How to keep your basin beautiful for decades.

CLEANING

Mild soap and a soft cloth

Stone doesn't need special products. The only thing that really ruins the surface of a basin is the wrong cleaner, and it can do its damage faster than daily use ever will.

Daily cleaning	Mild soap and a soft cloth. That is all a basin in daily use needs.
Don't use these	Acidic cleaners and descalers, strongly alkaline products such as degreasers and ammonia, and abrasive sponges eat away the sealant.
Dry it after use	Water left on the surface dries into limescale marks in hard water. A wipe with a cloth is enough.

DURABILITY

What the surface can take

The stone itself can take all of this. The only thing to look after is the sealant, which wears if the wrong kind of product is left standing on it.

Hot water	Fine. There is nothing to worry about with hot water.
Soap and toothpaste	Fine. These are part of normal basin use and don't harm the surface.
Hair dye	Wipe it off as soon as you can. Hair dye left standing on the surface wears the sealant.
Nail polish remover	Wipe it off immediately. The same reason as hair dye: the sealant wears if the product is left on the surface.

SEALANT

Renewing the sealant

The basin comes sealed inside and out with a professional sealant. Once fully cured it is food-safe and gives the stone a wet-look finish.

According to the manufacturer, the sealant lasts several years on hard stone. How long depends on what the basin is cleaned with and, outdoors, on how much direct sunlight it gets.

SEALANT USED ON THE BASIN

Akemi Darkener Super

You renew the sealant yourself, a bit like oiling a wooden table. Use the same product and follow the instructions on the tin. Do ask if anything is unclear.

> The sign that it needs renewing is that water no longer beads on the surface but darkens the stone instead.

INSTALLATION

How to install the basin

Installation is simple, but the countertop has to carry the weight.

01 **A sturdy countertop**

A stone basin often weighs tens of kilos, so the countertop has to be solid and carry the weight permanently.

02 **Drain valve**

The valve is tightened through the drain hole of the basin. It fixes the basin to the countertop and seals the joint at the same time. You get the valve yourself.

03 **Silicone**

A silicone suitable for natural stone goes between the basin and the countertop. Ordinary silicone can stain the edge of the stone.

OUTDOORS

A basin kept outdoors, such as a bird bath, is best emptied for the winter. Freezing water expands, and that strains any stone.

QUESTIONS ABOUT CARE

If anything in this guide is unclear, ask. I answer every message myself.

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