This section specifies Caesarstone quartz surfaces. Caesarstone® is a quartz-based fabricated stone which can be used for attractive and functional countertops, shower and tub surrounds, interior wall cladding, and other interior applications. Compared to natural stone surfacing, Caesarstone offers many attractive advantages including greater strength, wear resistance, ease of handling, and a unique aesthetic character.

Edit this Guide Specification according to project requirements. Samples, product literature, and design assistance are available by contacting Caesarstone at 877-978-2789 or by visiting www.caesarstoneus.com. Since fabrication and installation of Caesarstone are similar to that of natural stone, publications such as the Marble Institute of America's Dimension Stone Design Manual can also be consulted.

SECTION 06 61 19 – CAESARSTONE QUARTZ SURFACING FABRICATIONS
SECTION 12 36 61 – CAESARSTONEQUARTZ SURFACING COUNTERTOPS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Drawings and general provisions of the contract, including general and supplementary conditions and Division 1 Specification Sections, apply to this section.

1.01 SUMMARY

The following terminology is used to identify Caesarstone on drawings. In most instances, Caesarstone will be referred to as "Quartz surfacing."

A. Section Includes: [Caesarstone Quartz surfacing] for

1. Countertops
2. Interior [wainscots] [and] [wall cladding]
3. [Shower] [and] [bath] enclosures, Shower dams and pans
4. Window Sills
5. Vanity Tops
6. Table Tops
7. Bar tops
8. Seating

9. Cold Food Service Surfaces
10. Interior Stairtreads
11. Hot Food Service Surfaces
12. Reception Areas
13. Nurses' Stations
14. [_____]
15. Other interior applications as shown on drawings
16. Backsplashes and endsplashes
17. Door saddles

B. Related Sections

1. Division 1 – Administrative, Procedural, and Temporary Work Requirements
2. Division 1 – "LEED Requirements" and Additional Requirements
3. Division 5 – Section Metal Fabrication for Blocking
4. Division 6 – Section Rough Carpentry for Blocking
5. Division 6 – Quartz Surface Fabrications
6. Division 7 – Section Joint Sealers
7. Division 9 – Section Solid Surface Wall Cladding
8. Division 9 – Section Quartz Surface Wall Cladding
9. Division 10 – Quartz Surface Toilet Partitions
10. Division 15 – Plumbing Fixtures
11. Division 16 – Wiring Devices

Templates may be required for sink and plumbing trims, stove tops, hardware, etc.

Templates showing cutouts required for installation of items installed on or penetrating through the quartz surfacing shall be provided under Sections, where items are specified.

[Indicate if [sink] [and] [lavatory] cutouts are for top mount or under cabinet installation.]

C. ALTERNATES: Refer to Division 1 Section "Alternates" for description of work, in this section, affected by alternates.

1.02 REFERENCES

A. ASTM International

1. ASTM C97 – Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone

2. ASTM C170 – Compressive Strength of Dimension Stone
3. ASTM C880 – Flexural Strength of Dimension Stone
4. ASTM C1026 – Resistance of Ceramic Tile to Freeze-Thaw Cycling
5. ASTM C1243 – Relative Resistance to Deep Abrasive Wear of Unglazed Ceramic Tile by Rotating Disc
6. ASTM E84 – Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials
7. ASTM 372 – Linear Thermal Expansion

B. American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

1. ANSI Z124.6 – Stain Resistance
2. ANSI/N 42.14 – Radiation

C. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

1. NEMA LD 3-3.5 – Boiling Water Resistance
2. NEMA LD 3-3.6 – High Temperature Resistance

D. European Standards (EN)

1. EN 13501 – Fire Classification of Construction Products and Building Elements
2. EN 14617-1 – Determination of Apparent Density and Water Absorption
3. EN 14617-2 – Determination of Flexural Strength (Bending)
4. EN 14617-4 – Determination of Abrasion Resistance
5. EN 14617-5 – Determination of Freeze/Thaw Resistance
6. EN 14617-6 – Determination of Thermal Shock Resistance
7. EN 14617-9 – Determination of Impact Resistance
8. EN 14617-10 – Determination of Chemical Resistance
9. EN 14617-11 – Determination of Linear Thermal Expansion Coefficient
10. EN 14617-12 – Determination of Dimensional Stability
11. EN 14617-13 – Determination of Electrical Resistivity
12. EN 14617-15 – Determination of Compressive Strength
13. EN 12664 – Thermal Performance of Building Materials and Products

E. AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD (AS)

1. AS 1530.3:1999 – Methods for Fire Tests on Building Materials, Components and Structures

F. ISO (International Organization for Standardization)

1. ISO 9001 – Model for Quality Assurance in Production

2. ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Systems

G. Others

1. NSF – ANSI/NSF Standard 51
2. MEA – New York Materials and Equipment Acceptance
3. OHSAS – 18001 – Occupational Health & Safety System
4. GREENGUARD – Federal, State and Municipal, Children and Schools
5. HPD – Health Product Declaration
6. SCS – Certified Recycled Content
7. USGBC – United States Green Building Council
8. Nordic Swan – Nordic Ecolabel Building Materials Database
9. Mindful Materials – Building industry library of statements and certifications
10. European Food Contact Materials Legislation – Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 and Regulation (EC) No 2023/ 2006 on Good Manufacturing Practices
11. Kosher

1.03 SUBMITTALS

A. Product Data

1. Caesarstone Quartz Surfacing: Submit manufacturer's product data, [sample warranty form,] fabrication, and installation instructions.
2. Accessories: Submit manufacturer's product data and installation instructions.

B. Shop Drawings: Identify color[s] and finish[es], and show the following:

1. Field-verified dimensions
2. Quartz surfacing dimensions
3. Locations and dimensions of cutouts
4. Required locations of support and blocking members
5. Edge profiles
6. Installation details and methods

C. Samples

Coordinate Subparagraphs 1, 2, and 3 with the color specifications in Part 2 – Products.

1. Cut sample and seam together for representation of seaming techniques

2. Indicate full range of color and pattern variation
3. [Samples for Color Selection: Submit [two] [_____] sets of manufacturer's standard colors and finishes]
4. Samples for Color Approval: Submit [two] [_____] samples, 10 x 5 inches, (250 x 125 mm) of [each] color and finish selected
5. Stone Adhesive: Submit [two] [_____] samples of an adhesive joint for [each] color quartz surfacing selected. Show color match of adhesive

D. Fabricator Qualifications: Submit evidence of fabricator's qualifications

E. Closeout Submittals: Submit completed warranty form

F. LEED Submittals: Provide LEED submittals as required

G. Product Certificates: For each type of product, provide product certificates signed by product manufacturer.

H. Maintenance Data
1. Submit manufacturer's care and maintenance data (see page 18).
2. Include project closeout documents

1.04 QUALITY ASSURANCE

A. Applicable Standards
1. Standards from the following, as referenced herein:
a. American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
b. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
c. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
d. NSF International
e. International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

(See Reference Chart 2.02 QUARTZ SURFACING; D. Performance: Caesarstone Quartz Surfaces Technical Data)

2. Fire Test response characteristics
a. The following Class A (Class 1) surface burning characteristics provided are evidenced by testing identical products against ASTM E84 (UL 723), or other testing, and inspected by an agency acceptable to authorities with jurisdiction.
b. Flame Spread Index: 25 or less

c. Smoke Developed Index: 450 or less

(See Reference Chart 2.02 QUARTZ SURFACING; D. Performance: Caesarstone Quartz Surfaces Technical Data)

B. Allowable Tolerances

1. Variation in component size ± 1/8” (3 mm) over a ten (10) foot length
2. Location of openings: ± 1/8” (3 mm) from indicated location
3. Maximum 1/8” (3 mm) clearance between quartz surfaces and each wall

(See Reference Chart 2.02 QUARTZ SURFACING; D. Performance: Caesarstone Quartz Surfaces Technical Data)

1.05 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

A. Packaging, Shipping, Handling, and Unloading

1. Observe manufacturer’s recommendations and handle accordingly in order to prevent breakage or damage
2. Brace parts if necessary
3. Transport in the near-vertical position with finished face turned toward finished face
4. Do not allow finished surfaces to rub during shipping or handling

B. Storage and Protection

1. Store in racks in near-vertical position
2. Prevent warpage and breakage
3. Store inside away from direct exposure to sun
4. Store between 25ºF and 130ºF (-4ºC and 54ºC)
5. Store with finished face turned toward finished face

1.06 WARRANTY

A. Commercial: Provide manufacturer’s Limited Commercial 10 year Warranty against product defects when fabricated and installed by a Caesarstone certified fabricator.

