
Engineered Quartz vs Natural Marble

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Intended readers: owners / interior designers

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The Essential Difference: Engineered Uniformity vs Natural Uniqueness

Engineered quartz is pressed from quartz sand (approx. 90%+) and resin: hard, near-zero absorption and uniform colour. Marble is a natural metamorphic rock whose veining cannot be replicated — every slab is one of a kind. The difference is philosophical: choose quartz for uniformity; choose marble for nature and asset value.

Performance Comparison

Hardness and scratch resistance: quartz approx. Mohs 7; marble approx. 3–4.

Chemical resistance: the quartz resin matrix tolerates weak acids; marble etches on acid contact (be careful with lemon juice and cleaners).

Heat resistance: marble tolerates heat better; the quartz resin matrix is heat-sensitive (hot pots directly on the surface cause damage).

Water absorption: quartz is near zero; premium marble $\leq 0.5\%$ with periodic sealing recommended.

Repairability: marble can be re-ground and re-polished; quartz damage is hard to repair invisibly.

Cost and Value Retention

Quartz pricing is stable and installation fast; marble prices fluctuate with variety and yield, yet natural stone adds long-term value to a property — preference for natural marble in premium hotels and luxury residences remains mainstream.

Scenario-Based Recommendations

Kitchen worktops: heavy users should choose quartz; those who prize the ritual of cooking and countertop beauty — and will maintain it — may choose scratch-resistant granite or leather-finish marble.

Bathroom vanities and walls: marble (with sealer) creates the hotel feel; mind slip resistance on wet floors.

Feature walls and lobbies: book-matched natural marble is virtually irreplaceable.

High-traffic commercial floors: granite or quartz first.

Our Recommendation

HSST supplies natural stone and also advises on engineered quartz. Our principle: confirm usage intensity and maintenance capability first, then discuss material preference. Request comparison samples and test data.