

QUESTION

QUASTONE

Quastone is a combination of natural stone, special resins and other raw materials that are extraordinarily hard and resilient. These characteristics combine to create an ideal surface for wall cladding, flooring, kitchen countertops and bathrooms.

Quastone is a surface material with outstanding properties created for interiors of projects like government building, complexes, institutions, hospitals, hotels, airports, residences, office complexes various kitchen and bath design applications. It offers beauty similar to natural stone in a wide range of colors and extraordinary textures. It is a high quality solid, non-porous product that is resistant to scratches, heat, and stain; it requires minimal maintenance. However, it is not heat, stain and scratch proof and requires regular care to keep it in immaculate condition for years.

APPLICATION AREA	QUASTONE
Internal Flooring	Yes
Internal Raised Flooring	Yes
Interior Cladding	Yes (up to 3m height using adhesives, >3m using mechanical fixing)
Exterior Flooring/Cladding	Not Recommended
Vanity Tops	Yes
Kitchen Counter Tops	Yes
Staircase	Yes
(Treads / Risers / Skirting)	
Door Jambs / Door Thresholds / Window Sills	Yes

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

CHARACTERISTICS	UNIT	MARBLE	QUASTONE
Water Absorption	%	< 0.4	< 0.085
Flexural Strength	Mpa	> 21	> 40
Hardness	Mohs	3	6 to 7
Apparent Density	Kg/m ³	2200 - 2400	2400 - 2700
Abrasion Resistance	mm	16.4 - 18	> 25
Deviation in Thickness	%	(+/-) 5	(+/-) 5
Surface Flatness	%	(+/-) 5	(+/-) 5
Rectangularity	%	(+/-) 0.6	(+/-) 0.6

**Non-standard thickness can be provided only for bulk requirements*

SIZES OF THE PRODUCT

QUASTONE slabs are available in dimensions 305cm x 125cm and they can be manufactured in thickness from 1.5cm up to 3cm; the standard available thicknesses are 1.5cm and 2cm.

SIZE TOLERANCES

LENGTH / WIDTH	(+/-) 0.5%
THICKNESS (ONLY FOR NORMAL POLISHED FINISH)	(+/-) 5%
RECTANGULARITY	(+/-) 0.6%
SURFACE FLATNESS	(+/-) 5%
SIDE FLATNESS	(+/-) 5%

TEXTURES

POLISHED

Polished is the classic finish for Quastone, intensifying the color, clarity and shine of the surface. It is ideal for risers, treads, wall cladding, indoor flooring, countertops, lobby floors.

SUEDE FINISH

The Suede finish is a matte texture with a uniquely soft touch that offers high-quality color consistency. It is best for area that need more friction and may be exposed to water frequently such toilet floors and kitchen floors.

MANUFACTURING PROCESS

- Quastone surfaces meet exacting standards of excellence by helping from the initial procurement of raw materials to the final quality control check. Highly skilled and trained staff ensure the quality of a product that is unrivaled in the industry today. The manufacturing process begins with a rigorous inspection of all incoming raw materials. These are blended at a ratio of approximately 90% natural lechatelierite aggregates with pigments and polymer resins. Quastone surfaces are manufactured through a highly automated, yet strictly monitored process that includes the following steps:
 - o Feeding and mixing
The raw materials (quartz, pigments and polymers) are carefully selected, tested and then mixed together.
 - o Molding and pressing
The mixture is then poured into a mold and formed into slab sizes of 305x125 cm. It is compressed under very high pressure (nearly 100 tons psi) and vibrated in a vacuum. This removes all the air and creates a compressed surface.
 - o Curing
The slabs are then moved to the curing kiln and heated to 90°C for 45 minutes which provides the finished levels of strength and solidity.
 - o Polishing
The slabs are gauged, calibrated and then polished to a perfect finish in a wide range of colors and designs.
 - o Quality Testing
Every slab then undergoes rigorous quality testing to ensure it meets our extremely high standards of color, hue and consistency.
 - o Tagging
The slabs are then labeled, sorted and tagged, and enter our distribution system to ensure they reach our customers in perfect condition.
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WHERE TO USE QUASTONE?

