



INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

To achieve the highest quality results when working with Legacy Quartz (LQ) slabs, please follow these detailed installation guidelines:

1. Storage and Acclimation

- Indoor Storage: Ensure Legacy Quartz slabs are stored in a climate-controlled indoor environment to prevent exposure to outdoor elements, which could cause damage or stress to the material.
- Acclimation Period: Allow the slabs to acclimate in the installation environment for a minimum of 48 hours before beginning fabrication. This period is crucial, especially in colder climates, to prevent thermal stress that could lead to cracking or breakage during cutting.

2. Pre-Fabrication Inspection

- Preparation: Carefully remove any protective plastic sheeting from the slab before initiating any cutting processes.
- Thorough Cleaning: Wipe down the entire surface of the slab with a clean, dry cloth to remove any dust or debris, then inspect under bright, direct lighting for any of the following:
 - Surface Integrity: Look for chips, cracks, or voids that may affect the structural integrity of the slab.
 - Gloss Consistency: Examine for uneven gloss levels that could indicate manufacturing inconsistencies.
 - Manufacturing Defects: Identify any visible flaws or imperfections that may have occurred during production.
 - Color and Shade Matching: Confirm that the slab's color and shade are consistent with your design expectations, especially if multiple slabs are being used.
 - Foreign Materials: Ensure there are no embedded foreign objects like metals or wood that could compromise the quality of the finished product.
- If Issues Are Detected: Do not proceed with cutting if any of the above issues are found. Instead, contact your distributor to arrange for a replacement or save the slab for a future project where the defect can be worked around.

3. Maintaining Color Consistency

- Understanding Natural Variation: Legacy Quartz is crafted from natural quartz, which inherently possesses variations in color, pattern, and texture. These characteristics are normal and contribute to the unique beauty of each slab.
- Design Features: Be aware that minor blotches or random pattern variations are not considered defects. Such features are typical of the natural stone and are not covered under warranty, including the Residential Lifetime Warranty or the Commercial 10-Year Warranty.

4. Lot and Bundle Identification

- Identification Labels: Each Legacy Quartz slab is marked with a specific Lot# and Bundle#. Use these identifiers to match slabs from the same batch to ensure consistency across your project.
- Sample Representation: Keep in mind that small design samples may not fully capture the appearance of an entire slab. Expect visible seams and slight pattern variations when multiple slabs are joined.

StoneX USA's ID#s and Bundle#s StoneX USA Slab Sticker Identification:



- Our StoneX ID# consists of the first four digits, followed by a dash and two additional digits.
- The number in parentheses represents the bundle number, followed by a dash and the two digits indicating the quarry cut numbers.

5. Ensuring Visual Consistency

• Visual Inspection Prior to Fabrication: Conduct a careful, thorough inspection of all slabs to ensure color consistency and pattern matching, especially if your project requires multiple slabs. Slight variations between slabs are expected due to the natural blending of minerals during production.

6. Shipping and Handling for Color Consistency

• Consistency in Large Projects: For projects involving multiple slabs, use slabs from the same lot and bundle for the best possible color match. Even so, slight variations may still occur due to natural factors in the quartz and pigments used during manufacturing.

7. Fabrication Safety and Technique

- Safety Equipment: Always wear appropriate safety gear, including a respirator, to protect against inhalation of silica dust. Ensure the work area is properly ventilated and free from bystanders, particularly children.
- Corner Detailing: All corners should be rounded to at least a 3/8" radius. This applies to all areas, including sinks, cooktops, and L-shaped counters, to minimize stress points that could lead to cracking.
- Allowance for Expansion: Leave an extra 1/8" gap between any cutouts (such as for sinks or cooktops) and the quartz edge to accommodate thermal expansion.
- Cutting Methodology: Avoid cross-cutting the quartz. Use a diamond core bit to create radius corners for cutouts, and never employ plunge cuts with a bridge saw, as this could cause stress fractures.
- Managing Heat: Excessive heat generation can create stress points and hairline cracks. To prevent this, always use wet diamond cutting tools during the fabrication process.

8. Lamination and Polishing Tips

- Backer Pads: Flexible backers are recommended for concave edges like ogee profiles, while rigid backers are generally sufficient for other profiles. For superior edge quality, automatic edge machines with rigid polishing tools are preferred.
- Polishing Sequence: Follow the recommended grit sequence carefully to achieve a finish that closely matches the factory finish. Be mindful of water usage to avoid issues such as hydroplaning or uneven polishing.
- Water Use: Adjust water flow to avoid excessive or insufficient moisture, both of which can adversely affect the quality of the polish.

