

DIVISION 12 – FURNISHINGS
Section 12 36 61 – Simulated Stone Countertops

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 WORK INCLUDES

- A. Base Bid: Unless noted otherwise, the General Prime Contractor shall provide all labor and materials for the complete installation of work as specified in this section.
 - 1. Quartz agglomerate countertops and backsplashes.

1.2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- A. Drawings and general provisions of the Contract, including General and Supplementary Conditions and Division 01 Specification Sections, apply to this Section.

1.3 RELATED WORK

- 1. Division 06 Section “Plastic-Laminate-Faced Architectural Cabinets” for base and wall cabinets.
- 2. Division 06 Section “Rough Carpentry” for wood furring, blocking, shims, and hanging strips.

1.4 ACTION SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data: For countertop materials and sinks.
- B. Shop Drawings: For countertops. Show materials, finishes, edge and backsplash profiles, methods of joining, and cutouts for plumbing fixtures.
- C. Samples for Verification: For the following products:
 - 1. Countertop material, 6 inches square.

1.5 PROJECT CONDITIONS

- A. Field Measurements: Verify dimensions of countertops by field measurements after base cabinets are installed but before countertop fabrication is complete.

1.6 COORDINATION

- A. Coordinate locations of utilities that will penetrate countertops or backsplashes.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 QUARTZ AGGLOMERATE COUNTERTOPS

- A. Configuration: Provide countertops with the following front and backsplash style:
 - 1. Front: Radius edge with apron, 1-1/2 inches high with 3/8-inch radius
 - 2. Backsplash: Straight, slightly eased at corner.
 - 3. Endsplash: Matching backsplash
- B. Countertops: 3/4 inch thick, quartz agglomerate with front edge built up with same material.
- C. Backsplashes: 3/4-inch thick, quartz agglomerate.
- D. Fabrication: Fabricate tops in one piece with shop-applied edges and splashes unless otherwise indicated. Comply with quartz agglomerate manufacturer's written instructions for adhesives, sealers, fabrication, and finishing.
 - 1. Fabricate with loose backsplashes for field assembly.

2.2 COUNTERTOP MATERIALS

- A. Particleboard: ANSI A208.1, Grade M-2, made with binder containing no urea formaldehyde.
- B. Adhesives:
 - 1. Adhesives shall not contain urea formaldehyde.
 - 2. Provide adhesives as recommended by quartz surface manufacturer for application and conditions of use.
 - 3. Adhesive to be visible in finished work shall be tinted to match quartz surface.
- C. Quartz Agglomerate: Solid sheets consisting of quartz aggregates bound together with a matrix of filled plastic resin and complying with the "Physical Characteristics of Materials" Article of ANSI SS1.
 - 1. Manufacturers: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide products by one of the following:
 - a. Hanstone Quartz
 - b. E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.
 - c. Cambria.
 - d. Silestone.
 - 2. Colors and Patterns: As selected by Architect from manufacturer's full range.
- D. Joint Sealant:
 - 1. Clear sealant of type recommended by manufacturer for application and use.

2.3 FABRICATION

- A. Layout surface to minimize joints and avoid L-shaped pieces of quartz surfacing. Layout and fabricate with hairline joints.
- B. Inspect materials for defects prior to fabrication.
- C. Cut and polish with water-cooled powered tools.
- D. Cutouts shall have a minimum of 3/8 inch radius. Where edges of cutouts will be exposed in finished work, polish edges.
- E. Laminate layers of quartz surfacing as required to create built-up edges following procedures recommended by the manufacturer.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

- A. Verify dimensions by field measurements prior to installation.
- B. Verify that substrates supporting quartz surfaces are plumb, level, and flat to within 1/8 inch in 8 feet and that all necessary supports and blocking are in place.

3.2 PREPARATION

- A. Clean surfaces prior to installation.
- B. Protect finished surface of quartz from scratches. Apply masking where necessary.

3.3 INSTALLATION

- A. Installation shall be by a certified Installer certified in writing by the Manufacturer.
- B. Install countertops level to a tolerance of 1/8 inch in 8 feet.
- C. Allow gaps for expansion of not less than 1/8 inch per ten feet when installed between walls or other fixed structure.
- D. Fasten countertops by screwing through corner blocks of base units into underside of countertop. Pre-drill holes for screws as recommended by manufacturer. Align adjacent surfaces and, using adhesive in color to match countertop, form seams to comply with manufacturer's written instructions. Carefully dress joints smooth, remove surface scratches, and clean entire surface.
 - 1. Install backsplashes and endsplashes to comply with manufacturer's written instructions for adhesives, sealers, fabrication, and finishing.
 - 2. Seal edges of cutouts in particleboard subtops by saturating with varnish.

- E. Horizontal surface: Apply continuous bead of mounting adhesive around perimeter of structural substrate and supports.
- F. Vertical surface: Apply continuous bead of mounting adhesive around perimeter. In addition, apply ¼ inch mounting adhesive bead every 8 inches on vertical center.
- G. Joints
 1. Align adjacent pieces in same plane. Joints shall be flush, tight-fitting, level, and neat.
 2. Securely join adjacent pieces with adhesive as recommended by manufacturer.
 3. Fill joints level to polished surface.
 4. Secure adjacent quartz surfaces with vacuum clamps until adhesive hardens.
 5. Seal joints between counter and backsplash with '50' year silicone sealant as recommended by manufacturer.

3.4 ADJUSTING & CLEANING

- A. Repair or replace damaged material.
- B. Remove masking, excessive adhesive, and excessive sealants.
- C. Clean exposed surfaces with denatured alcohol.

3.5 PROTECTION

- A. Protect installed fabrications with non-staining sheet coverings.

END OF SECTION 12 36 61