

CERAMIC	GLASS	MARBLE, TRAVERTINE, LIMESTONE	GRANITE	PORCELAIN
Less dense, easier to cut.	Less dense. Time consuming to cut.	Softer less dense stones. Prone to chipping, cracking when cut.	Most are dense. More difficult to cut)	Highly dense, more difficult to cut. (a type of ceramic – fusion of clays)
Less durable, (especially on high traffic areas). Wall applications expected life span of 50 years.	Best in wall (vertical) applications. 50+ year life span. (not for full floor use)	Most applications ok...see supplier's recommendations when in doubt. 50+ year life span.	Most applications ok...see supplier's recommendations when in doubt. 50+ year life span.	Highly durable, any application wall or floor. Expected life span 50 years.
Porous if not glazed, not fully vitrified.	Easily scratched- Non-porous.	Porous, softer. Can stain, & scratch. Follow supplier's recommendations.	Porous. Sealer recommended. Follow supplier's recommendations.	Completely vitrified, impermeable (even before glazing process)
Cost less expensive. Man made. Thousands of colors available. Glossy or Matte finish. Some textured patterns available.	More expensive depends on variety. Man made. Glossy, matte, textured.	Species varies, costs vary - higher price point. Natural product. Various countries of origin. Polished or honed finish.	Species varies, costs vary - higher price point. Natural product. Various countries of origin. Polished, honed, or textured finishes.	Low to higher priced product. Man made. Thousands of colors and patterns –often imitated from natural patterns. Glossy, matte, or textured finishes.
Everyday use & care – Cleaning: Non-acidic tile cleaners. Soft cloth, sponge, and Dawn dish detergent in warm water.	Use & care – Cleaning: Non-acidic & nonabrasive tile cleaners. Soft cloth, sponge, and Dawn dish detergent in warm water.	Use in most wall & floor applications: Indoor or outdoor. Sealer recommended. Calcite based stones, may etch. Use specific stone cleaners recommended for type of stone.	Various unique patterns & colors. Sealer recommended (once every 1-5 years depending on use). Use specific stone cleaners recommended for type of stone.	Everyday use & care – Cleaning: Non-acidic tile cleaners. Soft cloth, sponge, and Dawn dish detergent in warm water.