

Can I remove etching from my natural stone?

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Q. *Can I remove etching from my stone?*A. Maybe. If it is polished marble or travertine or onyx, then there's hope. If it is hone-finished marble or travertine, or hone-finished slate (like a chalk-board), or mixed "granite" then you'd better hire a professional stone restoration contractor. If it's a cleft-finished slate (rippled on its surface), then a very qualified pro may be able to hone it with powders and apply a good quality enhancing sealer. Concentrating now on the case of polished marble or limestone or travertine or onyx, if the etch is severe (deep to the point that it looks and feels rough), then you do need a professional stone refinisher. But if the etch is light (the depth is undetectable by the naked eye, and it looks and feels smooth), then there is a professional grade product that is user-friendly enough for the do-it-yourselfer that should do the trick for you. Go to www.Stonecarecentral.com and look for Etch Remover and Marble Polish. Just follow the directions on the container. If you do need the services of a PRO, visit the Find a PRO section at www.stoneandtilepros.com to locate a qualified contractor in your area. John Freitag Director The Stone and Tile School www.thestoneandtileschool.com