

Care & Maintenance Information for Granite & Quartz

Natural Stone (Granites & Marbles)

Since granite kitchen countertops represent a major investment, homeowners naturally want to know the facts about care of granite countertops. Granite is a harder stone than marble, and the care for it is generally simpler than it is for natural marble. However, whichever stone is used for countertops, one of the most important principles of care of granite countertops is that you should always wipe spills immediately. Granite is somewhat absorbent, and can absorb stains if spills are left any length of time.

Routine Care & Maintenance

Since granite counters are popular, it is possible to find special cleaners designed for care of granite countertops. It is also recommended that the countertop be resealed by the installing company every couple of years. A mild solution of dish washing liquid in warm water is fine for routine care of granite countertops. Using a soft cloth, give it a quick wipe every day. Stains are unlikely if the stone is sealed with a countertop sealant, but they can still happen. We also sell products for cleaning and sealing in our showroom. Our preferred brand is StoneTech. ***KEEP ACIDIC FRUITS OR OTHER ITEMS OFF MARBLE COUNTERTOPS. THE CALCITE WILL ETCH IN ACID AND CHANGE THE MARBLE FINISH. NO SEALER WILL STOP THIS.

Removing Difficult Spills

In severe cases, a stain may require a granite cleansing poultice. A poultice for care of granite countertops can be made by combining a tablespoon or two of dish soap with a cup of white flour and enough water to make a paste. To use the paste, spread it over the stain, and lay plastic wrap over the paste. By letting this set overnight, the flour will have time to absorb the stain back out of the granite countertop surface. Call us in extreme cases.

Engineered Quartz

The Natural Beauty of Quartz Surfaces is easy to maintain. Made from the finest natural quartz materials it is the premier surfacing material with all the beauty of nature without its drawbacks. Quartz is a non-porous material that is highly stain-, scratch-, and heat-resistant; however, it is not stain-, scratch-, or heat-proof. Therefore, using common sense and the right care & maintenance can keep your surface beautiful for years to come.

Routine Care & Maintenance

Any mild countertop cleaner should work fine. We carry Stonetech quartz cleaners that work great too. Clean as you normally would a countertop. We also suggest keeping a microfiber to buff the countertops and remove any remaining residue. Last, for really tough to get up spills or markings, we suggest using Barkeepers Friend. It can be found online or most hardware stores. This may only be needed once every month or 2.

Preventing Damage from Heat

Quartz is designed to be extremely resistant to heat and can withstand exposure to normal cooking environment for brief periods of time without being damaged. Although Quartz is more resistant to heat compared to most surfacing materials in the market, all surfacing materials - including stone - can be damaged by extreme temperature changes, whether prolonged or sudden. To protect your countertop from potential damage caused by sudden temperature changes, trivets and hot pads should be used when placing hot skillets, pans, or other heat generating appliances on the surface. Never place hot cookware directly onto quartz, especially if made of glass.

Preventing Other Damage

Quartz durable surface is designed to withstand normal use. While it is resistant to scratches, cuts, and chipping, cutting directly on Quartz should be avoided. Using cutting boards and taking care not to drop or move heavy objects on the surface will help to ensure the long-lasting beauty of Quartz. It is best to avoid exposing your Quartz to harsh chemicals such as oven/grill cleaners, paint or floor strippers, toilet bowl cleaners, oil soaps, tarnish or nail polish removers, furniture cleaners, battery acid, and drain cleaners. If your countertop is accidentally exposed to these or other harsh chemicals, especially for an extended time, you may cause irreparable damage to the coloring or shine of the Quartz. If any of these chemicals are spilled onto your counter, immediately rinse the area with water and follow up with routine cleaning procedures to avoid as much damage as possible.