

WORKTOP

Guide

OVER 40 COLOURS TO CHOOSE FROM

LATEST STYLE TRENDS AND TIPS



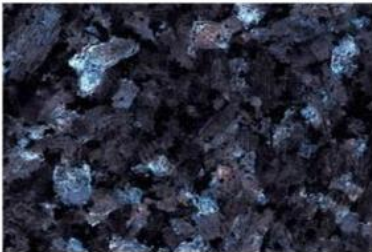
Let's Get Started....

While most think of the kitchen as a primarily functional space, kitchens today are much more than a place we cook food. The kitchen of today serves many purposes often acting as the main family living space, a play area, informal dining room and home office all in a single day. Thinking about it, all these tasks are carried out on the worktop of your kitchen and on this basis it can be said that the kitchen worktop is a key feature in any home, let alone kitchen.

Stone worktops are the way forward, they are simply a fantastic investment. Not only do they add value to your home, their beauty and durability is incomparable to any laminate worktop. This guide explains the differences between the various types of stone worktops available today and explains exactly how to choose the ideal worktop and design perfect for you.

INTRODUCING OUR COLLECTION

G R A N I T E



M A R B L E



Q U A R T Z



L I M E S T O N E



T R A V E R T I N E



G L A S S



W O O D



The Worktop Guide is packed with advice and inspiration to help you make your perfect worktop choice



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& their advantages

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Select from this cool palette
to create a sophisticated feel

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Select from this warm palette
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At a glance, find the worktop
material and colour of your choice

*Be sure to find a
worktop material and colour to suit
your kitchen cabinets...*



Stone Types

The first thing to choose when selecting a stone for your project is to decide the type of stone you would like. When making this decision you should consider; the look you are trying to create, practicality and upkeep of the material. This section will introduce Marble, Granite and Quartz with their various advantages.

MARBLE



Marble is a hard crystalline metamorphic form of limestone. When limestone is put under immense heat and pressure the calcites melt and larger crystals are formed leaving us with Marble. Marble has been used for many years to produce statues, buildings, tombstones, fireplaces, floors and countertops. Marble is a relatively soft stone making it the ideal choice for carving and sculpting.

LONG LASTING

Marble is incredibly long lasting and can be polished a number of times without fading.

EXQUISITE PATTERNS

The natural veining of marble stones are truly beautiful, the flow and blending of colours is one of the most compelling reasons to choose Marble.

HEAT REFLECTOR

Marble has an inherent ability to reflect heat so floors and countertops always remain cool.

EASY TO WORK WITH

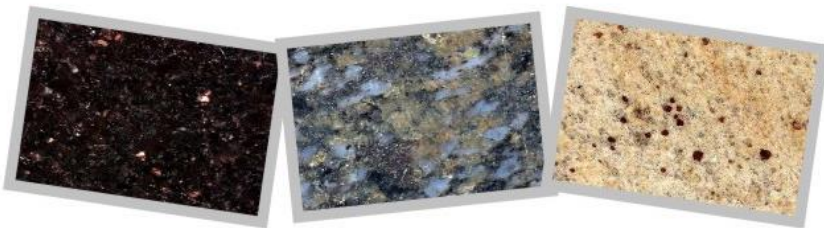
Due to the soft nature of the stone, marble can be designed with stylish ornate edge designs as it is easier to work with

GRANITE

Granite is a natural, igneous rock which is formed by the slow crystallisation of magma below the Earth's surface. The size of the crystalline structure vary between the different types of granite stones. It is composed mainly of quartz and feldspar, with small traces of other minerals which gives each stone their distinct characteristics. Granite is a seriously hard and tough material which has gained it widespread popularity to be used as a construction stone.

STAIN RESISTANT & GERMPROOF

Again due to it being highly non-porous, Granite is incredibly stain resistant and germ proof. Regular sealing of the stone will allow it to maintain these functions for many years.



EASY TO MAINTAIN

It is a virtually non - porous material, even more so than Granite that it does not require sealing.

STAIN RESISTANT & GERMPROOF

Again similar to Granite, being highly non-porous, Quartz is even more stain resistant and germ proof.

COLOUR & PATTERN UNIFORMITY

The colours and patterns of Quartz stones are consistent over the entire surface.

