

## **Caring for your Granite or Quartz Countertops**

**Granite countertops** are fabricated from 100% natural granite stone slabs. A good protective sealer must be maintained on granite countertops.

**Quartz Surfacing countertops** are fabricated from manufactured slabs made from 93% natural granite and 7% resin. Quartz surfacing countertops never need sealer.

### **Do:**

- Use mild dish-soap and warm water or a mild household cleaner
- Use products specifically formulated to clean granite or quartz surfacing countertops
- Use a trivet or hot-pad to insure protection from heated cookware, crockpots, griddles, etc.
- Use a cutting board.
- Maintain the protective seal on your granite countertops. Periodic application of a stone sealer/impregnator is recommended by the Natural Stone Institute. If water left on your granite darkens your countertops, this indicates that the water is being absorbed by the tops and the sealer/impregnator should be reapplied. Resin treated granite typically should be maintained once a year. Non-resin treated granite may require several initial applications of sealer to establish a good base, and may need to be maintained two to three times a year.

### **Don't:**

- Do not use high-pH or low-pH cleaners, bleach, or oven cleaners
- Do not use abrasive dry or soft cleaners on any countertop.
- Do not place heated cookware, or other hot items directly on your countertops.
- Do not cut directly on your countertops.
- Never apply a stone sealer to quartz surfacing countertops

**Remember** your new countertops are heat-*resistant*, scratch-*resistant*, and stain-*resistant*. They are not indestructible, and must be maintained properly.

*For more information about natural stone:*

[www.naturalstoneinstitute.org](http://www.naturalstoneinstitute.org)

[www.usenaturalstone.com](http://www.usenaturalstone.com)

*For more information about quartz surfacing:*

[www.metroquartz.com](http://www.metroquartz.com)