GRANITE COUNTER TOP CARE & MAINTAINANCE

Granite is a popular choice among prospective new home buyers and those remodeling an existing home. It offers a beautiful, unique, and durable new look while adding enhanced value to your home. You will notice small crystals and other composites found within granite that make up its character and in different lighting changes its viewing perspective. Granite is a natural stone, and like all natural stones, none are exactly alike. Granite is the most durable of natural stone surfaces used in households today.

**Granite Warranty:** GCS&I warrants the installation of each granite counter top for a period of one (1) year from the date of original installation. However, no warranty is made, expressed, or implied on the stone itself. Being a product of nature there is no guarantee that you will not have natural imperfections throughout each slab. You might notice things like fishers, pits, and dark spots. Often mistaken for cracks, chips, and stains; these are normal among natural stones and can not be avoided. Granite being an igneous rock is a conductor of hot and cold, therefore it can (and may) crack under extreme heat or freezing temperatures. Homeowners with granite counter tops must be careful when handling heavy or dense objects over counter tops. Granite is subject to crack, break and/or shatter if something heavy is dropped on it. Additionally, the stone can be stained if spills are not cleaned up immediately.

**How do I clean my granite counter tops?**

If desired, you may use a special stone sealer (carried at your local home improvement stores). We recommend using a mild dish liquid for surface cleaning. With proper maintenance, granite counter tops should stay looking new for a long time. Here are some easy tips:

- Wipe up spills immediately
- Wash with mild soap and water
- Rinse thoroughly
- Use a soft cloth to dry

**What should not come in contact with my granite counter tops?**

- AMMONIA
- OILS
- ACIDIC CHEMICALS
- ABRASIVES
- WINE
- MUSTARD

**How do I know when it's time to re-seal my counter tops?**

Granite is a hard but porous stone and must be sealed with an impregnating stone sealer. We recommend that homeowners apply a new coat of sealer every twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months to keep moisture out and stains from setting into stone. Another way to determine when granite is ready to be re-sealed is by dropping a small puddle of water on it. If the stone absorbs it quickly and does not bead up, then you are ready for a sealer treatment. Sealers can also be purchased at your local home improvement store.

Simply following the care and maintenance instructions outlined above will ensure you years of service and enjoyment from your beautiful, durable, and practical new granite counter top(s).