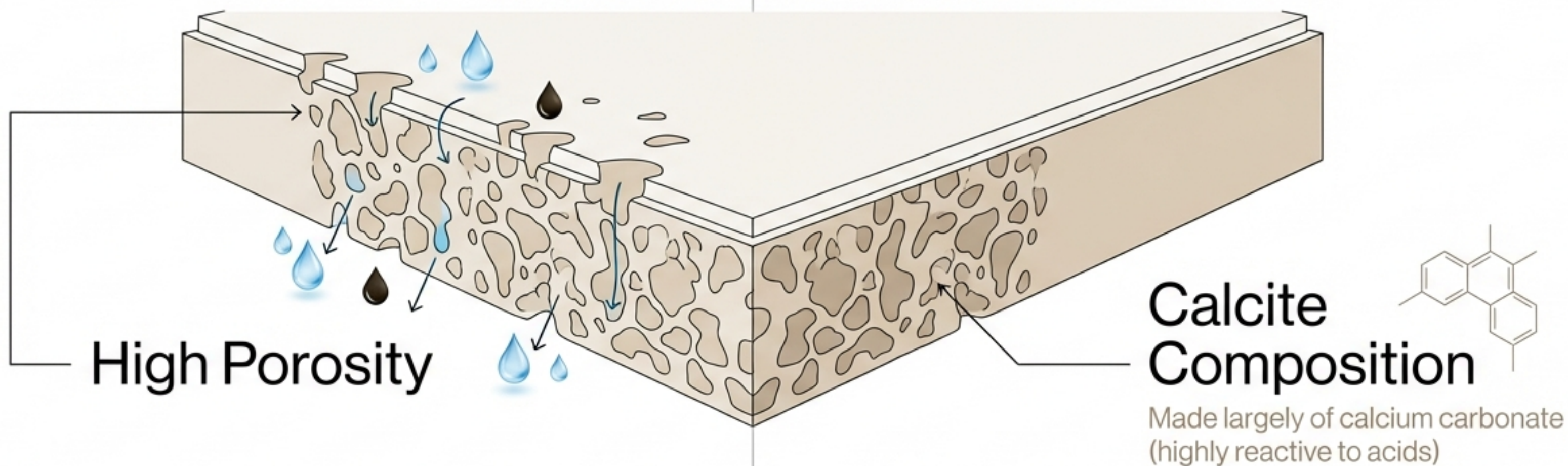


# The Art & Science of Travertine Care

A systematic approach to  
preserving your poolside oasis.



# The Anatomy of a Porous Canvas



Travertine's natural elegance comes with a vulnerability: it readily absorbs liquids and chemically reacts to harsh compounds.

# The Chemistry of Stone Preservation

## ✓ Safe Elements (Preserve)

### Cleaners

pH-neutral stone wash, warm water + mild dish soap.

