



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT GRANITE

What are the advantages of granite over other countertop surfaces?

Available in a striking array of colors, granite's durability, longevity, and economy make it ideal for kitchen countertops and other heavily used surfaces, including table tops and floors. Granite is heat resistant up to 480°F without damage. While it can be used directly as a cutting surface without danger of scratching, it can dull your knives so a cutting board is recommended. The coolness of granite makes it the perfect surface for pastries. Finally, it will look as good as the day it was installed with minimal maintenance.

How do you clean granite?

Granite can be cleaned daily with a soft cloth, mild soap and warm water. Do not use harsh chemical cleaners with chemicals like ammonia and bleach. It will break down the sealer and leave the stone unprotected.

Does granite scratch easily?

NO – Granite is the most durable work surface available today. The only things that will scratch granite are diamonds, carbide, or another piece of granite.

How do you seam granite?

Seams are done using a two-part epoxy resin with color pigments. The color of the pigment is matched as closely as possible, but a 100% match is not possible. The joint compound is non-porous and will not stain.

What are the different sink options?

Sinks are self-rimming (drop-in) or undermounted. The various materials of sinks include stainless steel, cast iron, or synthetic (granite composite). For all undermounted sinks the granite opening will be polished. We sell a wide variety of styles and configurations at competitive prices. We can also fabricate a custom sink out your same granite to match the countertops.

How heavy is granite?

The density of the stone will vary from color to color. On average, 3 centimeter thick granite weighs between 16-22 lbs. per square foot.

Can granite be repaired?

Small chips in the granite can be repaired. It is always advisable to save a piece of chipped stone, if possible, to help with the repair process.



What is the difference between granite and marble, onyx, travertine, and limestone?

Granite is an igneous rock and one of the hardest commercially available stone materials and ideal for high-traffic applications such as kitchens. Granite is available in hundreds of colors and patterns and can truly personalize your space as no two shipments of granite are alike.

Marble is a metamorphic rock with random veining that instills an aura of elegance to any room. Typically used in bathrooms, marble is a softer stone that can be scratched easily and is more susceptible to common, mild acids. These common acids, including citrus juices, can etch and “patina” the polished surface of marble over time. Consumers should be aware of these inherent properties before selecting it for high traffic areas such as kitchens or bar areas. Marble is suitable for wet areas, so tub surrounds and showers are common applications for marble.

Onyx is often confused with marble, but is a distinct rock type. Onyx is a sedimentary rock, formed as stalactites and stalagmites in cave interiors. This gives it the translucent crystalline structure that is popular for creating dramatic backlit applications. Like marble, it is susceptible to etching and scratching, so it is recommended for lower traffic areas.

Travertine and limestone are similar, both being made up of calcium carbonate. Travertine is the land formed version generally found in ancient riverbeds whereas limestone is typically found in marine based locales and often feature fossilized shells embedded in the stone. Both stones come in soft, earthy color tones and are highly desirable in bathroom applications. In general, they do not take a polish, so a honed finish contributes to the softness of the look associated with travertine and limestone. Again, they are easily scratched and sensitive to acids, so they generally are not recommended for kitchens.

What is Soapstone?

Soapstone is a natural stone that has myriad uses over the years. As a countertop, it is non-porous, so it won't absorb spills. Any surface stains can be easily cleaned up or sanded off. While it is a softer stone that is prone to scratching, it can be repaired with low-grit sandpaper and a little elbow-grease. Soapstone is inert and not affected by acids or alkalis. As a testament to its durability, it has been used in science classrooms and labs for hundreds of years. It is also highly heat absorbent and ideal for fireplace surrounds. Soapstone colors vary from light grays and greens to deep blacks. Soapstone can be left in its natural state or one can apply mineral oil or a stone sealer to darken the color.

What about Engineered Stones?

We offer many brands of engineered stones including Caesarstone, Zodiaq, Silestone, Cambria, and Hanstone. Engineered stones are made from natural quartz that is ground up and combined with a resin to form slab. They are non-porous and highly resistant to heat, bacteria, and scratching. Cleaning is a snap and there is no maintenance required!