# SCHIST EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

STONE CHARACTERISTICS
APPLICATIONS
CARE & MAINTENANCE





# WHAT IS SCHIST?

A lesser known form of stone, schist has a natural property of having a sparkle within its stone structure. The stone can make wonderful landscaping or countertop and makes for a beautiful project because of its unique appearance and texture.

It is a metamorphic rock that is made mostly of mica minerals and has grains that are large enough to see with the naked eye. The sparkly aesthetic comes from mica minerals, which are nature's glitter. Schist ranks the same level of hardness as marble on the Mohs Hardness Scale, a 4. It is grainy in texture, quite porous, and can shed sparkles or flakes over time, similar to how slate reacts to the touch.

# **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	Yes
Wall	Yes
Countertop - light usage	Yes
Countertop - heavy usage	No
Outdoors	No
Wet areas	No

### THREE SIMPLE TIPS

Due to the stone's low abrasion resistance rating, scratching is a risk. Although this stone is somewhat fragile, it makes for a beautiful project because of its unique appearance and texture.

#### **SEAL**

Schists have a moderate absorption rating and will stain when exposed to oil and highly-pigmented liquids. If used for applications other than feature walls or fireplaces, the stone should be sealed and maintained regularly to protect its delicate surface.

#### **PROTECT**

Use coasters and cutting boards. Avoid direct contact of hot pots and pans. Do not cut directly on schist countertops. Avoid placing heavy weighted objects on the edges of the countertop as added pressure and weight might cause chipping damage.

Wipe spills up immediately. Place doormats at entrances to catch debris that might scratch your schist flooring.

#### **CLEAN**

Since schist scratches early, soft microfibre cloths, soft brooms and dry dust mops are your best friends when it comes to removing dirt and debris off the stone's surfac. Beware when using vacuum that has been worn or abrasive pads for cleaning. For wet cleaning, use residue free neutral cleaners or just a mixture of soap and water would work too. Clean up soap mixture thoroughly as it may leave a film and cause streaks.

Do not use products containing abrasives that may scratch the surface. Always remember to follow the manufactures instructions when using any cleaning products.