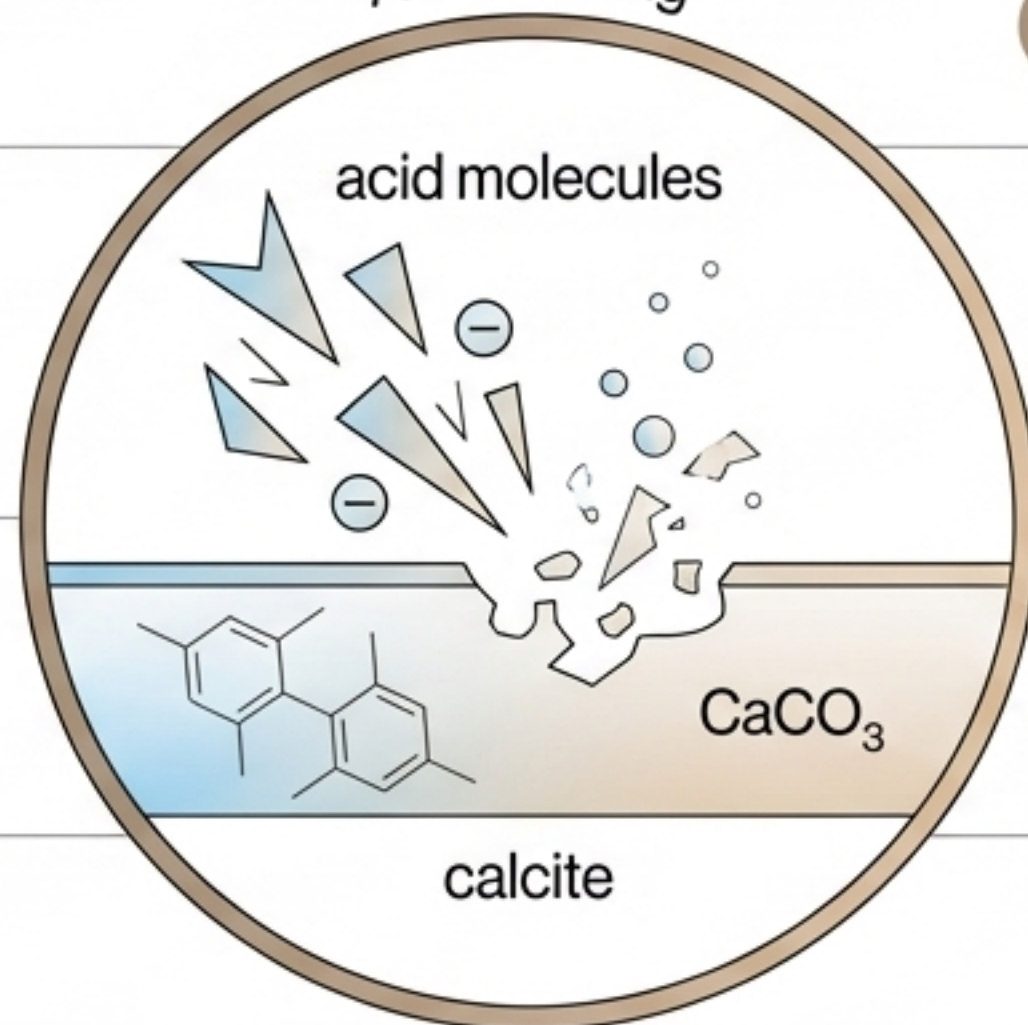
### Tools

Soft-bristle brushes, microfiber mops.

### Action

Gently lifts debris without chemical reaction.

## Acid Etching



## ✗ Destructive Agents (Corrode)

### Cleaners

Vinegar (4-6% acetic acid), Bleach, Ammonia, Baking Soda (strong alkalis).

