

# Quartz Facts

## Naturally The Best Choice

- 18 vibrant colors to choose from
- 3 edge profiles to choose from at no additional charge
- Solid 3cm thick
- Never seal, condition, or wax
- Lifetime Limited Warranty

## What Is Quartz?

Quartz is made with approximately 93% natural quartz, making it one of the most durable materials used on countertops. Only diamonds, sapphires and topaz are harder than quartz. The quartz is then combined with binders and pigment to produce a natural stone appearance without the maintenance. Due to the high volume of natural stone used to manufacture quartz slab there can be some slight pitting that occurs – 1mm to 2mm in width and 1mm deep (about the size of a pinhead). This is an inherent characteristic of quartz and in no way effects the performance of the material.

## How Does Quartz Compare To Granite?

Quartz is one of the most stain, heat and scratch resistant materials on the market today. It offers a non-porous, food safe surface that will appear relatively seamless. Unlike natural stone materials such as granite, Customcraft Countertops® do not require polishing, sealing, or conditioning to maintain the lustrous finish. When compared to granite, quartz meets or exceeds every standard.

## Is There Variation In Quartz Colors?

Customcraft Countertops® Quartz is made from pure, natural quartz. Variations in quartz color, shape, shade, pattern, and size are unique traits of Customcraft Countertops® Quartz. Some Customcraft Countertops® colors may be more consistent than granite, however color variance is an inherent trait expected in Customcraft Countertops® Quartz. In addition random distribution of particles are an inherent part of the overall design and composition and are not considered to be defects.

## Are Color Samples Available?

Color samples are available in all 18 Customcraft Countertops® Quartz colors at [www.menards.com/quartzsamples](http://www.menards.com/quartzsamples). The samples are 4" x 4" pieces taken from full slabs (54" x 119") and represent the design and color, however they may not include all aspects of the full slab. Samples are not guaranteed to be an exact replica of Customcraft Countertops® Quartz slabs and may vary from the actual installed surface.

## Where Can I View Larger Samples Of Quartz Colors?

Larger images of all quartz slabs are available on [www.midwestmanufacturing.com](http://www.midwestmanufacturing.com) in the photo gallery. Printed representations of colors may differ from actual samples. Physical samples of the quartz represent only a portion of the slab and may represent only a portion of the pattern and color. Please refer to these samples as a general indication of a particular colors pattern, design and hue.

## Will My Quartz Countertop Fade?

When exposed to UV light engineered quartz can fade. Quartz should be avoided in outdoor applications for this reason.

## How Do I Measure For A Customcraft Countertops®?

When measuring for a Customcraft Countertops® Quartz, you may either measure the cabinets or the existing countertop. Always measure the "outside" dimensions (this means from the back corner of the cabinet or existing top to the other back corner). Note all appliance locations and exposed countertop ends to ensure that proper end treatments are ordered. For more information on how to measure go to [www.midwestmanufacturing.com/countertopmeasuring](http://www.midwestmanufacturing.com/countertopmeasuring). Not only will these instructions walk you through the process, but they include a printable sheet of graph paper for you to draw out your layout.

## What Is A Template? What Are The Benefits?

A template is a full sized vinyl rendering of your countertop that allows you to verify all dimensions, cutouts, end treatments, and overhangs. Templates are available for all countertop materials, ship directly to your door, and help you avoid costly mistakes by allowing you to verify all aspects of your design and make changes before your countertop is produced.

## Will My Quartz Countertop Be Seamless?

You can order up to 54"x119" without a seam. Pieces larger than this will require a seam. Seams are generally visible but are fairly inconspicuous.

## What Quartz Thicknesses Are Available?

Midwest Manufacturing and Menards offer 2cm (.79") material used for backsplash and 3cm (1.18") material for countertop with an allowable variance of +/-2mm (.07").

## **What Edge Profiles Are Available?**

Bullnose, Double Roundover and Ogee edge profiles are available for no additional charge.

## **What Are The End Finishes Available And Where Should They Be Used?**

End finishes offered include profiled, non-profiled and unfinished. Profiled ends allow the same edge profile as the front edge of the top, to wrap around to an exposed end. This offers a finished look on any exposed end. Non-profiled is a straight cut end that is polished. This is ideal on ends that are exposed to a stove or refrigerator. Unfinished ends are un-polished, straight cut ends. These are often used on an end that will be against a wall or cabinet and will not be exposed.

## **Is Backsplash Available To Be Ordered?**

Yes, backsplash comes loose and can be ordered in 2 or 3 cm thick material; 2cm thick material is standard. It can be any height that is desired.

## **How Is A Sink Or Cook Top Cutout Determined?**

If your layout requires a sink or a cook top, cut outs are not determined by the fabricator but rather the sink or cook top manufacturer. Due to the manufacturing process for sinks and cook tops, there is no remnant.

## **Will My Factory Included Sink Come Installed?**

No, due to the weight of the quartz countertops, kitchen sinks will ship with your countertops uninstalled. The sinks will ship with all necessary mounting hardware for ease of installation in your home or on your job site.

## **Can Custom Sink Cutouts Accommodated In My Design?**

Yes, custom cutouts can be fabricated. It is strongly recommended that dimensions are taken from the sink, or the vendors specified dimensions. If the sink is fire clay or copper the sink will need to be verified against the physical sink due to variances in the manufacturing process of the sink (sinks should be on hand at the time of the countertop purchase).

## **Will The Faucet Holes Be Cut In My Customcraft Countertops®?**

Yes, due to the difficulty of cutting faucet holes on the job site, Customcraft Countertops® can cut them for you. Faucet holes are cut at 1-3/8" to accommodate your faucet, soap dispenser, dishwasher vent, or sprayer. Check your faucet package for the correct number of holes.

## **Do I Need To Add Support If I Have An Overhang?**

Overhangs 10" should have support added.

Any overhangs 15" or more require support to the floor.

## **How Do I Care For My Customcraft Countertops® Quartz?**

Regular cleaning can be done using a damp cloth and mild household detergent. For best results, clean spills as soon as possible. For tougher spots, use a mild non-abrasive cleaners. DO NOT use bleach or harsh chemicals such as oven cleaners, drain cleaners, paint removers, acids, etc.

## **Is Quartz Resistant To Heat?**

While Customcraft Countertops® Quartz withstands heat better than most materials on the market, it can be damaged by extreme temperature changes, whether sudden or prolonged. Always use a trivet or hot pad when placing hot items on your countertop surface. These items include, but are not limited to, pots, pans, and crock-pots. Never use Customcraft Countertops® Quartz as an ironing board; prolonged exposure to heat will damage Customcraft Countertops® Quartz and such damage is not covered by the warranty.

## **Can I Cut On A Quartz Countertop?**

No, avoid cutting directly on countertops, always use a cutting board. This will protect the surface from dulling that can appear over a long term of cutting on the surface.

## **Can Raw Foods Such As Vegetables, Fruits, And Meats Be Placed Directly On The Surface?**

Customcraft Countertops® Quartz is a non-porous surface. This means germs and bacteria cannot accumulate with regular cleaning. Customcraft Countertops® Quartz is an approved surface for food preparation areas in restaurants as well as in your home.