
Stone Defect Diagnosis Checklist

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Intended readers: property / maintenance firms

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Rapid Diagnosis Table

Gloss loss without scratches → wear dulling: crystallization care suffices.

Punctate stains with haloed edges → oil / pigment penetration: poultice drawing + re-sealing.

White powdery bloom → efflorescence (salt bloom): cut the water (check waterproofing and joints) → dry-brush removal → re-seal.

Large ill-defined dark patches → water marks: very hard to cure; fix the water source first, replace slabs if necessary.

Edge delamination / hollow sounding → adhesive failure or substrate movement: locate by tapping, then grout-inject or replace.

Rust-yellow stains along cracks → internal iron oxidation: rust remover poultice; use acids with care.

Matte etched haze, rough to touch → acid etching: light cases re-polish, severe cases need re-grinding.

The Three-Question Method

Q1: When did it appear, and is it linked to a specific work activity or leak? Q2: Is the distribution random or along joints / water paths? Q3: How did touch and gloss change? These three questions locate some 80% of causes.

Laboratory Testing and Liability

For disputed items, retain original sealed samples and work records; send for third-party testing (petrographic / chemical analysis) when necessary. HSST provides diagnosis and remediation technical support.