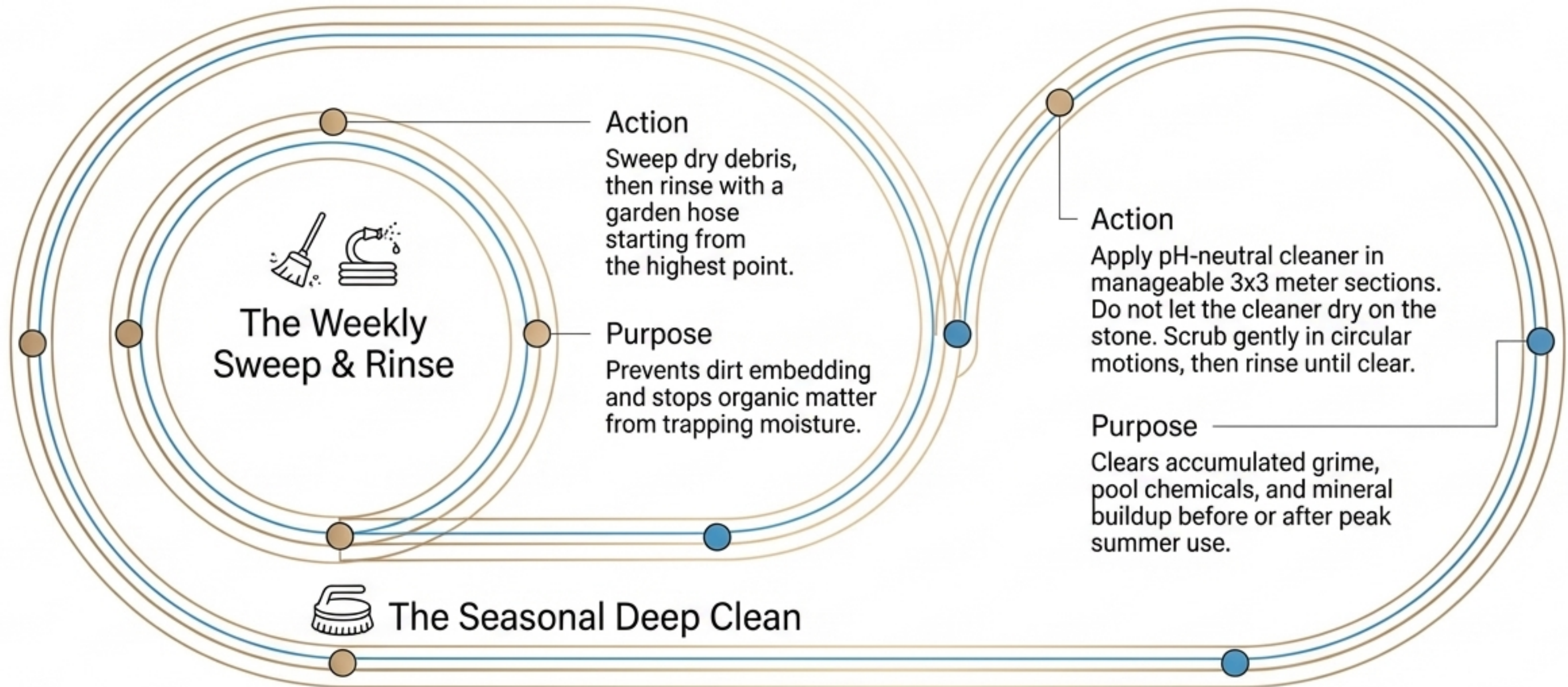
### Tools

Wire brushes, stiff nylon.

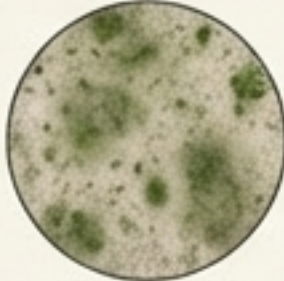
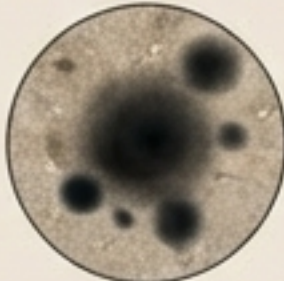
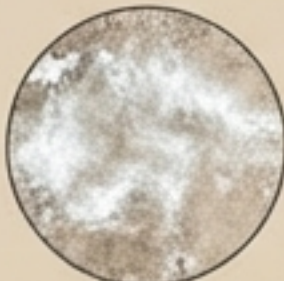
### Action

Physically scratches the finish and chemically etches (corrodes) the calcite.

