

What is the difference between Quartz, Granite and Marble?

Quartz, Granite, and Marble are considered a classy selection for modern day kitchens and bathrooms. Each of these stones have beautiful specks, grains, veins and color variations that add beauty to the material. When they are used with color or design themes of walls, cabinets, and floorings, all three create a rejuvenating and royal interior design.

All three are reliable, tough, and are known to last for long when compared with materials like wood, board materials, and metals –which is why these options are becoming a norm in kitchens, staircases, bathrooms, fireplace, etc.

Which of these should you use? What is the difference between them? To answer all such questions, I am writing some qualities of all three, so that you can decide which of these can be the best choice according to your niches.

Granite

Granite is an igneous rock formed naturally, deep within the earth's layers. It is a natural rock and is available in a variety of colors, such as bronze, gray, brown, yellow-gold, off-white, taupe, peach and blue-gray. Granite is **porous** in nature, making it essential to cover it with some seal/safety layer to keep it shiny and new for an extended period of time. **Sealing natural stone is a must**, if the seal is broken then staining and other damage can occur, and destroy the natural beauty.

Granite can hold out heat to a great extent, which is why it is used in kitchens especially near stoves and burners. Another quality of this material is that it doesn't show water marks. It fades very little with the time, usually, 1 to 2 % within 10 to 12 years of its lifetime. When cleaning it is recommended to wipe acidic materials off quickly to keep the beauty of the material alive for a long time as the colour and shine can be affected.

If you are picky about the seams and glue lines, then granite is not a suitable option. As the glue will remain visible in granite material. If you need a seamless/clear look (with no joining marks or veins) granite is not the stone you want to choose.

Quartz

Quartzite is a natural stone, and is not used in a natural form. Usually, 90 to 95% of quartzite chips are mixed with 5 to 10% of resin and pigments to create classy and profoundly beautiful quartz slabs or tiles. This is why Quartz falls into the category of **engineered stones**. There is a complete range available in the market known as color-

enhanced quartz. This treatment allows customers to have a wide range of unique, stylish and elegant colors. For consumers who want specifications of look and color in their interior design, quartz is the best option. Caesarstone, Silestone and Vicostone are the names of some well-known brands of Quartz.

Quartz has other amazing features: **it doesn't require any sealing, as it is non-porous.** There is a lot of durability as the stone will not hold bacteria or stain easily, and it is becoming quite popular in high traffic areas such as kitchens. There are many beautiful designs, colours and patterns to choose from.

Marble

Marble is, yet again a natural, metamorphosed limestone formed naturally within layers of earth. When **compared to granite and quartz, marble is more porous.** It is sensitive to acidic substances, and heavy chemicals. For kitchen countertops it requires regular maintenance otherwise marks of wine, citrus products and chemicals can damage its beauty easily. It is not recommended for use in kitchens due to its fragility and staining. Marbles have unique, unpredictable and creative veining and natural modeling. Without a top coat or polish, it darkens over time. Some varieties of marble are highly expensive because of these characteristics. The look is elegant and supreme most of the time. Natural veins of the material add a spark to the interior designing when used tastefully.

When pricing of these three is compared, none of these are cheap. Some companies are providing different grades and qualities of these materials and prices are set accordingly. There is a slight difference in the price list of quartz and granite, whereas marble is slightly more expensive.

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