

# MARBLE

## GEOLOGY DEFINITION:

Marble [mahr-buh l]

1. is a metamorphic rock that forms when limestone is subjected to the heat and pressure of metamorphism. It is composed primarily of the mineral calcite (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) and usually contains other minerals, such as clay minerals, micas, quartz, pyrite, iron oxides, and graphite.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- All marble will acid etch when exposed to acidic foods such as lemons, tomatoes & other foods & cleaners.
- Most marble has a moderate absorption rating & will stain when exposed to oil & highly-pigmented liquids.
- Most marble has a low abrasion resistance rating; it is likely to scratch.
- Most marble has naturally occurring cracks & fissures.
- Light-colored marble is difficult to maintain in flooring applications with heavier traffic & dark marble tends to show more scratching.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

**ETCHING & STAINING:** Etching is the surface erosion of natural stone. Marble, travertine, limestone and onyx will react to acidic foods (i.e. lemons or tomatoes) and acidic liquids (i.e. some cleaners or acid rain). This reaction will result in a dulling in surface sheen and change in texture, sometimes referred to as “acid etching”.

- *If etching is a concern, select a material with a Minimally Sensitive acid resistance rating, such as a quartzite.*
- *If etching is a concern, specify a light, honed surface which diminishes the visibility of acid etching.*

**STAINING:** Staining occurs when something is spilled or splashed onto the marble surface and a residual stain appears. Surface stains can often be removed by cleaning the surface immediately after the spill or splash has happened. If the stain persists, a poultice can be used to lift the stain from the stone.

- To reduce the appearance of staining, always wipe up spills immediately. Oil & highly-pigmented liquids can penetrate and stain the stone and may need poultice to remove the stain.

## APPLICATIONS

EXTERIOR CLADDING	EXTERIOR PAVERS	INTERIOR WALLS	INTERIOR FLOORS	KITCHEN COUNTER TOPS	OTHER COUNTER TOPS	WET AREAS	TRAFFIC
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	HEAVY TRAFFIC

# HELPFUL TIPS

- ♦ Always use a neutral detergent to clean marble.
- ♦ Always check the abrasion resistance rating. For marble with a lower abrasion resistance rating, use walk-off mats at entrances & expect the material to patina rapidly.
- ♦ If acid etching is an issue, choose a material with minimal acid sensitivity rating, such as quartzite or granite.
- ♦ Expect to see factory-repaired cracks & fissures. The quality of the repair is dependent upon the factory of origin, the fabricator of the stone & the installer.

## CARE & MAINTENANCE

*Please refer to general information  
about care and maintenance.*

## TYPICAL FINISHES

Polished, Honed, and for external use an abrasive finish such as bush hammered, rock faced or rough sawn, all of which are not normally specified in our typical projects.

## TYPICAL COLORS

Marble has two basic color palettes: White and creams with gold and grey veining and black and varies shades of grey with gold, white and lighter grey veining.

## TYPICAL MARBLE IN MARMI INVENTORY

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### WHITES:

BIANCO CARARRA	COLORADO LINCOLN
CALACATTA GOLD	IMPERIAL DANBY
CALACATTA MANHATTAN	MONTCLAIR
CALACATTA CALDIA	THASOSS
CALACATTA VIOLA	

### DARKS:

BARDIGLIO NUVOLATO	GRAFFITE
BLUE DE SAVOIE	GRECIO CARNICO
COTE D'AZUR	PORTORO EXTRA
FIOR DI BOSCO	