

## **About Natural Stone & Countertops**

Granite, marble, quartzite, and soapstone are natural stones that contain natural characteristics including, but not limited to:

- Color and pattern variations inter- and intra-slab.
- Fissures: these are hairline veins that appear to look like "cracks".
- Pits: air gaps created during rock formation.
- Inclusions: clusters of mineral deposits.
- Water lines.
- Various blemishes.

These are not flaws or defects and will not impair the functionality, durability, or longevity of the material.

Samples of natural stone are for general color and pattern selection, however, variation in color and pattern should be expected. Capital Stone recommends viewing the slabs of stone prior to selection and fabrication.

Natural stone is quarried from the Earth and sliced into slabs. Each slab will vary in length, but many projects must be seamed to complete the whole countertop. Seams should be thought of as part of the stone; they can be seen and felt, although Capital Stone takes every care to minimize this, based on the color and pattern of the stone and the best structural location.

#### **Natural Stone Care and Maintenance**

Prior to Capital Stone installing your stone countertops, a penetrating sealer is applied. The sealer bonds to the stone, leaving the surface unaffected, and helps to repel liquids and oils that may stain. Reapplication may be required in the future if traffic and caustic materials have degraded the characteristic of the sealer over time. Even when sealed, natural stone can be susceptible to staining particularly by certain products such as cooking oils, juice, wine, mustard, ketchup, and any fluid that contains an acid or alkaline.

Capital Stone recommends using DuPont StoneTech Professonal Revitalize or Hanafinn Rejuvenata cleaners with built-in sealer. Avoid using detergents that can be abrasive and contain chemicals high in acid or alkaline. Some other stone cleaners have a petroleum or animal fat base which may alter the appearance of your stone.



Refrain from setting hot pans on granite, marble, and quartzite countertops; hot pots, pans, and other warm accessories can be set directly on soapstone. To further protect your countertop, always use a cutting board when using knives or other sharp utensils.

### **Quartz Care and Maintenance**

Quartz is non-porous and highly resistant to stains and penetration of spills. For daily cleaning, use water, dish soap, and paper towel or a damp sponge to absorb any spills after food preparation. If needed, use any non-abrasive cleaner such as Lysol Disinfecting Wipes, Windex Multi Cleaner with Vinegar, and Simple Green Lemon Fresh to wipe away any excess. Be sure to dry the area thoroughly with a clean cloth.

Do not apply any sealer, as quartz does not need to be sealed. Try not to place hot pots, pans, or electric skillet directly on the quartz surface. Always use trivets or hot pads. Extreme heat may cause thermal shock and crack the surface in long term. Minimize direct sun exposure to quartz, especially those light in color. Long-term exposure to direct sunlight may discolor surface finish.

# Warranty

### Two Year Certificate of Warranty:

Capital Stone warrants that all custom fabricated granite, marble, and all other stone products will be free from defects in workmanship and materials under normal use for a period of two (2) years from the date of installation. During the warranty period, Capital Stone will repair or replace products found to be defective at its own discretion. Products warranted only to the original owner and no warranty is extended to a third party.

### **Warranty Limitations:**

Granite, marble, and other stone products are products of nature and have formed naturally under the Earth's surface. Many natural stone products have a crystalline structure or natural fissures which are not structural defects. Due to the fact that granite, marble, and other stone products are products of nature, they tend to be porous which may cause dark spots and discolorations. These characteristics enhance the beauty of the stone and do not impair the durability of the product. Capital Stone excludes any characteristics that are naturally occurring instances such as (but not limited to) discolorations, stains, dark spots, or fissures.



### **Warranty Terms:**

Capital Stone under their own discretion and within the timeframe of two (2) years from the date of installation, will repair or replace the counter top without charge if it is deemed to be faulty material. The warranty does not cover;

- 1. Problems related to sinks that have been removed or dismounted for any reason.
- 2. Surface staining or etching by leaving acidic or aggressive chemicals in contact with the material for excessive periods of time.
- 3. Countertops that have been removed from their original installed location.
- 4. Countertops that are installed in an outdoor environment
- 5. Claims related to the natural characteristics of the stone, including, but not limited to, color variations, water lines, and surface marks or fissures.
- 6. Surface chipping and scratching caused by negligence and abuse.
- 7. House settling or foundation movement due to any cause.
- 8. Cabinet movement due to any cause.
- 9. Excessive load or standing on the counter
- 10. Fire or any other natural disaster.
- 11. This warranty does not cover cracking or shrinking of flexible caulks due to age.

If Capital Stone elects to replace the damaged countertop, we will supply a countertop of similar color, quality, and appearance depending on current availability. Due to the nature of the product, it may be difficult to match the existing top. We will use all of our resources to find the closest match.