



# Grenite<sup>®</sup> Installation Information.





Thank you for your investment in Grenite® products.

This information is provided to help you fabricate and install Grenite products in a beautiful, professional manner.





## **WORKING WITH GRENITE®: SAFETY FIRST.**

1. Insure that you have adequate machinery and/or man-power to move Grenite® products. Large pieces of Grenite can weigh hundreds of pounds.

### 2. NOTE: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION.

Dry modification of engineered stone products may generate dust. This dust contains particles of crystalline silica ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ). Inhalation of large amounts of crystalline silica can negatively effect the pulmonary system and can worsen pulmonary diseases (asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, etc.). Suitable measures of protection, including but not limited to, ventilation systems, dust/powder collection systems, vacuum cleaning systems and type FFFP3 personal respiration protection should always be used when dry modifying any engineered stone product. Wet fabrication systems and methods should be used whenever possible.





## **ON-SITE INSTALLATION PROCEDURES.**

1. Check that all the necessary and Grenite® pieces are present and that all the pieces reasonably match in color. (As a recycled product, Grenite features a rich, natural color variation.)

Check that all the pieces have been fabricated correctly.

2. Take note of the special instructions (special drill bits, location of through holes, cord routings, etc)

3. Be careful not to damage the Grenite® products or damage walls, cabinets, machinery and floors when transporting Grenite products in and out of the customer's site.

### **Inspect before installation.**

1. Evaluate the area before beginning the job.

2. Before starting, check the conditions of the cabinets, floor, carpets, walls, machines, drawers, etc.

3. Measure the supporting millwork and compare with the measurements on the drawings.

4. Check the leveling of the millwork. Insure that the installation of Grenite® products does not obstruct the opening of windows, doors, cabinets and drawers.

5. Check that any previous countertop material has been removed. Do not install Grenite® products onto existing solid surface materials.

### **Checking.**

1. Before installing Grenite® products, check to see how the pieces fits and identify any potential problems.

2. Place the Grenite® products in their correct positions.

3. Line up and check the edge and squareness of the pieces. Modify the edges to adjust the level and check the joints to insure that they are levelled and square.

4. Check that modification has not created "pin-holes" (were the Grenite aggregate has been removed from the product matrix) along exposed edges. If these have been created, fill with epoxy and allow to set. Then polish to match the rest of the material with diamond hand polishing pads.

### **Edges.**

1. Measure the millwork top from the front of the cabinet to the Grenite® product's edge. Grenite products must be completely supported.

2. Check that the Grenite® piece will be centered when installed.

3. Check and adjust the seams. The edge line up will be determined by the size of the seams.

4. Verify that the countertop installation does not interfere with the opening of the doors, and drawers.

5. If there is no backsplash, the back edge of the pieces should not be adhered to the wall. Use caulking material to fill the gap. If there is a Grenite® backsplash it should be adhered to the wall. A small gap can be hidden by the thickness of the Grenite backsplash.

### **Leveling.**

1. Place the leveller against the edge front, in the intersection of the seams. This will indicate if the Grenite® pieces are properly aligned.

2. Check that all the doors and drawers can be opened before installing the countertop.



3. Determine whether it would be necessary to install wedges to adjust the level between the pieces.

### Seams. (Joints)

When the line-up of the edges is perfect it is easy to determine if the joints are correctly installed.

Check that all the joints are leveled, tight, and that the color of all the pieces match.

The joints must be supported on both sides, front, and back.

If one of the Grenite® pieces does not fit, it will have to be adjusted.

1. Place and adjust shimming wedges with the suitable thickness under the Grenite® piece to level the surface. Check that the both sides of the seam are not cracked.

2. Mark the piece to be cut with tape. Cover the top and edge of the piece that forms the seam with tape. Measure the widest part of the seam and draw the cutting line on the tape that makes the seam straight, squared and allows it to be closed.

3. Cut using a diamond bladed circular saw.

4. Check that the length along the cut is evenly lined up and that the edge is smooth. Use polishing pad as necessary being careful NOT to mar the surface.

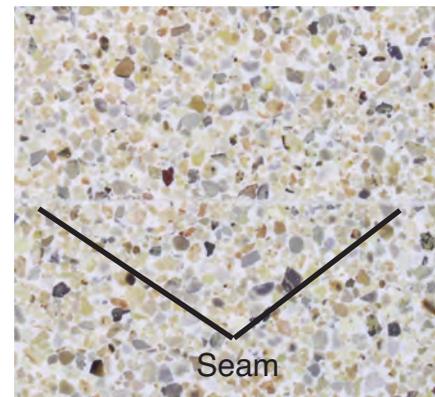
5. Check that the seam is level.

