

Natural Stone Selection Guide



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Introduction To Natural Stone

Natural stone is a highly sophisticated material that adds dimension and style to architectural and structural designs. Nothing compares to its beauty and elegance. Described in this brochure, are a variety of stone surfaces that are stocked by Terrazzo & Marble Supply. Most can be found in both slabs and tile.

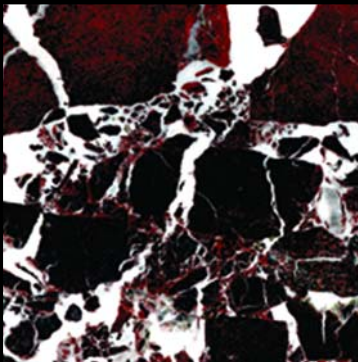


Granite



Granite is an igneous rock, formed by the crystallization of molten lava. Minerals within the granite typically appear as small flecks throughout the stone or as veining similar to marble. Granite is a dense-grained hard stone accommodating for a variety of uses including bar tops, counter tops, monuments, statuary and balance tables to name a few.

Marble



Marble originated as limestone, but over time, intense heat and pressure caused the limestone to re-crystallize. During this metamorphosis, other minerals were introduced producing rich colors and veining. Common uses for marble include fireplace facings, interior floorings as well as limited uses for counter tops and tabletops.

Limestone



Limestone is a sedimentary stone layered and formed from the skeletons and shells of sea creatures. Limestone varies in color from gray to buff, while some pastel shades of yellow to pink are available. Common uses of limestone include interior and exterior paving as well as limited uses for countertops.

Slate



Slate is a fine-grained, metamorphic stone derived from sedimentary rock shale. Slate can be multi-shaded or uniform in color, available in shades of green, purple, black, gray or dark red. Common uses of slate include fireplace facings, interior and exterior paving as well as limited uses for countertops.

All Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies' showrooms display a variety of other natural stone materials including Travertine, a variety of marble. To learn more about our slab and tile selection, please visit with one of our design consultants.

Cut-to-Size Slab Selection...

Easy As 1, 2, 3

The selection of your stone is a three-part process that begins with your fabricator. A fabricator is the individual or company that purchases the natural stone slabs, cuts, shapes and crafts the edge work, then installs the finished product.

- 1. Selecting Your Color** - The selection of the right stone can dramatically enhance the appearance of your home. TM offers more than 2,500 different natural stones to complement your cabinetry, wall covering or flooring. After narrowing your selection, T&M offers sample materials that you can take with you to view in your home.
- 2. Selecting Your Slabs** - Once your fabricator has determined the number and thickness of slabs needed for your job, it's time to return to TM to select your slabs. A TM Design Consultant will tag your slabs with pertinent information so they are reserved and ready for pick up by your fabricator.
- 3. Selecting Your Edge Treatment** - A proper edge profile adds impact to the beauty of a natural stone slab surface and helps integrate the stone into the overall design for the room. Check with your fabricator to learn about the various edge treatments available.

Caring For Your Natural Stone

Marble and granite are easier to maintain than you would expect. With proper care, both will last for generations.

However, the following are suggestions to help maintain your stone's natural beauty.

- Given Granite's durable and stain-resistant nature, washing regularly with warm water and a neutral, pH balanced cleaner such as TM Neutral #101 or Stone Tech Revitalizer™ will clean most spills. More aggressive stains may require the use of a poultice stain remover.
- Marble and fine stone should receive the same attention given to fine wood. Spills should be wiped immediately to avoid staining. Avoid detergents that can be abrasive and contain chemicals high in acid or alkaline.

Sealers can provide insurance against most staining agents, but are not invincible. Penetrating sealers such as TM Penetrating Seal #100 or Stone Tech Impregnator Pro™ can provide lasting protection for your natural stone. Ask a TM representative to identify the most appropriate sealer for your stone selection.

Tile Selection

The selection of your tile involves essentially the same process. A majority of the natural stone varieties displayed are also available in tiles (the tile size varies depending on the stone variety).

Don't forget to select your grout when making your tile selection. Both sanded and unsanded grout are available in a variety of colors. Visit with one of our design consultants for assistance in selecting the grout, that will best compliment your stone tile selection.

Finished?

Not Until You Select

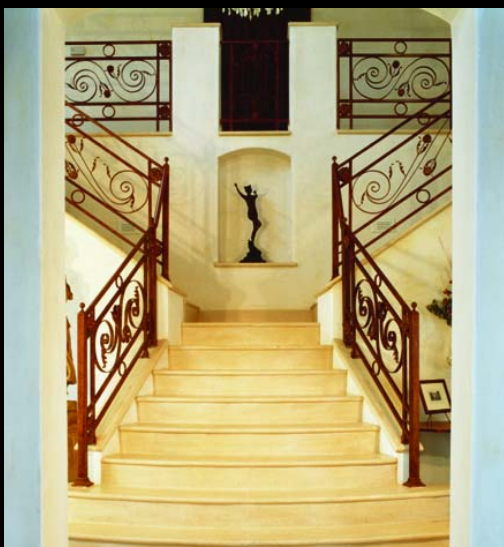
Your Finish

Natural stone is available in a variety of finishes. The right finish can enhance a stone's beauty and depth of character. Choose from polished, honed, tumbled, flamed, natural cleft or sandblasted when making your finish decision. Our design consultants will inform you of the finishes available for the particular stone you have selected.

Hold Policy

Once your stone slabs or tile are placed on hold, Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies will continue to reserve your selection for 30 days. If the stone is not claimed after 30 days, it will be released.

Often imitated, but never duplicated
Natural stone is an investment in your home that will bring timeless aesthetic rewards. Natural stone's beauty and range of colors is only matched by its durability and longevity. With time, natural stone will not only add to the beauty, but also to the value of your home. So prepare to enjoy your investment for years to come.



*Since all natural stone materials are products of nature, no two are alike. Variations in aesthetics (color, shade, finish; etc.) and performance (hardness, marking, strength, etc.) are to be expected. Limited imperfections due to geological flaws, voids, veins and lines of separation may occur and can be corrected with proper finishing methods.

**Honed, tumbled and flamed/sandblasted finishes are typically more porous than a polished finish; consequently less stain resistant. Protectors and sealers may help to protect the stone enhancing the longevity of its natural beauty.

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