



Notes for Designers and Contractors

Granite and engineered stone make for wonderful worktops. As with any material its particular properties need to be born in mind at the design stage.

SALES TIPS

- We cut our tops from slabs rather than strips so don't feel restricted to 600mm depths
- Granite slabs are approximately 2.8 x 1.3m so anything outside of this size is a special if indeed it is obtainable at all. This *will* cause delays!
- We treat all granite with an anti-stain product but light colours can stain. Engineered stone does not readily stain.
- It should be emphasised to the customer that granite is a natural material and the colour and veining varies from slab to slab. Each piece is unique so samples are for guidance only. Some granites vary considerably within a slab and although we only use 'A1' grade, pieces cut from different slabs may well be different. This is often apparent if 30mm is used for tops and 20mm for splashbacks and upstands. This is a feature not a fault. Most granite has some surface pitting. If consistency of colour is important consider engineered stone.

DESIGN TIPS

- Joints in long runs look wrong unless there is some visual 'reason' for a joint. If you do have a run longer than 2.8m consider a break front to provide an obvious line for joints. Joints must be fully supported so avoid joints over dishwashers!
- Hob and sink cut outs make larger pieces fragile until fitted so try to avoid pieces longer than about 2.0m. If we consider that a piece will be too fragile we will not take the risk and insist that the hole is formed by fitting separate slips front and rear. The minimum dimension from any cut out to any edge is about 80mm. **This usually means that tops for sinks and hobs need to be at least 650 deep.** This is important to note if you are replacing 'standard' 600mm laminate tops.
- Joints between pieces are always visible as the edges are bevelled slightly to remove the sharp edge and normally bonded with matching resin. If there is likely to be any movement, for example if the floor is not solid, then silicone is the preferred bonding medium.
- Granite is very heavy so avoid huge pieces and give a thought to the installers who will have to carry it up those six flights of stairs. A top 600 x 2000 weighs 100kgs
- The use of curves and other ideas that cannot be done in other materials gives a sales edge.

SAVING COSTS

- L shaped tops are priced for the uncut rectangle plus a cutting charge. It follows that using two pieces will cost less.
- All angled cuts are charged extra even if only 0.5 degrees!
- Upstands are least expensive if the standard 60mm is used. Taller upstands are possible.
- Engineered stone is 25% more per m2 for depths over 650. (Granite is one price)
- Square + arressed is the least expensive edge detail.

ON SITE

- Please book templating as early as possible. The tops will be fitted about 3 weeks later. We can provide temporary tops if you need them.
- Kitchens should be installed in accordance with our 'Kitchen Fitters Notes'. Appliances and their fitting instructions must be on site and available to the templater.
- A representative should be on site to ensure that cut outs etc are correctly positioned and ambiguous details clarified. If no representative or specific information is available, The Company will exercise its discretion.
- A detailed drawing will be forwarded to you after templating and prior to fabrication, which will be deemed to have been approved by you if we have had no response within 1 working day. Any delay in approving drawings will likely result in a delay to the installation date.
- Abortive templating visits will be charged at 70% of the templating fee.
- Quotes will be reviewed after templating and any changes in cost passed on.
- An invoice will be forwarded on completion. Payment is due immediately. We do not give credit.

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