FLOORING

QUASTONE offers the consumers an affordable alternative to natural materials, while maintaining a greater level of color consistency and strength. Quastone makes it easy to match floor and wall concepts offering uniformity to the finished space while providing the level of beauty and aesthetics found in natural stone.

As most designers, architects and residential consumers have come to know, natural marble/tile/stone is a beautiful and desirable product for flooring solution, yet its inherent instability, supply constraints, color variation and high ownership cost make it difficult to incorporate into most residential or commercial projects. Quastone bridges the gap between nature and technology by maintaining the look and feel of marble while eliminating many issues typically found with natural stone.

KEY ADVANTAGES

- Large format of slab gives seamless look to the floor
- Higher choice of colors and color consistency as compared to natural marble giving a wide array of options
- Higher abrasion and stain resistance as compared to natural marble resulting in low maintenance and longer life
- Fewer seams also implies lesser dirt accumulation resulting in better hygiene
- As much as 20% less wastage during laying and lower cost of installation as compared to natural marble
- Can be matched with wall cladding / door frame / window sills / staircase etc. to give a uniform aristocratic look to the finished space at a reasonable cost

WALL CLADDING

QUASTONE makes as much sense for vertical applications as for horizontal ones for homes and commercial establishments.

Durable, long-lasting and easy to clean, wall cladding using Quastone has obvious benefits for banquet halls, reception and waiting areas, office spaces, lobbies, institutional spaces etc.

KEY ADVANTAGES

- Quastone wall cladding goes a long way in complementing marble flooring to give an aesthetically pleasing living / working area.
- Due to homogeneity of material, rounded/smooth corners are possible to be shaped on wall claddings especially in bathrooms lending it a refined look.
- Can easily be installed on wall surface with minimal chance of coming loose.
- Consistent supply possible with uniformity in color and texture.
- Can be matched with wall cladding / door frame / window sills / staircase etc. to give a uniform sophisticated look to the finished space at a reasonable cost.

WHY QUASTONE?

Non-Porous: Quastone countertop is not only impervious to bacteria and germs, it is also unlikely to be stained by oil, tomatoes, coffee or any other common kitchen items.

Maintenance Free: Quastone has a durable, non-porous surface that is both scratch and abrasion-resistant, allowing it to maintain its original luster. Clean up is easily handled with soap and water, and it doesn't require sealing.

Uniformity in Color Patterns: While color patterns present in a slab of natural stone can vary from one end to the other, they won't fluctuate within our range of Quastone.

Wide Color Palette: Quastone has a richer range of color options than can be found in Natural Stone, including bright greens, blues and yellows.

Complete Versatility: Quastone allows for a variety of edging options, and unlike granite, it can be used on sizable vertical surfaces without the visible seams that are evident with natural stone.

LIMITATIONS OF QUASTONE

Less Resistant to Heat and Impact: Quastone is not as heat-resistant as is granite, and is prone to chip or crack if it encounters heavy impact near an edge.

Chemical Sensitivity: Highly acidic or alkaline-based household chemicals such as heavy duty cleaners or bleach can damage Quastone.

Use Limitations: This product is not recommended for exterior use or with fireplaces.

INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

Only general hints are introduced here, because we as manufacturer of the Quastone have no influence on the individual building conditions and performance. Characteristics of the products being used must be consistent with characteristics of all other construction materials being used. The behavior of the Quastone after installation depends on the quality of the installation and fixation.

During installation it is necessary to pay special attention to the quality of the subfloor surface when carrying out joint-less installation of the floor and wall tiles. It is necessary to adhere to the preparation technology and production procedures given by the producers of the subfloor mixtures, adhesive, jointing materials and other construction chemicals used. After jointing is performed it is necessary to follow the correct procedure for product cleaning.

