



THINGS TO KNOW NATURAL STONE

About

“Natural Stone is a classic and timeless choice for countertops and does not require a lot of special care. Natural Stone offers a special and one of a kind beauty that is hard to match in a man-made world. There will always be natural imperfections/characteristics that occur in every stone. These characteristics can be more or less noticeable depending on the position (vertical or horizontal) of the stone and the type of lighting present.”*

*According to Natural Stone Institute.

Surfaces

Granite	Onyx
Limestone	Quartzite
Travertine	Marble
Semi-Precious	Dolomite

Natural Stone Benefits

SCRATCH RESISTANT

Won't scratch under normal every-day use.

BACTERIA RESISTANT

If sealed properly or non-porous, it does not harbor bacteria.

STAIN RESISTANT

If sealed properly or non-porous, stains are unlikely to penetrate the surface.

EXTERIOR APPLICATION

Durable enough to withstand outdoor elements.

HEAT RESISTANT

Withstands moderate temperatures.

NATURAL BEAUTY

One-of-a-kind with unique colors, patterns and textures.

Finish Options

POLISHED

Also known as Hi-Gloss and is a finish with a high shine.

HONED

Also known as Matte and is a finish with little or no shine.

TEXTURED

Also known as Leather, Brushed, Concrete, Suede or Velvet. This is a finish with texture and little or no shine.

Characteristics

SHADE VARIATION

While more apparent in stones with heavy veining and movement, shade variation occurs in all natural stones and is more noticeable at seams.

FISSURES

A naturally occurring small hairline crack, fissures are “an extensive crack, break or fracture in the rock, which may contain mineral bearing material.”*

*According to The American Geological Institute.

CRACKS

During the stresses of handling, fabrication, transportation and installation, cracks may occur. It is common practice to repair cracks, and in many cases the repaired area is as strong or stronger than the surrounding area due to the strength of the adhesive bond.

CHIPS

A small repairable imperfection in Natural Stone due to severe impact or fabrication.

PITS/PORES

Small pin hole like variations found in all Natural Stone's finishes, pits/pores are a common characteristic and do not make the material less durable or otherwise inferior.



The Water Test

The water test is a quick, simple way to check your granite countertop seal. All you need to do is pour a small amount of water (about 3” in diameter) onto various sections of the counter and wait for a reaction. You can tell if the water has been absorbed into the stone because the granite will darken. The water should sit for 30 minutes when performing the test, but you may notice the granite darkening more quickly if your seal has worn down. Most natural stones need to be re-sealed every 1-2 years.

Seams

Seams will be filled with a color-matching adhesive that is visible and will be felt. Seams are more apparent on materials with texture and movement. All desired seam locations will be considered, but final placement is up to the discretion of the fabricator. Seam placements are determined based on slab/sheet size, layout, inherent material characteristics, installation requirements and safety.

Support

The maximum unsupported overhang for a 3CM Natural Stone product is 10” and 6” for a 2CM product as long as 2/3 of the countertop is supported by a solid affixed structure (e.g. cabinets, walls, etc.). Additional support or brackets are required in other situations for safety concerns. Bracket supports should be placed 6” from each end, spaced up to 30” apart and extend to 3” – 6” from the edge.

Care

Natural Stones are mined from the Earth and are natural products. Avoid harsh cleaners or abrasives containing lemon juice or citrus which can etch and dull the finish. For daily cleaning, use a soft cloth with a mild liquid soap and warm water. To remove soap scum, use a non-acidic soap scum remover. Spills should be wiped up quickly to prevent staining.

Non-polished materials and darker colors require more frequent cleaning as they show dirt, dust and marks easier than lighter color patterns. Use hot pads and trivets with heat generating appliances, as well as cutting boards, placemats and coasters to protect your surface from discoloration, scratches and staining.

WE'RE READY TO BRING YOUR VISION TO LIFE!

