

VILLANDRY

CONTRACTING, INC.

DESIGN • BUILD • REMODEL

KITCHEN COUNTERS

There are many beautiful options for kitchen counters today. Below is a list of the most common counter types installed in kitchens by VCI. It is important to learn information about each option before making a decision on your counter material.

Some of the Most Common Counter Types Installed

Granite	Silestone	Corian or Zodiak by Dupont	Marble
Laminate	Wood Block	Solid Surface	Concrete
Slate			

A kitchen counter distributor should be able to answer questions about the materials they offer. Here are some things to ask:

Color: Laminate has the most color options, probably followed by Corian and Silestone. The naturally made products such as granite and wood block have the least number of color options.

Man made or naturally made: Some customers have a preference.

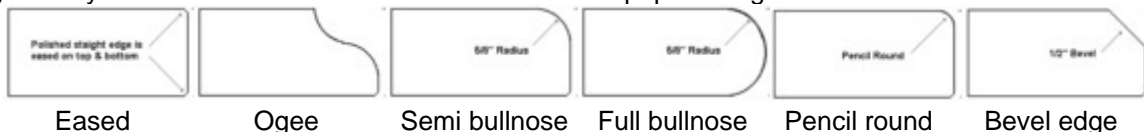
Seam or no Seam: Seams are created in any naturally made product since the product is taken from the environment in a particular size then cut to order. Therefore, depending upon the size needed for your project, pieces may be cut, then glued together at the site with an epoxy. Generally, seams are used without issue. It is important, however, to realize that if the product you choose has a varying pattern of color on it or if it looks like a different color depending upon the amount of light shining on it or the direction in which you look at it, the seam may be more noticeable.

Porous Surface: Porous surfaces may require more maintenance than non-porous surfaces and non-porous surfaces generally do not require maintenance which may include applying a seal or oil twice a year.

Heat Resistance: Find out how sensitive to heat the surface will be and how easily your surface can burn from a hot object such as a pan or serving dish.

Chip Resistance & Repair Options: Most surfaces are pretty durable, but some are more durable than others and some are easier to repair than others.

Edges: Depending upon the material you choose for your counter, there are various different edges available to choose from. Depending upon the counter choice, generally there is no extra cost for an eased edge, other edge styles may add an additional cost. Below are the most popular edges:



Backsplash: When installing new counters, you will most likely need to decide if you want a backsplash or not. The backsplash is the area where the counter meets the wall. Choices are to continue using the same material for the counter for the backsplash, have no backsplash (simply use wall), or tile the wall where it meets the counter. Your budget will probably influence your decision one way or another.

Price: The most cost effective counter is laminate. Natural stones (concrete, granite, slate, marble) and wood block depend upon the color or wood you choose. Corian, solid surface and silestone are comparable to some of the granite and wood block prices.