B. Residential: Provide manufacturer’s Residential Lifetime Warranty against product defects when fabricated and installed by a Caesarstone certified fabricator.

PART 2 PRODUCT

2.01 MANUFACTURERS

A. Acceptable Manufacturer: Provide **Caesarstone Quartz Surfacing** distributed by **Caesarstone U.S.A., Inc.; 1401 W. Morehead, Charlotte, NC 28208, USA** 877-9-QUARTZ (978.2789); www.caesarstoneus.com

B. Qualifications: Manufacturer shall be ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified

C. Substitutions: **None permitted**

2.02 QUARTZ SURFACING

A. Composition: up to ~90 percent crushed quartz aggregate combined with polymer resins and pigments, and fabricated into slabs using a vacuum vibro-compaction process.

Due to its superior flexural strength compared to natural stone, Caesarstone can be fabricated in larger sized pieces. This may reduce the number of joints in an installation, which is more economical, and may produce a better-looking end result. It may also allow the use of thinner material, producing additional economies and weight reductions.
Thickness: 2 cm is the minimum recommended for countertops or for food service areas; use 3 cm material in food service areas or when greater strength or thicker edges are required.

B. Dimensions

1. Thickness: Nominal [13 mm]** [20 mm] [30 mm] [As shown on drawings.]

*** Available on selected colors only.*

2. Size: Slabs shall be [56.5 x 120 inches (1.44 x 3.05 m)] or [65 x 130 inches (1.65 x 3.3 m)] to minimize the number of joints used in installation.

C. Identification: Material shall be labeled with a Caesarstone batch number and imprinted with Caesarstone's identifying mark on the back.The back of each slab of Caesarstone is imprinted with a trademarked zigzag pattern to simplify jobsite identification.

D. Performance: Caesarstone Quartz Surfaces Technical Data

PROPERTY	TEST STANDARD	RESULTS
Water Absorption	ASTM C97 EN-14617-1	≤0.05%
Density	ASTM C97 EN 14617-1	≥2.1 gr/cm^3
Flexural Strength	ASTM C880/C880M-15 EN14617-2	> 35 MPa > 40 MPa
Dimensional Stability	EN 14617-12	Class A
Impact Resistance	EN 14617-9	> 4.9L (J)
Compressive Strength	ASTM C170 EN 14617-15	Dry: 219-299 MPa; Wet: 203-274 MPa 157-243 MPa
Abrasion	ASTM C1243-93 EN 14617-4	Volume of chord: V<130 mm 3 Chord length: <25 mm
Freeze-Thaw Resistance	ASTM C1026	No obvious damage after 20 freeze-thaw cycles
Stain Resistance	ANSI Z 124.6	Pass
Chemical Resistance	ANSI Z 124.6 EN 14617-10	Pass Class C$_4$
Linear Thermal Expansion	ASTM 372 EN 14617-11	<52 x 10 6 per C
Thermal Conductivity	EN 12664	<1 W/(m K
Thermal Shock	EN 14617-6	No visual defects after 20 cycles %
Boiling Water Resistance	ANSI NEMA LD3-3.5	No effect
High Temperature Resistance	ANSI NEMA LD3-2005	No effect
Surface Burning	ASTM E84	Class A - FSI: 0 25 ; SDI: 0 450
Fire Performance	AS 1530.3:1999	Ignitability Index (0-20): 6-8 Spread of Flame Index (0-10): 0-3 Heat Developed Index (0-10): 2-3 Smoke Developed Index (0-10): 6-7
Fire Classification	EN 13501-1	Wall cladding: B-s1-d0 Flooring and stairs: B-fl-s1