EASY TO MAINTAIN

Being a non-porous material means that Granite is easy to clean however it does require some seasonal maintenance

ANTI BURN

Granite is incredibly heat resistant making it an ideal option in the kitchen environment

INDIVIDUALITY

The various minerals within Granite add depth and character making every Granite piece truly unique whilst adding value to your home.

QUARTZ

Quartz is a type of mineral which is found in the upper layer of the Earth's crust similar to Granite. This mineral is mixed with resins and then under immense heat and pressure compacted to create the man-made stone. Granite has been a bestselling natural stone on the market for many years however the appeal of Quartz is flourishing and for good reason.

ANTI BURN & SCRATCH FREE

As it mainly consists of Quartz, the stone has a melting point of 1300°C and a surface hardness of 7 MOH making it essentially heat and scratch proof.

LOTS OF COLOUR & PATTERNS

Being a man-made stone it is available in many colours and patterns.

White Carrara Marble Quartz



White Mirror Chip Quartz



Grey Mirror Chip Quartz



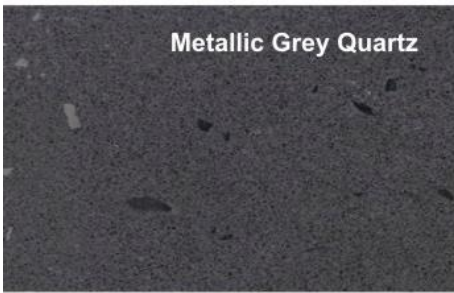
Cosmus



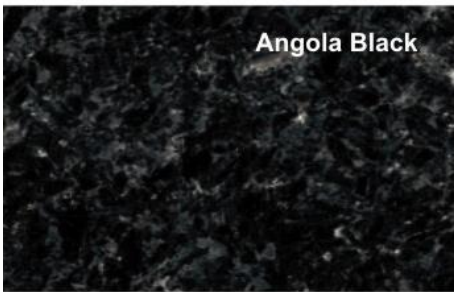
Super Grey



Metallic Grey Quartz

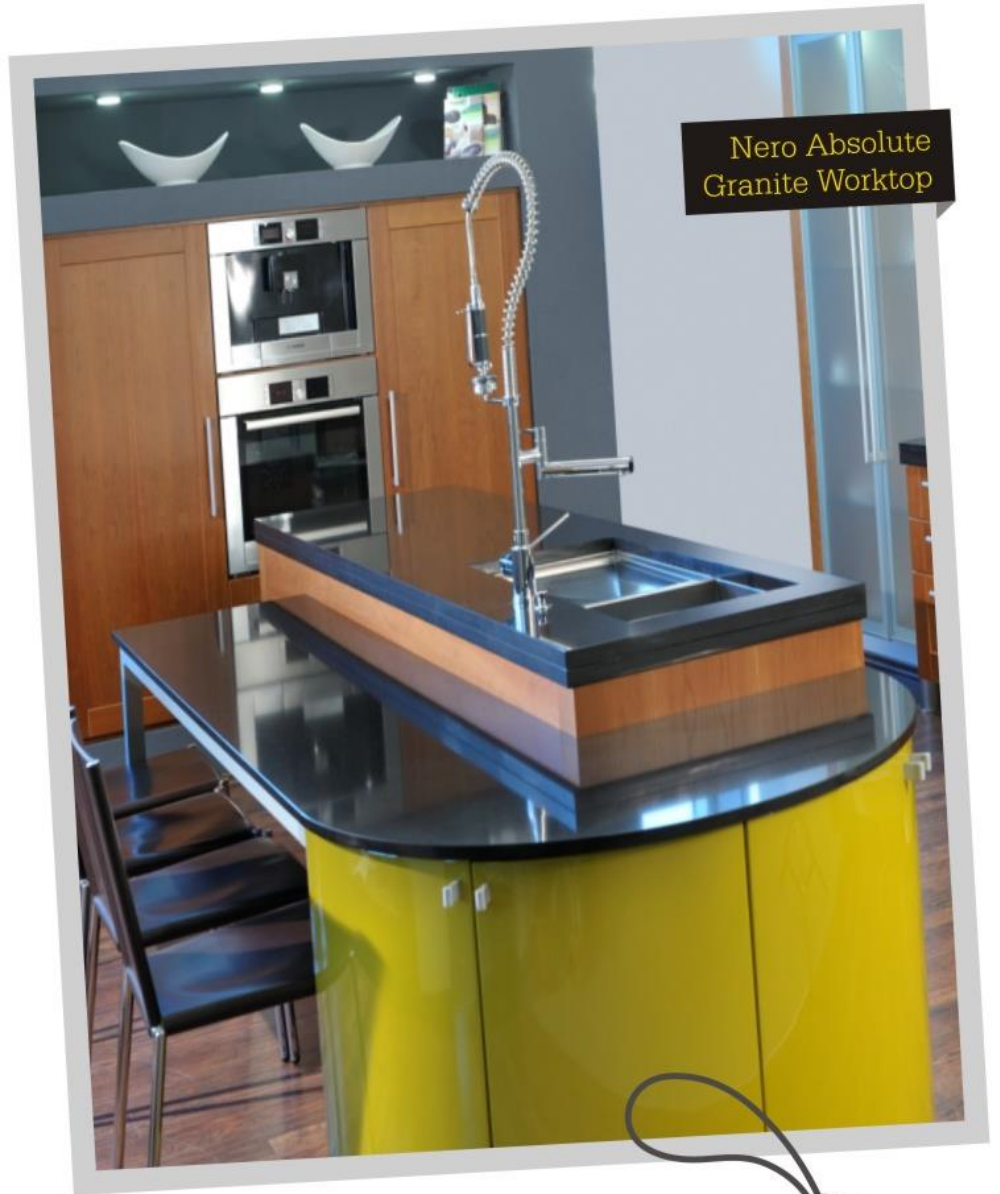


Angola Black



Cool *S*Tones

If you are trying to achieve an underlying modern elegance whilst creating a calming ambiance any one of our **Cool sTones** is a fantastic choice. Ranging from icy whites through to dusky blacks you are sure to find the perfect stone.



Nero Absolute Granite Worktop

Style Tip

For a clean contrast to a bold kitchen use a simple black worktop



Style Tip
Why not mix and match stones to give a modern twist

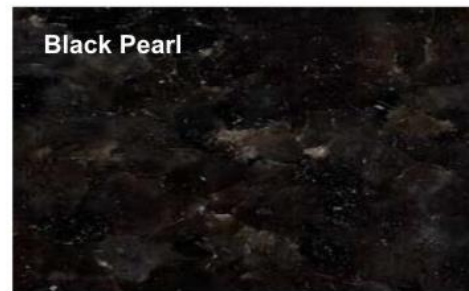
Blue Mirror Chip Quartz



Blue Pearl



Nero Impala



Black Pearl

ADD SOME VIBRANCY BY INTRODUCING

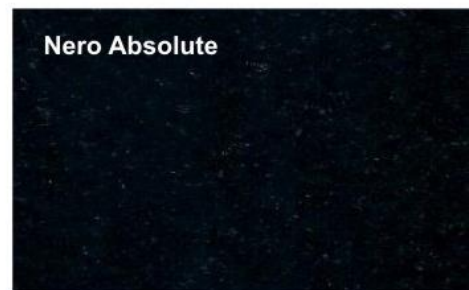
GLASS SPLASHBACKS



Metallic Black Quartz



Black Mirror Chip Quartz



Nero Absolute

We can create splash backs in absolutely any shade and colour so start getting creative

