

# SOAPSTONE

## Material Data Sheet



### TECHNICAL DATA

CLASSIFICATION	ABSORPTION	SCRATCH RESISTANCE	CHEMICAL RESISTANCE
Talc Based Sedimentary Rock	Low	Low	High

### RECOMMENDED USAGE

All Areas - Soapstone is a metamorphic rock that is comprised primarily of talc with varying amounts of dolomite, magnesite, and other minerals. Soapstone generally has a smooth feel to the touch. It is used for countertops and other various building aspects such as sinks and heaters. Soapstone is a very popular choice for countertops in laboratories and classrooms due to its high resistance to chemicals. Soapstone has limited hardness and is easily scratched. Soapstone is typically treated with a food grade mineral oil to retain its luster and to mask small scratches that are often common because of its talc contents.

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- Do's**
- Clean up spills in a reasonable amount of time.
  - Use clean water or PH neutral stone cleaner for daily cleaning
  - Seal porous stone every 1-3 years
- Don'ts**
- Do not use any chemical based cleaners with bleach, ammonia, or acids.
  - Keep acidic or alkaline products from contact of marbles, limestone, travertine, onyx, basalt products. This will cause etching.
  - Do not cut on top of natural stones, granite may not scratch but will dull knife edge and could imbed metal into the surface.
  - Do not sit, stand or place large amounts of weight on the front or back of cutouts, overhangs, or suspended bar tops.

# NATURAL STONE

## Countertops Quick Reference Guide



TYPE	CLASSIFICATION	ABSORPTION	SCRATCH RESISTANCE	CHEMICAL RESISTANCE
Granite	Magmatic or Metamorphic Rocks	Low-Med	High	High
Quartzite	Metamorphic Crystallized Sandstone	Low	Varies	Varies
Limestone	Calcite Based Rock	Med	Low	Low
Marble	Recrystallized Calcite Limestone	Med	Low	Low
Travertine	Calcite Based Rock formed from hot spring	High	Low	Low
Onyx	Recrystallized Calcite Limestone	Med	Low	Low
Soapstone	Talc Based Sedimentary Rock	Med	Low	High
Slate	Metamorphic formed from clay	Low-Med	Low	High

AVAILABLE FINISHES	POLISHED	HONED	BRUSHED	FLAMED	LEATHER/ANTIQUÉ
Granite	X	X	X	X	X
Quartzite	X	X			
Limestone	X	X			X
Marble	X	X	X		X
Travertine		X	X		
Onyx	X	X			
Soapstone		X			
Slate		X			

RECOMMENDED FINISHES	KITCHEN FOOD PREP	BATH	NON-FOOD PREP
Granite	Polished	Polished/Honed	Polished/Honed
Quartzite	Polished	Polished/Honed	Polished/Honed
Limestone	Honed	Polished/Honed	Polished/Honed
Marble	Honed	Polished/Honed	Polished/Honed
Travertine	Honed	Honed	Honed
Onyx	X	Polished	Polished
Soapstone	Honed	Honed	Honed
Slate	X	Honed	Honed