

Rock-Solid Stain Protection:

AsahiGuard Repellents Guard Stone and Tile from Spills that Cause Long-Term Damage

Decorative and functional stone and tile add aesthetic value throughout a home's interior and exterior. Countertops, flooring, patios, walkways, walls, hearths, backsplashes, fireplaces, and pool aprons are just a few of the applications that use stone and tile, which adds value to any property.

What's more, stone and tile applications are concentrated in some of a home's most heavily trafficked areas, which are important for resale, including kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoor living spaces. But the cooking, eating, drinking, and washing that goes on in these areas means that stone products are constantly susceptible to spills that can damage their appearance and overall property value.

Just as other household materials, such as wood flooring, vinyl siding, and the family car, require protection against man-made and natural elements, so do stone and tile. *AsahiGuard for Stone and Tile*, now available from AGC Chemicals, provides the broadest and most effective deterrent to liquid stains that can spoil the aesthetics of both porous and non-porous stone and tile.

AsahiGuard for Stone and Tile is a line of high-performance fluorinated water and oil repellents that protect against food, beverage, oil, and water spills. The product uses fluoropolymers dispersed in water to repel liquids by forming a low-energy surface coating on the stone or tile. The coated surface becomes energetically favorable to resist and repel most common household stains.

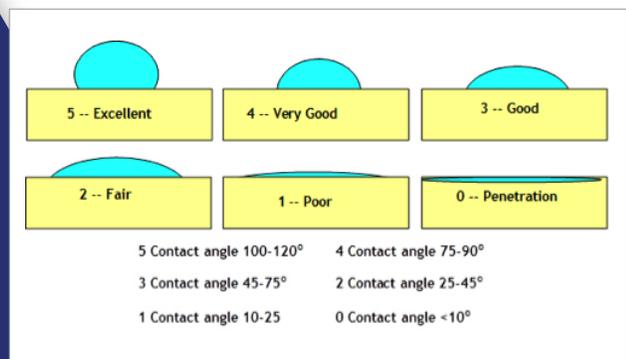
Should oil or water-based liquids fall on the stone or tile, AsahiGuard sealants cause the fluids to bead. This effect, commonly referred to as a high contact angle, is similar to that of water on a raincoat (see diagram on back). The beading action minimizes the surface area in contact between the stone/tile and the fluid, neutralizing the potential for penetration and enhancing the material's cleanability. Testing



has demonstrated AsahiGuard's effectiveness in minimizing the staining of porous and polished stone by a wide range of household fluids, including red wine, coffee, mustard, ketchup, blue ink, mayonnaise, soda, suntan lotion, motor oil and olive oil.

AsahiGuard sealants require just one application, which is factory or field applied either by brush or roller after being diluted by water or mineral spirits, depending on the product used. The sealants cure quickly at ambient temperatures and are odor-free, ensuring breathability. They protect polished stones, such as marble and granite, porous stones like limestone, and very porous materials, such as concrete, terra cotta, brick, and paving stones.

In addition to enhancing stone and tile cleanability, the sealants increase these materials' durability and life by reducing their porosity.



AsahiGuard is offered in a range of formulations, depending on the stone or tile to be protected and whether it will be installed inside or out (see product pages on our website for assistance on which AsahiGuard product is most suitable for each specific application.) Moreover, the product has excellent compatibility with auxiliary agents that can be added to it to produce custom formulations that give stone and tile additional characteristics such as high gloss, low gloss, enhanced color, or a wet look.

Importantly, AsahiGuard is based on short-chain C6 chemistry. C6 fluorinated polymers are proven safe for use on stone and tile, contain no perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) or their precursors, at detectable limits, and cannot break down to form PFOA or PFOS. AsahiGuard emits only low levels of volatile organic compounds and is formalin-free, non-flammable, and non-corrosive. AsahiGuard meets the most stringent regulatory requirements internationally, including the U.S. Toxic Substance Control Act, Japan's Chemical Substances Control Law, and all applicable European Union standards. It imposes no danger to humans, animals, materials, or the environment.

AsahiGuard has a range of sealants to protect all types of stone and tile. Some sealants perform best in areas that have a lot of contact with water, such as shower stalls and fountains. Others are ideal for surfaces that experience frequent oil- and water-based foods and beverage spills, such as kitchen counters and the deck areas under and around barbecues. For further information or to speak with a technical representative regarding AsahiGuard's utility in a specific application, or to place an order, U.S. customers may call 800-424-7833.

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