Kashmiri White



Cream Mirror Chip Quartz



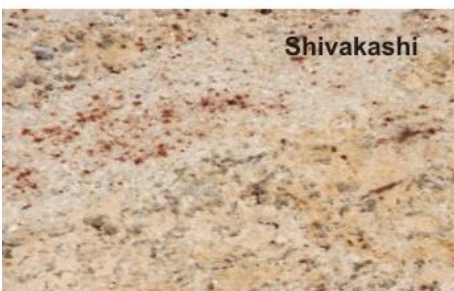
Biscuit Mirror Chip Quartz



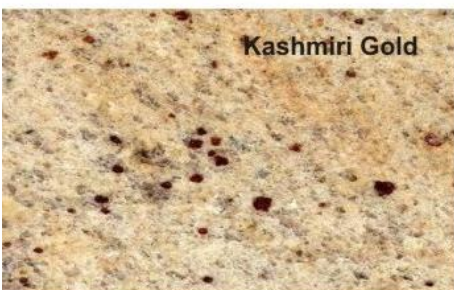
New Venetian Gold



Shivakashi



Kashmiri Gold

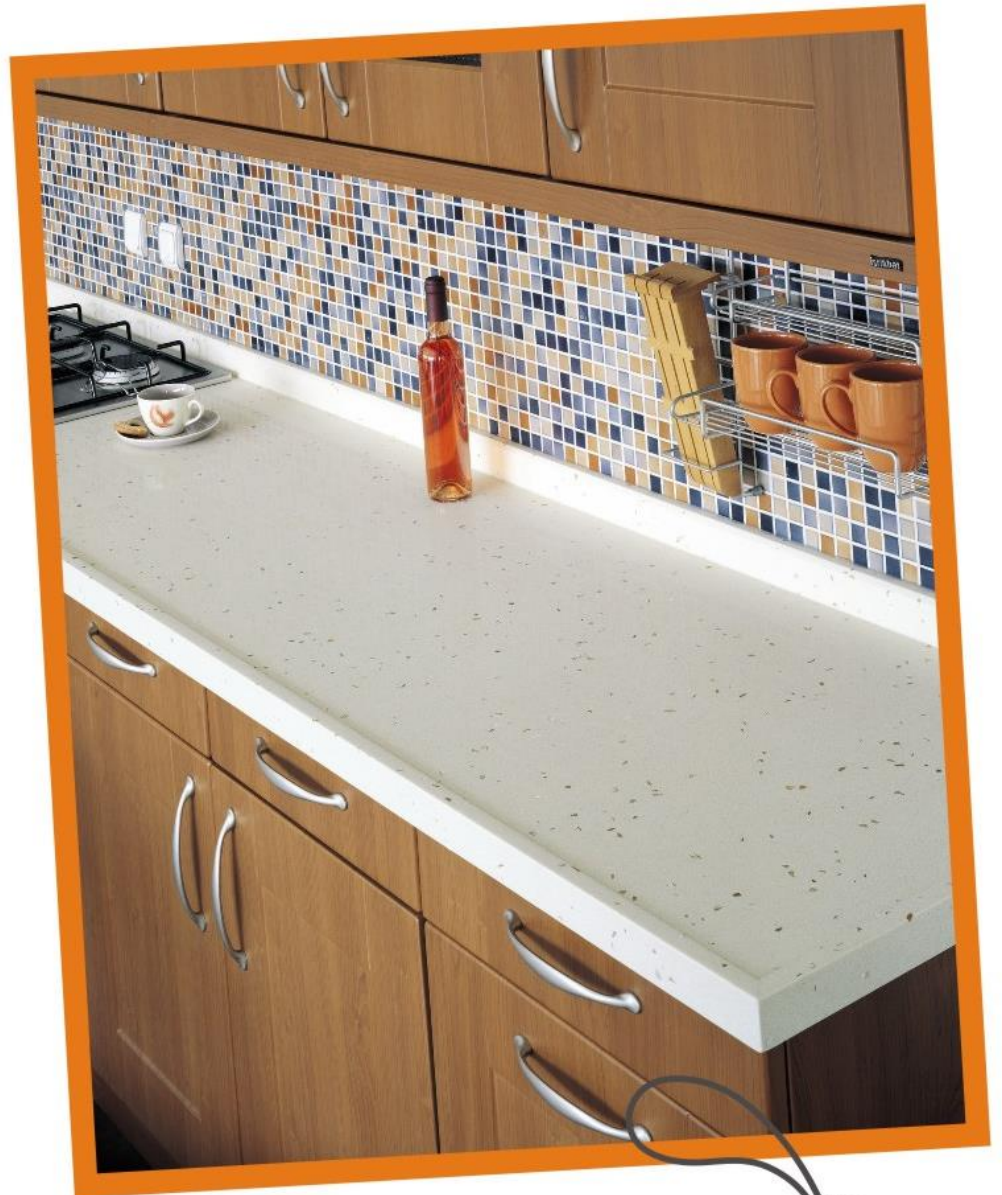


Golden Glory



Warm sTones

If you are trying to create a soothing and calm atmosphere our **Warm sTones** palette is an ideal place to start. The choices are limitless with various shades of ivory, gold and brown through to caramel infused black.



