



MST Pad Restoration

In this training video we're going to take you through the process for using Modern Stone Technologies MST Pad. The MST pad offers full restoration capabilities for scratches to shine in one simple system

Here is a list of equipment needed to complete the MST pad process:

A floor machine with a water tank capable of running at least 135 lbs, a portable extractor or trunk mount system or similar extractor such as a Shop-Vac or any dry/wet vacuum. A stand-up grout brush or similar agitation brush to remove the slurry from grout lines when needed. And finally a set of Modern Stone Technologies MST Pads.

In this video we will be restoring a travertine floor with a variety of different challenges. From wear patterns, to surface scratches, chemical etching to lippage, the goal is to get these floors looking as good, or better than they did when they were first installed. Pay close attention to all of the damage on the floor. . . while these are extreme cases, they are the types of situations that customers are going to want to have restored. The first pad in our four step process is going the course pad. The course pad is used to remove heavy wear and scratches and will be used as part of a multi-step finishing process. The goal here is to remove the heavy damage and get the floors looking as even as possible. To get started, place the Matte pad under our floor machine the same way we would with any other buffing pad. Add a little bit of water from our water tank and start the machine. Notice the amount of slurry created by these pads. By removing the stone's surface we are essentially bringing the entire surface down to the level of damage that was presently on the floor. Also notice the pace that we are moving. The space in between the slurry lines should be about 1-2 inches apart. Anything further apart indicates the floor machine is moving too fast. If they're closer than that, it is moving too slow. Complete two passes with the matte pad. A pass is completed when the entire area has been covered. Once the second pass has been completed, extract and rinse all of the slurry that has been created. Using the high pressure from an extractor or agitating with a grout or deck brush, remove the slurry out of the grout lines before moving on to our next step. Once the floors are dry, they should have a very raw Matte finish. Notice how the light the stones are after the Matte pad step has been completed. Also notice that the floors look very even. All of the damage has been successfully been taken out of the stones and brought them all to the same level. Essentially, damage has been created to blend out the damage that was already on the floor.

The next steps are going to bring the stones back up to lustrous original finish. The only areas that were unaffected with this pass were the areas where one tile was installed higher than the next. This is called lippage. Lippage will result in "picture framing" where the edges of the tiles are not affected like the center of the tiles. Picture framing will be blended out with future steps. Pay close attention to this as the process continues. The next step in the four step process is the hone pad. The hone pad is used to provide a Matte finish or as part multi-step finishing process. The goal here is to bring the floors up from the previous step and leave them at a honed finish. This would be the final step in the process if the customer was looking for a "factory" finish. To get started, place the hone pad under our floor machine the same way we did with the Matte pad. Add a little bit of water from our water tank and start the machine. Notice that slurry is still being created while using the hone pad, but that it is thinner than the slurry that was created with the Matte pad. This is because less of the stone's surface is being removed than with the more aggressive pad. Make sure that the floor machine is moving at the same pace as with the Matte pad. Moving the floor machine too fast will result in an inconsistent look over the floor. While moving the floor machine too slow will provide you with a nice even finish, it will essentially result in the loss of valuable time. After completing two passes, it is time to extract and rinse the slurry on the floor. Once the floors have dried, notice that they're much darker then they were after the Matte pad. Even though the floors are still left at a Matte finish, the colors naturally present in the stone's surface have been enhanced.

The next step in our process is going to be the satin pad. The satin pad is used to provide a satin finish or as part of a multi-step finishing process. The goal with the satin pad is to provide a slight shine without bringing the floors to a high gloss. Use less weight with the satin and shine pad than when using the Matte and hone pad. About 110-120 pound machine will be sufficient. To get started, place the satin pad under our floor machine the same way we did with our hone pad. Add a little bit of water from the water tank and start the machine. Move the floor machine in the same fashion as the previous two steps. Notice that even less slurry is being created than the Matte and the Hone pad. Once two passes have been completed, it is time to extract and rinse the slurry on the floor. Once the floors are completely dry, the stone's surface has become even more enhanced. The picture framing that was present after the Matte pad is almost unnoticeable and a light reflection is starting to build on the floor. This is a very popular finish for someone who doesn't want a completely Matte floor, but doesn't want a high reflection either.

The next and final step of the MST pads is the Shine pad. Use the shine pad to provide a one step high polish or as the final step in a multi-step finishing process. The goal here is to provide the highest shine available without using a polishing compound such as Jazz. To get started, place the shine pad under our floor machine the same way as with the satin pad. Add a little bit of water from the water tank and start the machine. There should be very little slurry created during this final step as we are restoring the floors at a very fine level. Move the floor machine in the same fashion as with the previous 3 steps. Complete two passes over the area before rinsing and extracting. Once the area has been completed, extract and rinse. Once the floors are completely dry there will be a detailed reflection and an enhanced finish on the floors. The picture framing that was present at the beginning of the process is completely gone. The floors can either be left at this level of reflection or we can build on this reflection by using one of modern stone polishing powders such as Jazz or Outshine.

This concludes the MST pad process demonstration. Thank you very much for watching and we'll see you in the next video.

In some cases, the last three steps of the MST pad process will have a better end result if used dry. Besides a better result, another benefit of using the pads dry is that there is less clean-up after each step or less chance of damaging moisture sensitive surrounding such as carpet or hard wood. The dry process is the exact same as the wet process minus the water. It is advised that a test area be completed to identify which process is going to work best with the stones that are being restored.