



Quartz Care and Maintenance

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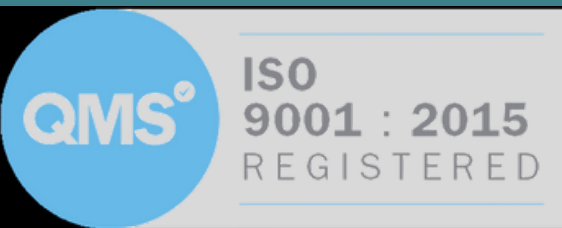
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Quartz surfaces are amongst the most reliable options of stone that you can use for your interior design. Being an engineered, manmade material, it is designed to be extremely resilient and easy to maintain. Even so, there are certain things you shouldn't do with your quartz worktop. To understand the do's and don'ts, it is important to recognize what quartz actually is. For starters, quartz worktops are not 100% real stone, however, quartz is a natural mineral and the final "stone like" product that we call quartz is not composed entirely of it.

Quartz in its natural form is a crystal. The process of fabrication of a quartz slab, consists of crushing several of those crystals down to dust, then adding colorants and bonding agents. What you are left with is a mix of products that compose of around 93% natural quartz and 7% manmade materials. This mixture is then transferred into a vacuum vibration chamber, where it is heated up to extreme temperatures. The combination of the vacuum and the heat forms an incredibly resilient slab of material, that is then polished and finished, ready to be cut to your required dimensions.

Do's and Don'ts of Quartz Worktops

Do's

- Clean up spills immediately using a paper towel. Just because quartz isn't porous, that doesn't mean it will not stain if you allow liquids like coffee or wine dry into it.
- Most common household cleaners, as long as they are not abrasive, are safe to use on quartz.
- Use a soft non-scratch sponge to clean up any hard residues from your worktop.
- Use coasters and cutting boards at all times.
- For the most difficult and greasy stains, spray the area with a degreasing cleaner and leave it to rest for about 10 minutes before wiping it away with a clean cloth.
- Use spray glass cleaner to leave your worktop shining.

Don'ts

- Never use any form of abrasive cleaner, powders or hard scrubs on your quartz. They can all scratch or dull the surface.
- Never use metal knives or anything of the sort to remove hardened substances from quartz as this can cause irreparable damage.
- Never cut anything directly on top of quartz. Again, even though it is very resilient, the surface of quartz can be scratched by mechanical force. Also, cutting directly on quartz is a recipe for staining it with the substances coming directly from the food.
- Never set hot pans directly on quartz. Heat is one of the few true weaknesses of quartz, so any hot material should never get near it unless there is a reliable trivet between them.
- Acidic and alkaline products should never be used on quartz. High pH products can easily damage quartz, so stay clear of that. A good rule of thumb to follow is that if you're not sure a cleaning product is safe for quartz, don't use it.