ONYX EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

STONE CHARACTERISTICS

APPLICATIONS

CARE & MAINTENANCE





WHAT IS ONYX?

Since ancient histories, onyx was often used in carvings, jewellery, accessories, potteries and luxurious building projects. Onyx is highly sought after for its shimmer and semi-translucent effect that allows light to shine through the stone; making it a luxurious, creative option for backlighting. This stone continues to charm designers and architects alike, being widely used mostly as statement feature walls.

Onyx is a semi-precious variety of silica minerals, made up of quartz and moganite. It has parallel bands in constrasting or alternating colours that can come in almost any colour. As the structure of onyx is quite brittle, it would be best used in low trafficked areas, such as home bars and bathrooms and on walls.

CONSIDERATIONS

All natural materials are perfectly imperfect. There will be variation from piece to piece, with a wide range of characteristics (i.e cracks, fissures and filled holes). Materials will scratch, stain, etch, effloresce and patina overtime.

This is perfectly normal and is part of the inherent beauty of natural materials; these are not material defects.

APPLICATIONS

Floor	No
Wall	Yes
Countertop - light usage	Yes
Countertop - heavy usage	No
Outdoors	No
Wet areas	No

THREE SIMPLE TIPS

As onyx is not as durable or easy care as other stones, it is best used to make a beautiful aesthetic statement in a space that is not meant to withstand traffic. Backsplashes much vanities, for instance, are perfect opportunities to showcase onyx's unique glow. Since onyx can be easily scratched or marred, take these simple precautions and steps for your stone.

SEAL

Onyx is very absorbent. To prevent it from soaking up moisture, dulling, staining and etching, seal liberally with an impregnating sealer especially made for porous stone. As soon as the onyx surface no longer beads water, it is time to reseal it.

PROTECT

Because onyx can be easily cracked or chipped, avoid sharp object impacts on the surface of the stone. Spillages should be wiped down immediately. Use placemats and coasters for drinks and tablewares. Use decorative trays for cosmetics and toiletries. Use cutting boards when preparing meals.

CLEAN

Wipe onyx surfaces using a soft cloth to clean. Use non-acidic cleaning products to remove dirt and increase shine. Spray cleaner onto the dry cloth instead of directly to the stone's surface, to prevent the stone from absorbing the cleaner, which could cause permanent damage. Wipe away any excess cleaner immediately.

Since onyx is soft and calcium-based, it will react with acidic substances such as vinegar, lemon juice, coffee, and red wine. Most countertop cleaners are too harsh and acidic for onyx, ensure cleaner used contains no acid. Do not use abrasive cleaners.



