



**ROCKS!**

## How It's Made: Quartz Slabs

Quartz slab manufacturing starts by taking the strongest part of granite, quartz. The natural quartz is then blended with other raw materials and polymer resins. These elements are mixed further through a series of hoppers and ring mixers. The combined materials are then poured into a top mold. The top mold then moves into the specialized equipment

to compress it together creating a dense slab.

Quartz is often referred to as "engineered stone" or "re-engineered stone", this is because the manufacturing process mixes approximately 95%



ground natural quartz with about 5% polymer resins. The combination of strong natural quartz gives quartz countertops great durability and resistance to scratching or chipping. While the resins help to make the product non-porous, unlike natural stones. There are a number of manufactures, colors, and brands of quartz slabs. Each slab is created using the same general process, however brands will differentiate themselves with their selectiveness in raw materials, quality control, and stylized colors. The brand, along with the popularity of a color, and the complexity of its design will determine the raw slab price from the manufacturer.

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## DURABILITY

Quartz countertops have been engineered to be a great choice in your home. Boasting the best qualities of natural stone, along with its own strengths. Natural quartz is one of the harder materials in existence so Quartz countertops are highly resistance to scratching and impact. They are also virtually non-porous, so the surface can resist staining caused by coffee, wine, lemon juice and many other daily products. Quartz is heat resistant, not heat proof. Warm things, NOT hot, can be put on the countertops. Extreme heat can cause thermal shock and cracking.



## COLORS AND TRENDS



Quartz's most popular colors and styles are the marble look-a-likes. Follow closely by grays and then less speckled patterned. Natural stone lacks durable options in these areas so quartz manufacturers have skillfully filled in the cracks. Quartz is doing a great job of looking like marble, going so far as to mimic natural marble's imperfections and veining characteristics. It seems every few months, there is a new quartz that outdoes what we previous thought was the best imitation.

## GROWING IN POPULARITY

In the last few years quartz has come a long way. Previously the colors and patterns were limited, but due to advances in manufacturing technology its become more desirable. This desirability has caused the prices to dramatically reduce and quartz has become far more affordable. While options like granite can still be less expensive, many quartz colors have come down to mid-range pricing and it is no longer a premium only product. From its current trajectory it looks like the quartz popularity can only continue to grow.



## FULL SLABS IN STOCK!

As quartz continues to improve it's likeness to natural stone, its becoming more recommended to view slabs in person. We have number of quartz slabs in inventory. This allows customers to compare quartz to marble side by side and have a better understanding of what the finished counters will look like.

