

## Quartz Countertops vs. Granite Countertops Report

	Quartz Countertops	Granite Countertops
Material	<p><b>Naturally occurring man-made product</b>            Natural mineral crushed and mixed with polymer resins and colouring to create final quartz kitchen or bathroom countertop slab</p>	<p><b>Natural product</b>            Natural igneous rock, sliced to correct thickness and polished to create kitchen countertop or bathroom vanity slab</p>
Porosity	<p><b>Low Porosity</b>            Quartz is a natural mineral engineered with specific characteristics. High quality quartz brands can be up to 98% non-porous which means it's density is equivalent to a high quality stainless steel sink (no leakage)</p>	<p><b>High Porosity</b>            Apart from slicing the rock, Granite is a non-altered, naturally occurring product which means it is highly porous and contains unseen imperfections such as fissures and cracks. If you spill wine on a granite countertop it will take 2 seconds to 2 minutes to seep through the countertop.</p>
Safety/ Maintenance	<p><b>Low Maintenance</b>            Quartz countertops are a low maintenance product due their high density and low porosity. Owners of a quartz countertop do not have to worry about food contamination or staining with a high quality Quartz countertop</p>	<p><b>High Maintenance</b>            No matter what quality granite countertop you purchase, due to granite's high porosity it is susceptible to bacteria and staining if not properly sealed. Purchasers must seal their countertop annually in order to prevent contamination and staining</p>
Cost	<p><b>Low variance in quality, low variance in price</b>            As quartz countertops are a naturally occurring, engineered product, the quality and standard of product does not have a great variance. As such, the cost of a quartz countertop will vary by 15 to 20%.</p>	<p><b>High variance in quality, high variance in price</b>            Granite countertops can be sourced from a wide variety of places, which means quality and product standards also differ greatly. As a result the cost of a granite countertop has a very wide range. Of about 50 to 60%.</p>

Not only do quartz and granite countertops vary based on the characteristics of the materials they are made of but these characteristics also differ based on the quality and standard of the countertop manufacturers. Countertop manufacturers include both the slab manufacturer and the fabricator who turns the slab into the countertop.

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