



SILE/NATURAL STONE CUSTOMER CHECK LIST

What to Expect from Natural Stone/Engineered Quartz (Silestone)

The process begins with the beauty of natural stone that is manufactured with precise specifications to ensure uniformity throughout the line. Bridging the gap between nature and technology, Natural Stone is a superior surfacing product that resists Heat, Scratching, and Wear. Outlined below are some of the unique characteristics that give Natural Stone distinction over all other surfaces:

Qualification

1. Stain resistant – Manufactured using resin binders, quartz surfaces provide a non-porous surface that does not require additional sealing. This creates a low maintenance countertop that protects against spills and residue that would otherwise stain.

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2. Scratch resistant – With a Mohs hardness in Natural Stone varying due to the amount of Quartz content ranging of 6.5, Quartz is surpassed only by diamonds, sapphires and topaz. This property gives your counters an extremely durable surface that will resist scratches and long term wear.

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3. Heat resistant – Given the strength of the natural materials, quartz Minerals surfaces are among the most heat resistant material found in Natural Stonerials used today for countertops surfacing. This resistance protects your counters from burning or scorching. Thermal shock can result if prolonged exposure to extreme heat occurs. Caution should be used when applying hot pots and pans directly from the heat source to the countertop.

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4. Particle Size – Various particle sizes can occur in the Natural Stone Material are used to create individual colors of quartz surfaces. This is a Natural characteristic of natural stone as it is formed within the Earth. Controlled through a grinding process, these particle sizes range from fine sand to larger individual pieces. To create natural patterns, particle sizes within a color line vary slightly. This gives each Natural Stone Countertop its unique characteristics which is why NO 2 Natural Stone Countertops are alike. color a unique appearance.

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5. Color variation – Color variation is another naturally occurring characteristic of Natural stone. Different Lots of Stone Can vary in Color pigmentation from one lot to another. This is another important reason why it is recommended that you carefully view and choose your material prior to fabrication pigments are used in the manufacturing process to control the hue of each slab, making it possible to create a uniformed kitchen from different slabs and various manufacturing lots. As 93% of quartz surfaces are natural materials, slight color variation may occur.

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6. Pooling – Using a “cookie mixer” like process to combine natural ingredients with resin binders and pigments, an effect called pooling can occur. A small concentration of color, these splashes of color can bring out the vibrant hues of each piece.

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7. Seams – Due to limitations set by the slab lengths and safety factors (i.e. breaking during handling) your countertops may have seams approx. 1/16^t wide. This is unavoidable. While seams shall be filled with colored epoxies to match as closely as possible to the color of the stone, they can NOT be made invisible.

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