

WHAT TO KNOW <u>BEFORE</u> SELECTING MATERIAL

BASIC FACTS:

Granite is natural stone cut in huge blocks from the earth and later "sliced" into slabs.

Quartz is a manufactured product containing various combinations of crushed stone, polymers, pigments, and resin.

Granite and quartz counters have many similarities but are also different in many ways, and those differences are important to understand before you select a material you will live with for years.

Differences you should consider

Scratch/Impact Resistance	Most Granite is considered scratch "PROOF" and most inadvertent impact damage can be repaired.	Quartz may be considered scratch "RESISTANT" and most surface issues that develop cannot be easily repaired. There are companies that specialize in quartz restoration, but this is beyond the scope of most fabricators.
Temperature Extremes	Granite will withstand the HOTTEST and COLDEST temperature extremes.	Quartz, due to its resin and polymer content, is different in that the sustained heat of an un-insulated crock-pot, instapot, or griddle can cause it to warp, crack, or discolor (and void factory warranties.) Leaving a bag of ice on your quartz counter can cause it to crack beyond repair.
<u>Maintenance</u>	Granite requires slightly more maintenance because it should be sealed periodically to resist stains. This sealing process is easily accomplished by the homeowner and is no more difficult that applying liquid wax to your car. Today's premium sealers offer written limited warranties from the sealer manufacturer.	Quartz doesn't need to be sealed.



CAUTION: NOT ALL QUARTZ IS THE SAME

Quartz products are produced all over the world to a variety of quality standards that are often misunderstood by consumers who assume "quartz is quartz." As fabricators, we have no control over the quality of quartz selected by customers. As a result, we require customers selecting quartz products to sign a waiver absolving Crowley's of all responsibility associated with the ultimate product performance.