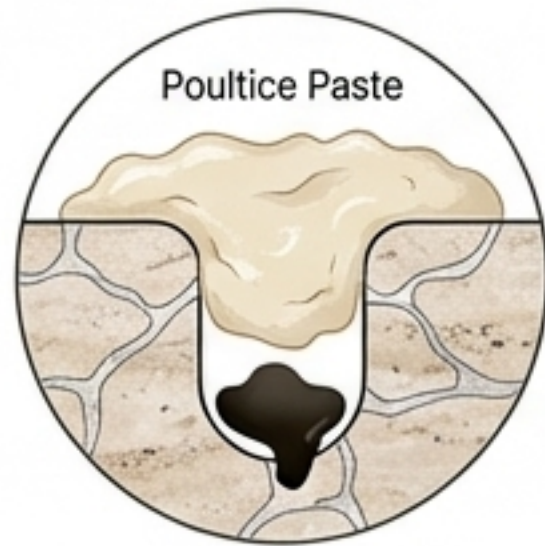
# A Systematic Maintenance Rhythm



# Diagnosing and Treating Surface Stains

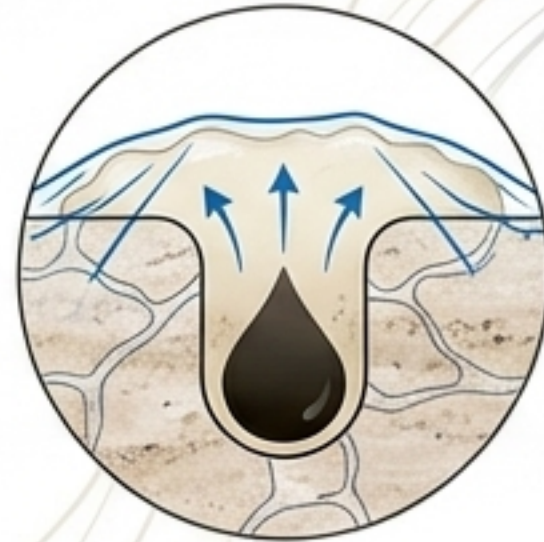
| Stain Category   | Visual Indicator  | Prescribed Treatment  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Organic</b><br>(Leaves, Algae, Mildew)              |  Green or dark organic spotting in damp/shaded areas.      | Peroxide-based stone cleaner or 50/50 water and hydrogen peroxide + soft brush. |
| <b>Oil &amp; Grease</b><br>(Sunscreen, Food)           |  Dark, penetrating spots that sit deep in the pores.     | Immediate blotting (no rubbing) followed by a Poultice extraction.              |
| <b>Mineral Deposits</b><br>(Efflorescence, Hard Water) |  White, chalky, powdery residue emerging to the surface. | Mild alkaline stone cleaner (never acid) + gentle scrubbing.                    |

# Extracting Deep Oil with the Poultice Protocol



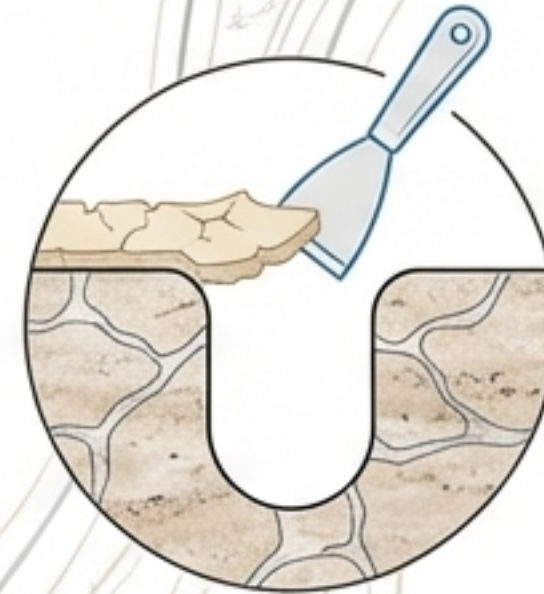
## 1. Apply

Smother the oil stain with a thick poultice paste (absorbent powder mixed with stone cleaner).



