

Fabrication Bulletin # 2011

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### Material Handling

HanStone Quartz offers the natural beauty of quartz with up to six times the strength and durability of granite. More than 90% of HanStone Quartz is mined quartz crystals, one of nature's hardest minerals. The quartz is combined with resins and pigment to create the look of natural stone without the high maintenance. There is no need for sealing, conditioning, and polishing. HanStone Quartz is scratch and stain resistant and its non-porous nature makes it an ideal surface for residential or commercial applications.

Slabs should be handled and stored vertically or slightly inclined (in A-Frames). Ensure that storage racks or fixtures have padding or resilient, non-transferable material where in contact with HanStone slabs. HanStone slabs should never be stored where exposed to ultraviolet light. Take precautions not to impact the slabs on storage racks, other slabs, or any other object within the shop. It is recommended that vacuum lifters be used to move slabs from a vertical to a horizontal position prior to sawing. Prior to fabricating a HanStone slab, ensure the material is properly acclimated to the temperature in the fabrication shop.

Please note that there are a large number of variables in the fabrication process that can affect the final outcome and potentially result in damage to the material. Also refer to Fabrication Bulletin 2002 – Sawing Best Practices, and 2010 – Slab Prep for additional information.

### Do's & Don'ts

- Remove slabs from A-Frames either individually or in pairs, and never attempt to handle more than 2 slabs at a time.
- Carefully handle slabs using OSHA approved lifting devices.
- Note any visible damage to slabs on shipping manifest at the time of delivery.
- Protect corners and edges from damage whenever possible.
- Acclimate the slabs to temperature of the fabrication shop for at least 24 hours. Do not cut slabs that are frozen.
- Do not heat slabs using any type of torch or open flame.
- Do not move slabs at any time using pry bars, pinch bars, or wrecking bars.
- Remove the peel-coat and inspect the slab for defects prior to any cutting. Do not cut slabs with the peel coat on as this may contribute to surface finish problems.
- Clean the slab if necessary to remove any residue.
- Call your distributor for a replacement slab if you see a defect. Do not cut a slab with visible defects.

- Small chips can often be repaired, but never attempt to repair and use any material that is broken.

#### Material and Handling Checklist

1. Inspect material when received, noting any damage on shippers manifest.
2. Handle all slabs using OSHA approved lifting devices.
3. Store, move and handle slabs and cut pieces vertically.
4. Protect corners and edges from damage.
5. Always remove the peel-coat and inspect slab material for defects prior to cutting.
6. Do not cut a slab with any defects. Call your distributor for a replacement slab. Once a slab is cut, it cannot be returned.