

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Merge Design's **extremeconcrete**® products are entirely handmade from natural and recycled materials. Variation in color, surface texture, porosity, gauge, dimensional tolerance, aggregate size & distribution and finish will occur and are considered inherent valued qualities. Nonstructural hairline cracks are possible and shall not be considered a manufacturing defect. All **extremeconcrete**® products should be sealed with the recommended sealer.

**extremeconcrete**® products sealed with the manufacturer's recommended sealer should be cleaned with warm water and a clean, non-abrasive cloth or sponge. You can also use 3 parts water mixed with 1 part distilled vinegar (or any neutral pH cleanser) for daily cleaning. Heavy abrasive cleaners or cleaners containing ammonia or bleach should be avoided. Merge Design's **extremeconcrete**® products are not stain-proof. Like all naturally porous materials, (i.e. granite, marble, limestone, slate, soapstone, etc.) there are no warranties against scratching, staining etching or cracking.

Spills should be cleaned up as soon as possible to avoid the risk of permanent staining or etching. Spills from certain products such as red wine, lemons, coffee, etc., as well various chemicals, lotions and creams can permanently etch the concrete if left to remain on the surface for an extended period of time. Etch marks appear lighter in color and cannot be wiped off with any cleaning product. In many cases, this can only be repaired by sanding and resealing the affected area. Unglazed ceramics and terracotta pots should not be used on the eco-sensitive surfaces and can cause permanent discoloration. Oils in particular can penetrate the surface if forced in from the weight of a container.

Wiping up spills as soon as possible will minimize the risk of staining. Keep liquids from pooling on the surface as they may permanently stain the surface.

In the event that a stain forms and is unable to be removed with soap and water, we recommend the use of a stain removing poultice/paste (StoneTech-Extract: [www.stonetechpro.com](http://www.stonetechpro.com) or equal). Once stain is removed, reapply sealer to affected area for added protection.

You should expect your new **extremeconcrete**® products to show wear and develop a patina with time. Remember, **extremeconcrete**® products are stain resistant, not stain-proof. Common sense, good housekeeping and regular cleaning techniques should be practiced.

If further technical information is required, please do not hesitate to contact your sales representative for additional care and maintenance instructions.

Merge Design recommends that all newly installed surfaces should be treated delicately for a minimum of fourteen (14) days following the sealing process and installation. Avoid heavy usage and cleaning during this time period.