

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Caring For Your Countertops

(NAPS)—With a little extra care, you may be able to count on years of additional beauty from your kitchen counters.

Preventing damage is preferable to repairing it, so start by choosing durable countertop materials that, if need be, can be easily repaired. Here are some tips on routine care and repair from the experts at DuPont Corian:

- There are three types of solid surface countertop finishes: matte, semigloss and gloss. All Corian sinks and bowls have a matte finish. Soapy water or ammonia-based cleaners will remove most dirt and stains from all types of finishes. However, slightly different techniques must be used to remove different stains.

- To prevent permanent damage to countertops, avoid exposing to strong chemicals, such as paint removers or oven cleaners. If exposed, quickly flush with water.

- Remove nail polish with a non-acetone-based polish remover and flush with water.

- To prevent heat damage, always use a hot pad or a trivet with rubber feet. Hot pans, as well as some heat-generating appliances like frying pans or electric cooking pots can damage the surface if placed directly on



**Before restoration, these 21-year-old counters looked old and worn.**

the countertop.

- Do not cut directly on Corian countertops.

- You can repair the inevitable scratches, general or chemical stains, scorchs, burns, and minor impact marks with a light abrasive cleaner and a Scotch-Brite pad. For heavier damage, light sanding may be necessary. If sanding is unsuccessful, you may need to consult a professional fabricator for other repair options.

Countertops surfaces can often be restored despite visible damage. A recently restored kitchen featured Corian countertops, installed in 1979, that were burned and cracked by a gas stove and chipped because of constant abuse. The countertops showed visible seams



**With a little cosmetic repair, these same countertops look brand new.**

and stains and had lost their luster.

In the refurbishment, the original countertops were sanded down, which eliminated the scratches and stains, and restored to their original color. The stove was raised so it was level with the countertop, and tile was installed on the side near the stove to eliminate heat damage.

No seams were visible on the refurbished countertops due to the seaming technology DuPont created in the mid 1980s. A thicker edge was added to the countertops, allowing for a unique edge treatment. In the end, the 21-year-old surfaces looked brand-new.

For more information about DuPont Corian, you can visit [www.corian.com](http://www.corian.com) or call 1-800-4-CORIAN.