Style Tip

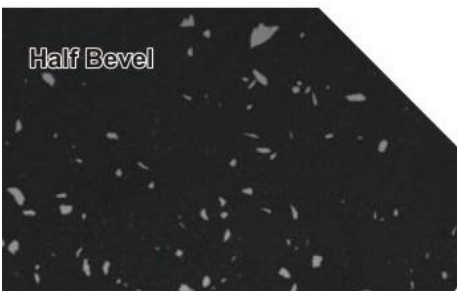
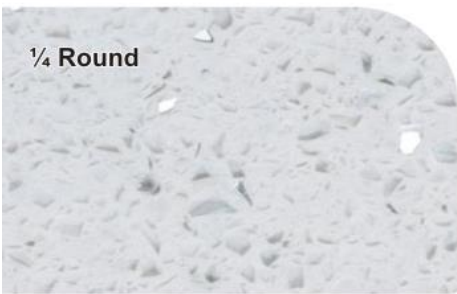
A simple kitchen can be jazzed up with some colourful mosaics



MARBLE STONES ARE PERFECT TO CREATE A

RUSTIC AND TRADITIONAL FEEL





EDGE

PROFILES

The edge profile of a stone countertop may seem to be a small detail however the design you choose can really make a difference in the overall look.

If you are trying to create a contemporary feel the simpler edge profiles are a common choice. The sleek and simple design works well to fit with a minimalist theme. In more traditional homes the fancier edges help to create an old-fashioned elegance.



SLEEK AND

CONTEMPORARY





ELEGANT AND TRADITIONAL



When considering an edge profile, it is important to note that is not a purely aesthetic decision, it can impact everything from cleaning to safety. For homes with children you will need to consider something with a softer edge and in terms of cleaning, some of the fancier edges require a little more time to maintain.



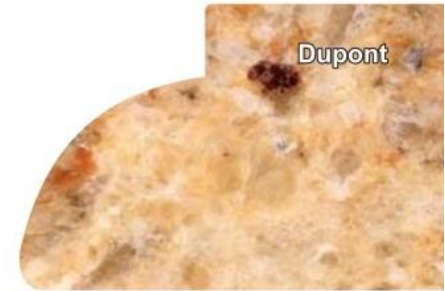
Cove Bullnose



Ogee



Ogee Bull



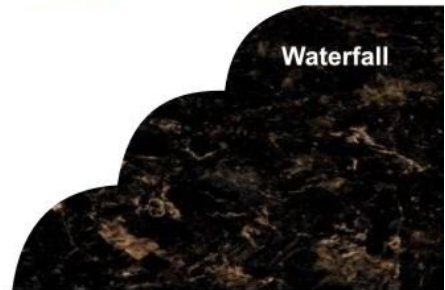
Dupont



Cove Dupont



Double Bullnose



Waterfall

WORKTOP FEATURES

*D*rainage grooves & tap hole

Should you decide to go for an under-mounted sink in your kitchen, a popular choice is to etch drainer grooves into the worktop by the sink. Precision etching of fluted grooves into drainers ensures that water flows naturally into the sink, reducing the build-up of water on the surface. To accompany the sink cut out and drainer grooves we are also able to cut out a hole for the tap if required. The drainer grooves are a true feature on any stone worktop.



*R*ecessed drainage panel & grooves

An alternative option to the drainer grooves is a recessed drainage panel and grooves combination. The area by the sink is partially grinded down to a choice of depth, this together with slanted drainer grooves is a fine way to keep the surface clean and dry.



*C*ooker splashback & upstands

Cooker splashbacks & upstands provide a perfect finish to the worktop whilst also providing protection of your cooking area. Upstands are usually 100mm high but can be fabricated to the size of your choice. The wall area between the worktop and top cabinets can be completely covered as they act as a great alternative to tiles. Cooker splashbacks can also be fabricated to the size of your preference.