Certifications and Approvals			
ISO 14001*	Environmental Management Systems	Certied by IQNet	Certificate # 90560 / 89126
ISO 9001	Quality Systems – Model for Quality Assurance in Production, Installations, and Servicing	Certified by IQNet	Certificate # 81935 / 85131 / 85137
OHSAS 18001*	Health and Safety Systems	Certified by IQNet	Certificate # 90573 / 58744
Kosher		Certified by Rabbi Yisrael Rozen, the Zomet Institute	Certificate #58-003-523-6
GREENGUARD	Certified for “Indoor Air Quality”		Certificate # 5464-410 / 5464-420
~~Scientific Certifications Systems (SCS)~~	Recycled Content	Certified by SCS	See page 9
New York City Materials and Equipment Acceptance (MEA)		Approved by City of New York	MEA 202-08-M
ANSI/NSF Standard 51	Food Equipment Materials	Listed by NSF	Safe to use in food preparation areas
Health Product Declaration (HPD)	Disclosure of potential chemicals of concern		

E. Color and Finish

Caesarstone - Polished: 44 stocked colors
Caesarstone - Honed: 10 stocked colors
Caesarstone - Concrete: 7 stocked colors
Caesarstone - Rough Concrete: 6 stocked colors
Caesarstone Recycled: 11 stocked SCS certified recycled content colors

Edit the following according to color selection method and coordinate with submittal.

1. Provide color[s] and finish[es] selected by [architect] [_____] from Caesarstone’s stocked standards [_____], [_____],[_____] colors.]

2. Provide custom color and finish maufactured by Caesarstone to match [sample in [architect’s] [_____] office.][_____.]

All standard colors are available with polished finish. See color charts or samples for availability of honed finish.

3. Provide [_____]

4. Finish
    a. Polished surfaces shall have gloss greater than or equal to 35% at 50º.
    b. Honed surfaces shall have a matte finish.
    c. Concrete surfaces have a matte, slightly textured finish.

Retain the following if edges and corners are not detailed on drawings.

F. Exposed Edges [and Corners]

1. Countertops
    a. Edges: [Square] [Bullnose] [Beveled] [Waterfall] [_____] profile, [single][double] layer thick
    b. Outside Corners: [Square] [20 mm] [____ inch[es] (____ mm)] radius]
2. [Backsplash] [and] [Wall Cladding]
    a. Edges: [Square] [_____]
    b. Outside Corners: [Square butt joints] [_____]
3. Other application edge detail [_____]

2.03 ACCESSORIES

A. Mounting Adhesives

1. Provide structural-grade silicone, or epoxy adhesives, as recommended by manufacturer for application and per conditions of use.
2. Acceptable Silicone Manufacturers
    a. Dow Corning®
    b. GE Sealants and Adhesives
    c. [_____]
3. Acceptable Epoxy Manufacturers
    a. Akemi North America
    b. Bonstone Materials Corporation
    c. Tenax U.S.A.
    d. As specified
4. Provide spacers, if required, recommended by adhesive manufacturer

B. Stone Adhesive

1. Provide epoxy, or polyester adhesive, recommended by manufacturer for application and conditions of use.

2. Acceptable Manufacturers

a. Akemi North America

b. Bonstone Materials Corporation

c. Tenax U.S.A.

d. [_____]

3. Color: Adhesive that will be visible in finished work should be tinted to match quartz surfacing.

In most countertop and interior cladding applications, Caesarstone can be installed with structural adhesive. Where required, however, Caesarstone can also be set in grout or installed with ties, clips, or other types of hardware recommended for thin stone veneers. Edit below and coordinate Section as required.

C. [Fasteners] [Grout] [Hardware]:
[_____]

D. Joint Sealants

1. Clear silicone sealant, as recommended by manufacturer for application and per conditions of use.

2. Provide anti-bacterial type in [toilet] [and] [bath] rooms,] [food preparation areas,] [and] [_____].

3. Acceptable Manufacturers:

a. Dow Corning®

b. GE Sealants and Adhesives

c. [_____]

E. . Solvent: Product recommended by adhesive manufacturer to c an surface of quartz surfacing to assure adhesion of adhesives [and sealants].

F. Cleaning Agents: Non-abrasive, low pH cleansers.

2.04 FABRICATION

Include manufacturer authorization if manufacturer's warranty is specified.

A. Fabricator: Shop shall have five years' experience fabricating architectural stone and shall have water-cooled cutting tools. [Shop shall be certified in writing by Caesarstone US.]

