QUARTZITE

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

STONE CHARACTERISTICS

APPLICATIONS

CARE & MAINTENANCE





WHAT IS QUARTZITE?

While marble is often prized for its beauty, many types of quartzite look so much like marble, it can be hard to tell the difference. Quartzite is found in a wide variety of colours, making it versatile for any sort of design style. It is a naturally occurring metamorphic rock that was originally pure quartz sandstone.

With a look that is often similar to marble and a durability comparable to granite, this natural stone seems to have it all. With a mohs hardness scale rating of 7-8, quartzite is nearly twice as hard as glass and harder than the blade of a knife. It is also resistant to common kitchen acids and will not etch when exposed to liquids like lemon juice or vinegar. This makes quartzite nearly indestructible.

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	Yes
Outdoors	Yes
Wet areas	Yes

THREE SIMPLE TIPS

Quartzite will not etch from acidic substances. However, it still reacts to hydrofluoric acid, which is found in some rust removers. Thankfully, hydrofluoric acid is not a common ingredient in household products.

SEAL

All natural stones are naturally porous to some extent. While the hardness of quartzite helps it resist etching or scratching, it is still susceptible to staining. Thus, it is recommended to seal quartzite countertops to prolong the life of your stone.

PROTECT

Use coasters and cooling racks. Wipe up spills immediately. Utilizing cutting boards are also recommended, though perhaps not for the reason you'd expect. Quartzite is extremely high on the Mohs hardness scale. When it is that high, it could dull your knives.

As with any surface, simple preventative measures should still be taken to protect quartzite.

CLEAN

Daily maintenance is limited to washing it with simple soap and water or another non-abrasive cleaner. Rinse thoroughly if you go heavy on the soap as over time the stone might feel and look oily and greasy if there are remnants of soap residue on its surface.

Cleaners used on quartzite countertops should be non-abrasive to prevent stripping off the sealant. For any heavy duty cleaning, quartzite is at least chemical resistant and therefore is relatively immune to alkaline and acid solutions. However, a small test area should be done to make sure there will be no damage.