*S*ocket cut out

To accommodate the necessity of socket plugs whether it be in stone or glass, made to measure cut outs are fabricated in the upstands and splashback of the worktop.

*W*indow sills

Why not match your window sill to your worktop for a complete professional finish and uniformity across the kitchen surfaces.



AFTER CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Using stone can definitely offer a modern sophistication and provide a long lasting luxurious feel to the interior of your personal space. Even though Granite & Quartz hold unbeatable strength and durability it is important that it is cared for and correctly maintained. It is important to note that the application of Granite and Quartz is recommended for indoor application only, such as kitchen work surfaces, table tops and vanity tops. Marble being a porous stone is a lot more high maintenance than Granite and Quartz therefore should you pick Marble it is important to understand how to care for it.



DAY-TO-DAY MAINTENANCE

To keep stone worktops clean on a daily basis you can simply wipe them down using a lint free cloth and water. For tougher stains we would recommend using warm soapy water with a non-scratch cleaning pad and finish with a dry cloth to remove any residue. You should avoid using any hard chemical or abrasive cleaners as excessive use of these can cause discolouration and erosion of the worktop over time. It is worth investing in a neutral pH stone cleaner, especially for Marble surfaces, though on Granite and Quartz a light solution of water and vinegar or readily available glass sprays can work just as effectively. A common problem, especially in the UK, is the build-up of lime scale around the sink area as a result of hard water. In order to avoid this you should take time to ensure that the areas around the sink are dried once the sink has been used.



TO ENSURE
LONGEVITY
OF YOUR STONE,
PLEASE BEAR IN MIND
THE FOLLOWING TIPS...

- Any spillages of food and drink should immediately be removed to reduce the likelihood of stains. The most risk is from highly alkaline or acidic liquids (such as lemon juice and vinegar), oil based substances (such as butter and cooking oils), wines, detergents and alcohol.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners and sponges or steel wool pads on the stone surface as they can remove the polish of the stone making the stone porous to daily substances.
- Do not use any stone cleaning solvents that contain bleach or ammonia.
- Do not use any acids or chemicals like oven cleaner or paint removers.
- Do not use silicone based products.
- Do not expose the worktop to excessive heat and we highly advise using heat resistant mats.
- Do not use sharp objects or cut directly on the work surfaces, ensure that chopping boards are used. Though many of the stones are scratch resistant, they are not scratch proof.
- Avoid placing heavy objects on the work surface as this may cause damage around the cut outs and cause chipping.

STUBBORN STAINS

However hard you try to be cautious of spills onto your worktop, not everything can be avoided in the kitchen environment. Granite and Marble over time will become more porous so any spills should be cleaned from the work surface as soon as possible. For stains absorbed into your worktop apply a non-abrasive household cleaner and rinse to remove any residue.

To remove any adhered materials such as gum, paint or food first scrape away the excess material with a plastic knife and then use a damp cloth to remove the remaining marks. There are also various poultice methods that can be used to lift stubborn stains from stone.

SEALING TO PREVENT FUTURE STAINS

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY WORKTOP NEEDS SEALING?

In order to maintain the beauty of your stone worktop it may require sealing. Marble and Granite stone will need to be sealed at least once a year. In the case of Marble, due to its porous nature, may require sealing more often depending on how it is treated on a daily basis.

If you are unsure as to whether your worktop requires sealing you can perform a simple absorption test. Simply soak a paper towel and lay it out over the worktop and leave for 5 minutes. Once the 5 minutes is up, lift the paper towel, if the worktop seems to have darkened in colour by absorbing the water, it is time for your worktop to be sealed.

HOW DO I SEAL MY WORKTOP?

3 EASY DIY STEPS

STEP 1

Before starting you will need to ensure that the whole surface is clean and dry.

STEP 2

Then you will need to apply the sealant consistently over the worktop using a clean white rag. Leave the sealer to be absorbed for a few hours and apply a second coat.

STEP 3

The worktop should be left overnight to fully absorb the sealant. In the morning, any excess sealant can be buffed away using a lint free cloth. The sealing process is relatively simple & should be carried out to ensure the longevity and beauty of the stone.

RECOMMENDED SEALERS...



