

Dear friend/s, I drafted this brief memo because several customers have asked me to come up with an easy and quick way of educating, their staff, the A&D community and their customers too. Not being an expert in natural stone I was a bit reluctant, however, after some self educating research, here is my very basic recap, I hope you find it interesting. Please enjoy the reading.

ID your Natural Stone

- Natural Stone is generally classified in two groups, i.e.:

Siliceous

- Granite
- Slate
- Quartzite
- Sandstone

Calcareous

- Marble
 - Travertine
 - Limestone
 - Onyx
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- Siliceous raw materials are mainly quartz, feldspar, etc.
 - Calcareous raw material is mainly calcium carbonate

Natural Stone “Birth”

Siliceous

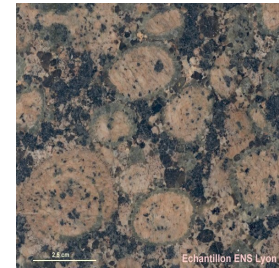
- Are formed by the cooling of magma

Calcareous

- Are formed by millions of years of pressure applied on bodies of tiny fossilized creatures
- Siliceous stones are more durable & easier to clean
- Calcareous Stones are more luxurious and warm

Popular Siliceous Stones Picture ID

- Granite



- Slate



- Quartzite

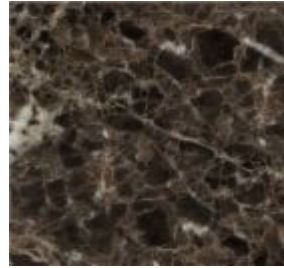


- Sandstone

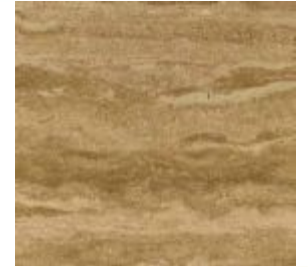


Popular Calcareous Stones Pict. ID

- Marble



- Travertine



- Limestone



- Onyx



General Pros & Cons of Siliceous Stones

Pros

- Very durable, not easy to scratch, stain chip or burn.
- Easy sanitation for low porosity and absorption. Resistant to household acids & alkali
- Everlasting and wide selection of colors..mainly dark

Cons

- Wide, sometimes extreme variation of patterns and color within the stone
- It can be expensive
- Requires sealing and regular maintenance.
- Limited light and warm color selection.

General Pros & Cons of Calcareous Stones

Pros

- Luxurious look and synonymous with high-end & elegance.
- Soft and sensuous can be molded easily in any size or shape.
- Warm colors, subtle or contrasting veining and beautiful patina as it ages.

Cons

- Porous material and will stain unless properly sealed and maintained.
- Acid & alkali sensitive, scratches and susceptible to heat.
- Wear and tear can loose away filling material (travertine).

Thank you for reading this basic
introduction to natural stone
products.

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