9. Edge Polishing Guidelines

- Proper Pad Usage: Use wet diamond polishing pads with grit levels ranging from 50 to 3000. Pay special attention to using the entire surface of the pad when working on bullnose edges for even polishing.
- Avoid Dry Polishing: Dry polishing can cause overheating and lead to micro-fissures, discoloration, or chipping. Always use wet polishing methods for best results.

10. Post-Gluing Polishing Procedures

- White Resin Pads Only: Use only white resin pads for all polishing tasks, whether done manually, with an automatic edge polisher, or with a CNC machine. Colored resin pads can cause staining, particularly on light-colored quartz.
- Start with 400 Grit: Begin polishing with a 400 grit pad, applying light pressure, and then progress to a 600 grit pad to achieve the desired finish.

11. Polishing Technique

- Pressure Management: Apply light pressure when polishing to ensure a smooth, flawless finish. Overly aggressive polishing can damage the resin in the quartz, leading to an uneven surface.
- RPM Control: Maintain the tool's RPM between 2,800 and 4,000. Exceeding 4,000 RPM may cause the resin to burn or smear, particularly when using white resin pads. If burning occurs, it can typically be remedied with denatured alcohol.

12. Installation Procedures for Countertops

- Preparing Cabinet Tops: Ensure that the tops of the cabinets are flat and level to within 1/16" over every 18" length before installation.
- Clearance and Support: Leave at least 1/8" clearance between the Legacy Quartz and adjacent walls or structures. Provide full perimeter support, with additional support every 24" from front to back.
- Seam Treatment: Create grooves along seam edges to allow sufficient space for adhesive. Round all inside corners on U-shaped and L-shaped countertops to a minimum diameter of 3/8" to reduce stress.
- Adhesive Application: Apply extra adhesive at all corners and seams. Ensure overhangs exceeding 3/4" in material thickness, or 16" for 1-1/4" material, are properly supported.

13. Vertical Application Guidelines

- Cutouts: Measure and mark cutouts for any necessary plumbing or fixtures, leaving a ½" clearance around all cutouts. Use a diamond core bit for precise cuts.
- Slab Installation: Begin with the front and back slabs, applying setting epoxy adhesive using a ¼" notched trowel. Maintain a 1/8" expansion joint at the top and bottom, which should be caulked with 100% silicone. Braces should be used to support the slab until the adhesive cures.
- Seam and Corner Treatment: Use 100% silicone caulk for all seams and corners, leaving a minimum of a 1/8" expansion joint between adjacent slabs.

14. Fireplace Installation Guidelines

- Heat Sensitivity: Avoid placing Legacy Quartz in direct contact with surfaces that exceed 250°F. Ensure that the design accounts for thermal expansion and contraction.
- Support: Quartz should not be used for structural support in fireplace installations. Adequate support must be provided independently.

15. Overhangs

 Support Requirements: For standard cabinets with a 24" depth, overhangs up to 6" do not require additional support. For overhangs between 6" and 12", brackets should be used at 24" intervals. Overhangs greater than 12" require legs, columns, or panels for support.

16. Sinks and Basins

• Support and Sealing: Sinks must be fully supported independently of the quartz countertop. Use a professional sink setter or support rail system. All sinks should be sealed with 100% silicone to ensure a watertight fit.

By following these detailed guidelines, you can ensure a successful installation and a high-quality finish for your Legacy Quartz projects, providing long-lasting beauty and durability.

WARNING: CRYSTALLINE SILICA EXPOSURE

This product contains crystalline silica, a substance known to cause cancer in California. Prolonged exposure to silica dust can lead to serious health risks, including lung disease and cancer. For more information, visit <u>www.P65Warnings.ca.gov</u>.

CAUTION: SILICA DUST HAZARD

Inhaling silica dust from cutting, grinding, or polishing Legacy Quartz can cause severe health issues such as lung injury, silicosis, and cancer. Follow these safety precautions:

- Protective Equipment: Always wear a respirator during fabrication.
- Wet Cutting: Use wet cutting methods to minimize dust.
- Safety Measures: Keep the area well-ventilated and free from bystanders, especially children. Following these guidelines helps protect against the dangers of silica dust exposure.

