

Caring for your Solus Concrete Fireplace Surround & Tiles

The concrete of your new fireplace surround or mantel is naturally very durable and when sealed resists staining to some degree. Under normal circumstances, it will require little or no maintenance or special care. For general cleaning, we recommend:

- Dust or wipe with a damp cloth. Do not use chemical dusting agents or detergents
- Watermarks, should they occur, may be lightly buffed out using a green "Scotch-Brite" type pad
- Although we recommend maintenance and/or sealing once a year, higher-traffic areas like the hearth or top of the mantel may require more frequent sealing. Recommended Sealers are: Fabrikem Fabrishield 760; or Miracle 511 (Home Depot). It is very easy to apply and dries invisibly. Most spills or stains can be cleaned with a damp cloth if attended to immediately. If these sealants are not available you can Google: "Waterproof Concrete Sealing" to find a product in your area.
- Prolonged exposure to some substances, especially those that are strongly acid or alkali (like wine or some soaps), may result in surface staining. The best approach is to buff and reseal. Repeat if necessary
- Prevention is the key to caring for your fireplace surround.

Some precautionary suggestions:

- Treat your fireplace surround like a fine piece of furniture
- Be careful with decorative pieces on the mantel or hearth. Melted wax from candles can cause damage - use drip trays or plates underneath
- Pumpkins or gourds can sweat or begin to break down and will cause damage to your hearth or mantel. We suggest using a tray or board for protection
- Use coasters to avoid drink ring stains
- Do not apply tape or any other adhesives directly to the concrete as these have been known to leave stains.

Your concrete fireplace surround will be a permanent fixture in your home and will provide you with a lifetime of enjoyment.