I. Adhesives:

- For Quastone products, it is recommended to use adhesive or any other polymer modified adhesives meeting these specifications.

II. Surface Preparation:

- Remove all loose particles, mortar to reach out to a sound surface.
- Surface should be made free from dirt, dust and other contaminants.
- New screeds and plastering should be cured for minimum 7 days and dried completely for minimum 2 weeks or as per manufacturer's specification.
- Surface should be plain, plumb in line without undulations.

III. Grouting:

- Do not use cement / mortar / POP for grouting as these are alkaline. The reaction may cause patches on joints. Always use epoxy resin based grouts. Grouting can be carried out after 4-5 days of installation; company recommends grouts from ARDEX ENDURA (INDIA) PVT LTD or other equivalent epoxy resin based grouts.
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PRECAUTIONS :

- Quastone is recommended for interior applications only.
- Prior to commencing installation, it is recommended that Quastone from several supply lots are laid on the floor under natural light to check color consistency.
- Company does not recommend using cement / mortar / POP for installation as these have a strong alkalinity. Prolonged exposure can cause permanent discoloration & loss in gloss of the product.
- Depending on the site conditions, equipments / methodology used and labour skill employed, gloss levels achieved during repolishing may be different as compared to factory finished polish.
- Company absolves itself of any responsibility due to complaints arising from improper handling, storage, installation or usage of its products other than what it is intended for.
- Recommended cut size for use: It is ideal to cut the slab of size 10ft X 4ft in 3 equal pieces. Else, at least use in 2 pieces of size 5ft x 4ft each, provided the thickness of the slab being used is 1.5cm or 2cm. In case of slab with 15mm thickness, the maximum recommended size per piece is 2ft x 2ft.

ROUTINE CARE :

- Always keep the Quastone surfaces clean of dust, sand and soil on a daily basis by sweeping with a soft brush and, when necessary, with a machine. The surfaces can be easily cleaned with warm water and a mild household detergent, using a standard mop. Make sure the floor is well rinsed and is completely dry before allowing people to walk on it.
 - Honed finish surfaces require more maintenance and care than the polished surfaces. The exposed area of a honed finish is larger than the polished surface; hence any dirt, markings and scratches would be more obvious on a honed finish surface. These markings can be removed using non-abrasive cleaning products.
 - Quastone can get permanently damaged by prolonged exposure to strong chemicals and solvents. It is advisable not to use hydrofluoric acid, any product containing trichlorethane or methylene chloride, and paint strippers. You can clean the surface with detergents that have a pH level no higher than 11 (avoid caustic soda) or with acidic detergents for persistent grime (no lower than pH3). A stone sealer/impregnator can be used for
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lighter colors.

HEAT CARE :

- Quastone is designed to withstand moderate heat but the product is not heat proof. Like any other composite material, it can be damaged by a sudden or lasting exposure to high temperatures, mainly at the edges and cut-outs of the product, resulting in cracks. To prevent thermal shock, discoloration or other damages, do not expose the surface to open flames and prolonged contact with very hot utensils.
- Quastone slabs and tiles that are exposed to direct sunlight might show slight color change and warping. It is advisable to avoid direct sunlight over a prolonged period on the surfaces.

STAIN CARE :

- Quastone is highly resistant to stains caused by fruit juices, liquid food coloring, coffee, tea, wine, vinegar, grapes, soft drinks, paints, nail polish and remover, automotive fluids, and permanent makers. If any of the above is accidentally spilled on the surface, wipe off the stained area with any multi-purpose cleaner or household detergent and rinse immediately with ordinary water.
- For more stubborn spills and stains, repeat the procedure several times and use a scouring pad to remove the stain. It is possible that some of the stubborn stains may leave a light mark or very slight discoloration on the stones.

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QUESTION

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