



## CHINA REFINE INDUSTRY CO.,LTD

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## FAQs for granite tile

### **Q. What makes granite the hardest building stone?**

A. Granite is formed by solidification of liquid magma (molten rock) under the pressure of earth's crust. It is composed of Feldspar, Quartz, Mica, and other minerals, making it one of the hardest stones in the world. It has been used for building and decorative purposes for centuries. Granite resists wear-and-tear applications remarkably well, making it ideal for interior or exterior flooring. When used outdoors, granite's mineralogical structure is not influenced by freeze-thaw cycles.

### **Q. What do the finished surfaces of granite look like?**

A. Granite can have four main finishes: polished (shiny), honed (matte), flamed or brushed (textured). The polished and honed surfaces are flat and smooth. The flamed and brushed surfaces are flat and textured. The polished surface is shiniest, while the brushed surface reflects the least amount of light. The back and sides have a sawn finish.

### **Q. What applications are recommended for these granite finishes?**

A. Granite finishes are suitable for different applications. For example:

Polished surface – low traffic indoor flooring, wall cladding, counter tops, vanity tops & decorative items

Honed surface – high traffic indoor/outdoor commercial flooring, wash rooms, side walks.

Flamed or Brushed surface – external flooring, decks, pavements, side walks, curb stones, garden benches

### **Q. Why is granite an excellent material for kitchen countertops?**

A. Next to diamond, sapphire, and ruby, granite is the hardest natural product on earth. Once polished, natural granite will maintain its high gloss virtually forever. Normal use of kitchen knives, cutlery, and cookware leaves no scratches. Heat has almost no effect on natural granite, making it much safer than synthetic surfaces with polyesters and resins. Pots and pans heated to 900 degrees Fahrenheit will not dull natural granite's lustrous finish, but the use of trivets is recommended to keep your granite counter clean.



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### **Q. Can granite get stained and do I need to seal it?**

A. Granite is a highly dense material and relatively porous so it can get stained if a spill is not cleaned quickly. Sealing the surface with a water-based sealant is therefore recommended to protect the granite from water patches and stains. Sealing can be done once a year or once every two years depending on the usage of the surface.

### **Q. Can I use granite tile for bathroom flooring?**

A. Like any other smooth surface floor, the polished surface of a granite bathroom floor can be slippery if it gets a lot of water and is walked on with improper footwear. A honed granite surface is therefore recommended for bathrooms.

### **Q. Can I use granite tile for counter tops?**

A. Granite tiles can be used for a counter top surface. It is recommended to use a 3/4" sub-board with waterproof membrane to support the tiles. It is also essential to seal the tiles after installation to avoid staining.

### **Q. Can I use granite tiles on shower walls?**

A. Granite tiles can be used on shower walls. It is recommended to use cement backer board or hardy board with a waterproof membrane to avoid transfer of moisture. It is also recommended to seal the granite after installation to avoid water absorption and mildew formation.

## **INSTALLATION**

### **Q. Can granite tile be butted or do I need to leave a grout line?**

A. Granite tile floors appear the best when the tiles are butted. However, it is important to make sure the tiles are matched before setting on thinset.

### **Q. Does RefineStone do granite tile installation?**

A. We do not do tile installation. Please consult your local Yellow Pages for information on tile setters. Refine Stone Co.,LTD recommends the services of an installation specialist for lasting satisfaction.



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### **Q. How much does granite weigh?**

A. Granite tiles and slabs come in different thicknesses. The weight per square foot for each thickness is as follows:

3/8"(10mm) thick tile: 5.5 lbs sq. ft.

1/2"(12mm) thick tile: 6.5 lbs. sq. ft.

3/4"(20mm) thick slab: 12.8 lbs. sq. ft.

1 1/4"(30mm) thick slab: 18 lbs sq. ft.

Granite is heavy and will require proper equipment or labour to accept goods on delivery. Please check weight of goods before they are delivered so you are properly prepared.

### **Q. How are granite products packed?**

A. Packing depends on the nature of the product as follows:

Tiles are packed in quantities of 5 or 10 in a styrofoam box and placed in wooden crates

Slabs are bundled in quantities of 8 or 9 pieces in wooden crates

Counter tops are bundled in quantities of 10 to 15 pieces in wooden crates.

## **QUALITY**

### **Q. Is your granite Kerosene cut?**

A. No, it is not. Refine Stone Co.,LTD ensures that all its granites are cut by using water as coolant and gives a lifetime guarantee of the quality. Some manufacturers use petroleum by-products in the coolant to aid the cutting process and reduce processing costs. The granite is later soaked in water and washed to remove the chemical smell, but the damage is done the moment the chemical comes into contact with the ferric content in the stone. Within a couple of years, rust marks will appear.

### **Q. How do I know RefineStone's granite is high quality?**

A. Refine Stone Co.,LTD supplies only first quality material. The quality of the material is determined by measuring different parameters of a granite product through the entire production process:

Mining – RefineStone's granites are mined utilizing modern methods. Some mines still use dynamite or blasting methods to reduce cost, but this also damages the granite. The shock wave created by the blast will cause invisible hairline cracks which will result in the stone cracking at some later time.



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Cutting –RefineStone’s granites are cut by using water as coolant to ensure a lifetime guarantee on the quality of the product.

Dimensions – Product dimensions are controlled within the stipulated limits in ASTM standards. Tiles are calibrated to ensure their thickness is uniform. Gauging is done to ensure the tiles are square.

Beveling is done to produce a smooth edge on the tiles

Inspection: Inspection is done at different stages of the manufacturing process and the products are segregated for unusual patches, major color variation, cracks, dimensions, surface finish, and other quality issues. They are then categorized as first, second, and commercial quality.