IMPERSTON
GENERAL SEALER



MULTIGRANIT
SEALER



HYDREX
SEALER

Here's Some Ideas...



Nero Absolute Granite Worktop

Moroccan Flame Glass Splashback



Kashmiri White Granite Worktop



Cream Mirror Chip Quartz



Tan Brown Granite Worktop



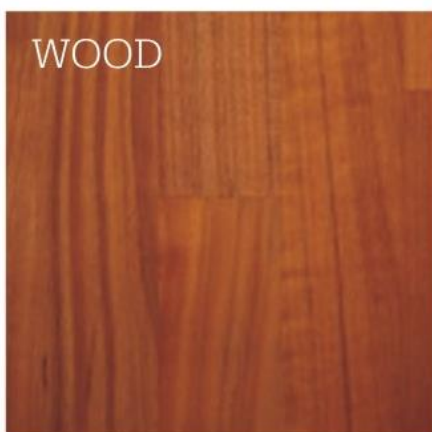
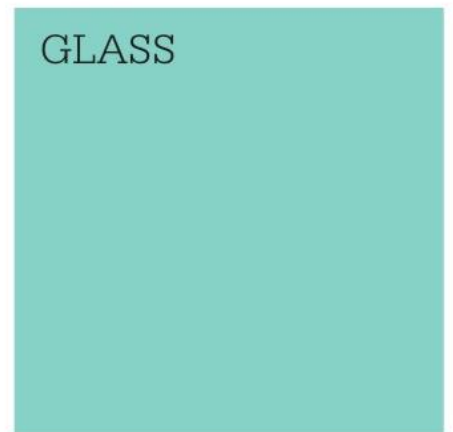
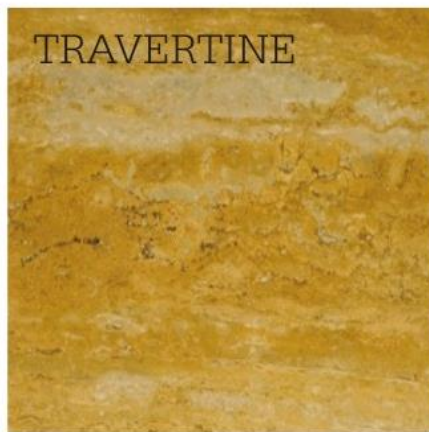
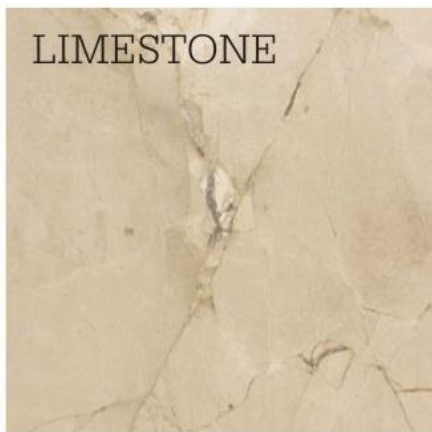
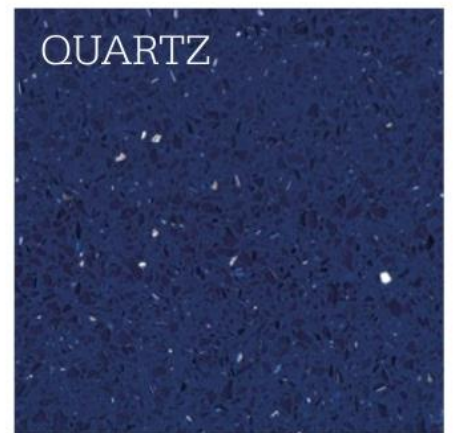
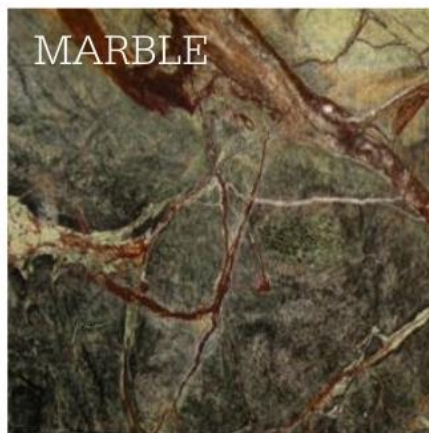
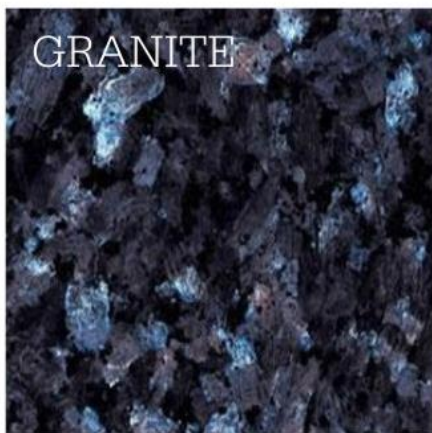
White Carrara Marble Worktop



