

People often associate both quartz (engineered stone) and/or granite (natural stone) with high maintenance. There are a lot of assumptions and misconceptions about quartz and granite, especially regarding cleaning. The following cleanup guide breaks down all the do's, don'ts and facts about maintaining your stone, and helping you make a better choice in determining the stone you want installed in your home.

Clean It Yourself!

Quartz Countertops (Engineered Stone)

Quartz main advantage in comparison to granite is that it does not require sealing. This is since it is non-porous, which means bacteria will not build up over time in the stone. Quartz countertops can easily resist oil, wine, juice, coffee and many other product stains and can be easily cleaned by wiping the surface of any dirt or debris.

Tools

Quartz goes well with most of the detergents. You will only need a nonabrasive glass or surface cleaner, dish soap, water, a clean cloth, and sponge.

Cleaning

Being largely stain-resistant, quartz countertops can easily be washed with mild soap and water on regular basis. However, for persistent stains, you can use a glass cleaner and a nonabrasive sponge.

Granite Countertops (Natural Stone)

Granite is not necessarily the high maintenance product that it is often assumed to be. It does require regular sealing, and more care than quartz. However, once correctly sealed by a professional, your granite countertop will be safe from marks, stains and bacteria proliferation.

Tools

It's important to be wary of the soaps you use to clean granite, as abrasive or acidic cleaners can strip the sealer and etch the stone. For getting a perfect shiny surface of your well-sealed granite countertop, you will need water, soap, cloth, baking soda, hydrogen peroxide, tape and plastic wrap.

Cleaning

For everyday cleaning, use a mixture of warm water and mild dish soap and dry it with a towel to shine up your stone. For deeper stains on granite, clean with a paste of baking soda and water (for oil-based stains) or hydrogen peroxide (for water-based stains). Coat the dough on the stain and cover it with a plastic wrap using tape to secure the edges. Let it sit for an overnight to few days, as needed. Repeat the process if the stain isn't completely gone

Additionally, if you are uncomfortable using the DIY cleaners or stain removers, there are professional grade cleaners and stain removers on the market that you can purchase for your stone.

It is advised to do a spot test first to make sure the procedures and processes listed in this article will not harm the color or finish of your stone

How to Clean Quartz Vs. Granite?

How frequently do you need to re-seal the stone and how do you determine the seal is intact?

Sealers have different expiry dates. There are yearly sealers, and some that can last are 5-20 years. Depending on which sealer you buy, you will know when you will need to reseal the stone.

There are many videos available on the internet, that show you how to test if your seal game is strong or if your seal is broken/weak. (This way you can determine when re-sealing is required if unsure)

Call to Action

In summary, both quartz or granite, can be conveniently cleaned with DIY cleaners or professional grade cleaners. However, it is recommended you seek professional guidance while dealing with stubborn stains especially on natural stones such as, granite.

