparation that matches your project's requirements.
Fractures	While Staron is durable, it's advisable to avoid standing on it or dropping heavy objects on the surface. Though fractures can be repaired, it's always best to prioritise prevention with proper care and maintenance of the benchtop.

Cleaning Staron Sinks

The joining capabilities of Staron allows for fully seamless integrated sinks, eliminating silicon for maximum hygiene. Staron sinks and bowls are easy to care for and can endure a deeper cleaning process.

Everyday Care and Basic Stains:

Clean regularly with a quality mild detergent such as those used for hand dishwashing.

Deep Clean:

Apply a mild abrasives cleanser such as Jiff®, Gumption®, Bar Keepers Friend® or baking soda on the area and buff in a circular, even motion with a green Scotch-Bright® pad. Buff over the entire sink to blend the finish and then rinse.

Disinfecting:

To keep sinks bright and clean, occasionally apply liquid bleach and water using the following steps. Fill sink 1/4 full with water and add 1 to 2 cups of bleach. Carefully (without splashing) scrub the entire surface with a green Scotch-Brite® pad and sponge. Allow to stand for 15 minutes. Then, drain and rinse.

As an alternative method, wipe the surfaces of the sink with a damp cloth/paper towel that is coated with diluted with bleach. Allow bleach to sit on surface for 15 minutes. Then rinse with water.

When tipping items such as beetroot, tea, coffee & turmeric down the sink flush directly with running water.

Staron Sinks Prevention of Damage

Staron sinks and bowls are highly durable, however, be sure to follow these guidelines:

Description	Method:
Preventing Heat Damage	Allow heated cookware to cool before placing into the sink.
	Always run cold water when pouring boiled water or hot liquids into the sink.
Preventing Fractures	Avoid dropping heavy or sharp objects onto the surface.



Staron Sinks Prevention of Damage

Description	Method:
Preventing Exposure to Harsh Chemicals	Do not expose the surface to harsh chemicals, such as paint remover, turpentine, nail polish remover (acetone) or drain, stove and toilet cleaning products. If the chemicals come in contact with the surface, immediately wash them off with water, using
	appropriate safety measures to avoid injury.

Extending the Life of Staron

In time your benchtop will acquire a patina changing the appearance of the finish, this is not a manufacturing defect but is considered normal wear and tear. At any stage Staron can be sanded to renew the surface, it does not require sealers and will be as it was the day it was first installed.

Staron has a rejuvenating nature when appropriate cleaning practices are followed.

Treating minor cuts and scratches:

Renewing the surface can be done using Maroon Scotch-Brite (7447) and Gray Scotch-Brite (7448) hand pads.

Wet the pad and use in a circular motion, do not apply excessive or uneven pressure. Scatches can be treated with <240g sandpaper prior to using Scotch-Brite pads, moving to a finer grade may be required for some finishes. Always wash between sandpaper grads and sand in a circular motion.

A test patch on an inconspicuous section of the application is recommended. Don't not undertake the above on gloss finishes.

To treat deep scratches or should your benchtop require a re-buff. Professional Sanding / Buffing:

Staron can be re-sanded and refinished to rejuvenate the surface. Should you choose to utilize this service, you will be charged the standard hourly service rate by your Staron-certified fabricator. If your Staron product is accidentally nicked or deeply scratched, please contact your retailer or Staron-certified fabricator for advice about the most effective method of repair. Most repairs are relatively quick and simple when performed by an experienced professional. For more detailed information, please contact your Staron representative.

Repair Material / Cutting Board:

It is a Staron requirement that Staron fabricators supply all projects with suitable sized repair material from your installation that is colour matched to your surface. This material is required to be fixed to the back of your drawers, so that it can be used in the unlikely event that your surface has accidental damage. Please insist that this is provided to you at the time of installation as per the Staron warranty requirements.



Upcycling Staron

Staron has a long-life expectancy within projects; the ability to renew and repair means it should not be considered as a short-term "throwaway" item. In addition, at a project's "end-of-life" Staron can be salvaged and re-designed to create new applications in the same way timber is able to be repurposed. An old kitchen benchtop can become a new outdoor kitchen, laundry benches, furniture items and more. This sustainable and adaptable nature positions Staron as a conscientious choice, aligning with contemporary environmental values while providing enduring functionality.

For Upcycling of Reclaimed Applications:

Reference to the professional Finishing & Polishing methods used to sand Staron can be found in the Staron Fabrication manual – section 18.1, 18.2 via the technical page on our website. DIY re-buff should only be carried out by a competent person, any mishap is not covered under warranty and is at the owner's risk.

To purchase adhesives for the DIY fabrication of a reclaimed countertop it is a requirement that the project details are kept on file, these projects will not be covered by warranty. Contact marketing@austaron.com.au for the relevant paperwork and requirements to qualify.

Recommendations on care and maintenance outside of the standard Staron tech document is offered by Austaron Surfaces based on general feedback and is offered without liability for any misinterpretation.

Lotte's Staron Care & Maintenance guide can be found here.

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