# **BLOKFORM** CUSTOM CONCRETE DESIGNS

## CARE GUIDE

All Blokform's pieces are made to the highest quality. To learn about caring for your GFRC pieces in your home, we recommend following the below advice.

#### **General Care:**

Clean your Blokform piece with care using non-abrasive, non-acidic cleaners. Warm soapy water and micro fibre cloths are a great solution for general wipe downs. Natural Beeswax ('Baby Seal' product—can be purchased from www.domcrete.com.au) can be applied monthly as an additional maintenance protocol to provide additional protection. Avoid all scours, steel wool and harsh cloths on concrete, as it can result in surface scratches.

### Spills and Stains (including water stains):

Act quickly to clean spills: While sealer works to fill pores and protect against spills & stains absorbing deeper into the concrete, we strongly recommend acting swiftly to clean up any spills that may harm the concrete. By cleaning spills as they occur, you'll mitigate potential discolouration, stains or etching to the surface. Water marks may appear above or under the sealer if water is left pooled on the concrete for a prolonged period (including wet cloths or items sitting on bench-tops, basins or vanities overnight). Most water marks will disappear when the concrete is fully dried out but to minimise long term damage we advise not to leave wet items directly on your concrete and to dry off your concrete promptly when wet.

#### **Heat Protection:**

We strongly advise against placing hot plates, pots & pans or heating tools (straighteners/curling irons) directly on a concrete surface as it can potentially discolour the sealer or cause thermal shock, resulting in cracks. As a rule of thumb, if the object is too hot to touch, it should be placed on a table trivet or heat protective mat.

# **Cutting/scratches on Concrete:**

All Blokform pieces are sealed with a high-performance sealer that provides excellent stain and abrasion resistance (though not completely stain or scratch proof!). Food-grade sealer is available upon request. We strongly advise against cutting directly onto a concrete surface, this will cause fractures within the sealer, which ruin the aesthetic of your Blokform piece and also allow for future spills to seep deep into the concrete causing long-term damage. Care should also be taken to avoid scratching the sealers surface, including dragging blunt/heavy items. This can result in surface scratches in the sealer that ruin the aesthetics and longevity of your piece. Always use protective placemats under heavy items and avoid dragging objects along your concrete surface to minimise surface scratches.

## **Re-Sealing:**

If the Care Guide is not followed correctly and excessive scratching occurs, resealing is possible but will be at the expense of the owner and subject to availability.

## **Cracks and Chips:**

If cared for correctly, GFRC is extremely durable and should not crack or chip. However, as with all other natural stones, corners are vulnerable to hard impacts with blunt objects, and so too are fine hairline cracks, so we advise general care to avoid damage occurring. Please note, hairline cracks are more likely to occur on GFRC pieces that are exposed to extreme temperature changes (eg. Fireplace hearths). These cracks are superficial and will not affect the structural integrity of your piece.