### Working with Seams. (Joints)

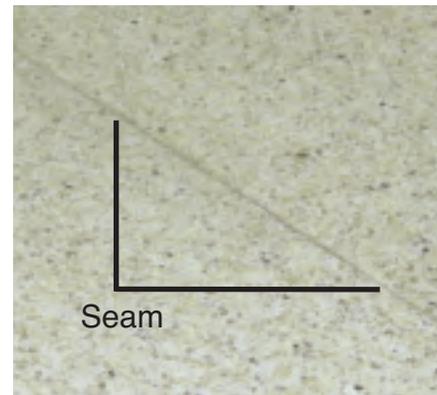
In order to avoid silicone marks we recommend using the following procedure for the installation of seams:

1. Position masking tape on both sides of the seam.

2. Apply the adhesive along the vertical center of the seam.



Acceptable Seams



Unacceptable Seam.



3. Position the pieces close together but without touching.

4. Secure the seam in place by placing clamps across the seam and tightening. This will move the pieces closer together.

5. Secure the rest of the piece in position.

6. Following industry standards, seams should be no wider than a "hairline" thick.

7. Remove tape and excess adhesive with a clean, sharp, single edge razor blade.

### Holes

To make a hole for cords, etc. a diamond core bit is required.

1. Carefully measure to define the location of the centerpoint of the hold.

2. Remove the pilot from the core bit and start a pilot hole at the marked location.

3. Reinstall the pilot into the core bit and continue drilling. Be patient, it takes some time to drill a clean hole through Grenite.

4. Smooth and finish the hole as needed.

### MOUNTING THE GRENITE® TO THE MILLWORK.

Standard industry references can be applied. The Marble Institute of America Dimension Stone Design Manual and the Tile Council of America's Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation can both recommend proper procedures for installation.

If fabricated on-site, inside corners should feature a minimum radii of 3/8" to maximize structural integrity.

In most applications Grenite® can be secured with structural silicone or epoxy based adhesive products. We suggest use of a sustainable, low VOC products compliant made for use with stone and follow the manufacturer's recommendations for mounting, solvents, spacers and other installation requirements.

Adhesives specially formulated for use with solid surfaces should be used with Grenite Recycled Solid Surfaces.

1. Dirt, dust and any other foreign substance body may interfere with the adhesive quality between the Grenite pieces and the supporting millwork. Clean the area completely before applying adhesive.

2. Leave a gap between the pieces for the joints.

3. Beginning at one end of the project, position the pieces in place. When positioning the Grenite® pieces, check that the wedges have not moved. Check that the edges and joints are lined up.

4. Do not affix the pieces to the walls. Leave a gap between the project's pieces and and the walls to allow for expansion. Fill these with caulking material at the end of the installation.

5. Apply small ribbons of adhesive every 12 inches. Use more adhesive for the areas surrounding cutouts or the highly shaped edges.

6. Remove the excess adhesive with a clean, sharp single edge razor blade.



## **BACKSPLASHES.**

1. Check the measurements and position the backsplashes in their correct position.
2. Determine how many electric outlets and switch cutouts are required to complete the installation of the backsplash. Remove the outlet and switch covers before measuring.
3. Each outlet/switch requires 4 measurements. Measure vertically from the countertop to the lower part of the outlet/switch, and from the countertop to the top part of the outlet/switch. Measure the horizontal distance from the imaginary centerline of the socket/switch left and right.
4. Mark these measurements on the backsplash, leaving a space for the cover.
5. Leave space for the screws affixing the cover to the outlet/switch.
6. Cutout the outlet/switch hole from the underside of the backsplash, using the procedure outlined above in "Cutouts".
7. To fix the backsplash, apply small amounts of adhesive every 12 inches. Run a bead of clear caulking material along the edge of the backsplash which contacts the Grenite counter surface. When the backsplash is placed, this bead will form a small, tight, neat seal between the two surfaces.
8. Check that the backsplashes are leveled.
9. Secure the pieces in place until the adhesive sets and dries.



## **THE GRENITE® 10-POINT QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION.**

1. Clean the Grenite® products. If other work is in progress near the Grenite® products, cover the Grenite products for protection.
2. Remove all waste cuttings, trimmings and garbage.
3. Check that all the corners visible have the correct radius.
4. Check that all the visible corners are smooth.
5. Check the joints, especially those on the front edges - they should be level, tight and smooth.
6. Check that the edges are smooth, polished and that the colors match.
7. Check that the doors and drawers can be opened easily and are not obstructed by the Grenite® installation.
8. If an undermount kitchen sink has been installed, instruct the customer to wait 24 hours to connect the plumbing.
9. Remind the customer that Grenite® does not require any special maintenance.
10. Thank the customer!!





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