

GF ENGINEERED STONE COUNTERTOP CARE & MAINTENANCE

INTRODUCTION

Engineered Stone (Quartz) countertops are a popular choice for modern homes due to their durability and aesthetic appeal. This guide provides essential tips for maintaining the beauty and longevity of your quartz countertops.

DAILY CLEANING

- **Routine Cleaning:** Use a soft cloth or sponge with warm water and mild dish soap. Avoid harsh scrubbers or abrasive cleaners.
- **Spills:** Wipe up spills immediately to prevent stains, especially acidic substances like wine, coffee, or tomato sauce.
- **Drying:** After cleaning, dry the surface with a clean, soft cloth to prevent water spots. Do not leave the wet surface on the countertop for too long.

AVOID DAMAGE

- **Heat Exposure:** Always use trivets or hot pads under hot pots, pans, or baking sheets. Quartz is heat resistant, not heatproof.
- **Cutting:** Use cutting boards to prevent scratches. Although quartz is scratch resistant, it's not scratch-proof.
- **Chemicals and Solvents:** Avoid contact with harsh chemicals like paint removers, bleach, nail polish removers, and oil soaps. If contact occurs, rinse immediately with water.
- **Avoid Impact:** While quartz is durable, it's not indestructible. Avoid dropping heavy objects on the countertop.

DEALING WITH STAINS & DEEP CLEANING

- **Stubborn Stains:** Use a glass or surface cleaner and a non-abrasive sponge. For tough stains, a paste of baking soda and water can be applied, then gently scrubbed.
- **Gum or Grease:** Use a plastic putty knife to gently scrape off gum, paint, or other hardened substances. For grease, apply a degreaser and rinse thoroughly after use.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- **Use Mats or Runners:** Protect areas prone to spills and stains, like under coffee machines or in baking areas.
- **Avoid Direct Sunlight:** Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight can cause discoloration over time, especially for darker colors.

PERSONAL MAINTENANCE

- **Annual Inspection:** Consider having a professional inspect your countertops annually for any potential issues like cracks or chips.
- **Repairing Damages:** If any chips or cracks occur, contact a professional for repair. Do not attempt to fix it yourself as this could lead to more damage.

CONCLUSION

With proper care and maintenance, your quartz countertops will remain beautiful and durable for many years. Avoid harsh chemicals, protect from heat and scratches, and clean spills promptly to maintain their pristine condition.