## 2. Isolate

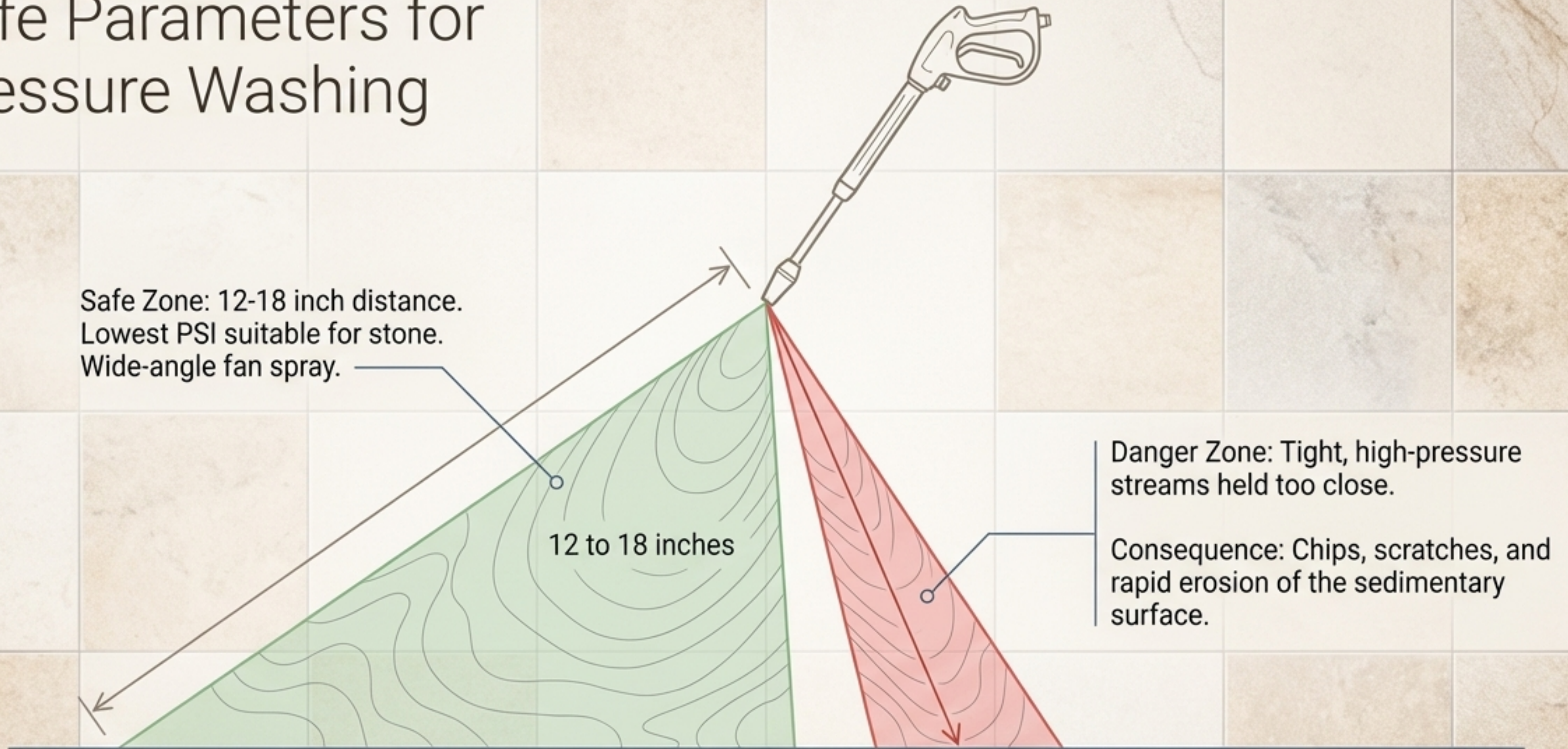
Cover tightly with plastic wrap and leave for 24–48 hours. This creates a vacuum effect, drawing oil out of the porous calcite.



## 3. Extract

Gently scrape off the dried paste, rinse the area thoroughly, and dry.

# Safe Parameters for Pressure Washing



Footnote: Check sealant integrity after pressure washing, as the force of water often wears off protection.

# Cultivating a Safe Poolside Environment



## Chemical Safety

Utilize biodegradable, pH-neutral formulas labeled explicitly as safe for pets and children.

## Spill Management

Blot food and sunscreen immediately; never rub oils deeper into the stone.

## Surface Safety

Avoid aggressive scrubbing that creates microscopic chips or tripping hazards for bare feet.

## Cure Isolation

Keep kids and pets off the deck for the full 24–48 hour sealant curing window.

# The Restore & Preserve Synthesis

Mechanically and chemically clearing the canvas. Lifting stains, algae, and minerals out of the pores.

**RESTORE**  
(Deep Cleaning)

**Cleaning without sealing simply invites the next stain.**

**PRESERVE**  
(Penetrating Sealer)

Chemically blocking the open pores to prevent future liquid and oil ingress.

## The Water-Bead Test

Sprinkle drops of water on the dry deck. If it beads up, the seal is intact. If it darkens and soaks in, it is time to reseal (typically every 1-3 years).

# Enduring Elegance by Design

A poolside oasis is an investment in natural beauty. With a rigorous, pH-neutral maintenance rhythm and consistent sealing, your travertine will retain its elegance for a lifetime.

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Hunterpavers provides premium, pet- and kid-friendly natural stone solutions, backed by over a decade of industry expertise.