Nero Absolute Granite Worktop

The Collection

Using our Collection you will be able to find the perfect worktop for your home, transforming your kitchen to the heart of the home. Whether it be traditional or modern we guarantee stunning results every time.



*Have a look
inside...*



THE COLLECTION

GRANITE	African Red	Angola Black	Angold Gold	Arabian Violet	Azul Platino	Balmoral Red	Baltic Brown	Baltic Green	Black Pearl	Blue Butterfly	Blue Pearl	Cosmus	Emerald Pearl	Forest Blue	
	Giallo Veneziano	Golden Glory	Gran Violet	Imperial White	Juparana Colombo	Juparana Perla	Kashmiri Gold	Kashmiri White	Mahogany	Mondariz	Multi Red	Nero Assoluto	Nero Impala	New Venetian Gold	Paradiso
	Raw Silk	Rosa Porrino	Rosa Sardo	Rosso Marinace	Sapphire Brown	Shivakashi	Star Galaxy	Super Grey	Tan Brown	Uba Tuba	Verde Eucalyptus	Verde Fontaine	Verde Gloria	Verde Marinace	Vizag Blue
	Volga Blue	MARBLE	Bianco Carrara	Botticino	Breccia	Cappuccino	Crema Nova	Crema Valencia	Dark Emperador	Golden Portoro	Ita Gold	Light Emperador	Mafron Imperial	Nero Marquina	Norwegian Rose
Persian Red	Rainforest Brown		Rainforest Green	Rojo Alicante	Rosa Portogallo	Rosso Alicante	Rosso Levanto	Rosso Verona	Salome Polished	Silver Dragon	Verde Guatemala	Biscuit Mirror Chip Quartz	Black Mirror Chip Quartz	Blue Mirror Chip Quartz	
Brown Mirror Chip Quartz	Cream Mirror Chip Quartz		Grey Mirror Chip Quartz	Maroon Mirror Chip Quartz	Metallic Black Quartz	Metallic Grey Quartz	Red Mirror Chip Quartz	Tea Cream Quartz	White Carrara Marble Quartz	White Mirror Chip Quartz	LIMESTONE	Almond Honed	Almond Polished	Almond Tumbled	Ballanstone Honed
Ballanstone Tumbled	Beauvillon Brushed		Beauvillon Honed	Blenheim Grey Brushed	TRAVERTINE	Corinth Honed Filled	Corinth Tumbled	Golden Honed Filled	Golden Vein-Cut Polished Filled	Inca Vein-Cut Honed Filled		Inca Vein-Cut Polished Filled	Persian Red Polished Filled	Silver Honed Filled	GLASS
Coral Flair	Crisp White	Early Spring	Elderflower Tea	Kiwi Crush		Lemon Punch	Love Note	Marine Splash	Midnight Black	Moroccan Flame	Moroccan Sands 4	Mulberry Burst	Nordic Spa	Pixie Green	
Quintessential Blue	Raspberry Bellini	Rich Black	Ruby Starlet	Sapphire Salute	Sea Blue	Sugared Lilac	Sumptuous Plum	WOOD	Acacia	Ash	Cherry	End Grain Oak	European Walnut	Full Stave Beech	
Full Stave Iroko	Full Stave Prime Oak	Full Stave Rustic Oak	Full Stave Walnut	Iroko	Natural Walnut	Oak	Prime Beech		Prime Oak	Rustic Beech	Rustic Oak	Sapelli	Wenge	Zebrano	