B. Shop Assembly: Observe proper safety procedures and comply with Caesarstone's instruction.

C. Layout: Layout joints [as shown on drawings.] [To minimize joints and to avoid L-shaped pieces of quartz surfacing.]

D. Inspect Material

1. Inspect material for defects prior to fabrication.
2. Color Match
   a. Materials used throughout the project shall be from the same batch and bear labels with the same batch numbers.
   b. Visually inspect materials to be used for adjacent pieces, to ensure acceptable color match.
   c. Inspect in lighting conditions similar to those existing at the jobsite.
3. Variation in distribution of aggregates in Caesarstone surfacing that is within manufacturer's tolerance is not a defect.

E. Tools: Cut and polish with water-cooled power tools.

F. Cutouts
As with any type of stone, smaller radius increases potential for crack propagation at inside corners; under no circumstances should the radius be less than 3/8 inch.

1. Cutouts shall have [3/8 inches (10 mm)] [____ inches (_____ mm)] minimum, inside corner radius. Inside corners shall be reinforced in an acceptable manner to prevent cracking.
2. Polish edges where they will be exposed in finished work. Required edge radius is ⅜" or ¼" in high traffic areas.

The following is recommended in areas subject to heavy usage or where additional strength is justified:

3. [If the remaining material outside a cutout is less than [three inches (76 mm)] [____inches (_____ mm)] wide, reinforce area by laminating it with a strip of Caesarstone quartz surfacing.]

G. Laminations: Laminate layers of quartz surfacing as required to create built-up [edges,] [trim,] [and other areas requiring additional thickness].

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.01 ACCEPTABLE INSTALLER

Installer: Shop shall have five years' experience installing architectural stone and shall certified by Caesarstone.

3.02 EXAMINATION

A. Site Verification

1. Verify dimensions by field measurements prior to fabrication.
2. Verify that substrates supporting quartz surfaces are plumb, level, and flat to within 1/16 inch in ten feet (1.6 mm in 3000 mm), and that necessary supports and blocking are in place.
3. [Base Cabinets: Cabinet units shall be securely fixed to adjoining units and back wall.]

B. Materials Review

1. Inspect finished surfaces for damage.
2. Do not install until damaged materials have been repaired or replaced in an acceptable manner.

3.03 PREPARATION

A. General

1. Protect finished surfaces against scratches.
2. Apply masking where necessary.
3. Guard against grit, dust, and other potentially abrasive dirt or residue.

Retain the following if quartz surfacing is to be installed on existing countertops or walls.

B. Remodeling

1. Where necessary, remove existing [countertops] [and] [materials to be demolished] in accordance with [Section 02 42 00 – Removal and Salvage of Construction Materials] [_____].
2. Verify that remaining construction is of sufficient strength and tolerances to support quartz surfacing, and make necessary repairs.
3. [Disconnect utilities as specified in other sections.]

3.04 INSTALLATION

A. General

1. Install materials in accordance to manufacturer's recommendations.
2. Lift and place carefully to avoid breakage.

B. Preliminary Installation and Adjutment

1. Position materials to verify correct sizing and preparation.
2. Make necessary adjustments.
3. If cutting, grinding, or polishing is required at the jobsite, use water-cooled tools.
4. Protect jobsite and surfaces against dust and water.
5. Perform work away from installation site and always make sure to wear proper protection equipment.
6. Gypsum drywall back walls, [which are not [fire] [or] [acoustically] [rated], may be routed up to half the thickness of the drywall to allow the countertop to fit.

7. Allow gaps for expansion of no less than 1/16 inch (1.5 mm), per every five feet, when installed between walls or other fixed conditions.

8. [Drainage: [Adjacent to sinks] [and] [where drainage is required], shim countertops slightly to ensure positive drainage.]

C. Permanent Installation

1. After verifying fit:

   a. Remove quartz surfacing from position.

   b. Clean substrates of dust and contamination.

   c. Clean quartz surfacing back side and joints with solvent.

2. Apply sufficient quantity of mounting adhesive in accordance with adhesive manufacturer's recommendations to provide permanent, secure installation.

3. Spacing of mounting adhesive shall not exceed:

   a. Horizontal surfaces: [_____] inches ([_____] mm) on center

   b. Vertical surfaces: [_____] inches ([_____] mm) on center; provide temporary shims until adhesive cures

4. [Fasteners] [Grout] [Hardware]: [_____]

5. Install surfacing plumb, level, square, and flat to within 1/16 inch in ten feet (1.6 mm in 3000 mm).

D. Joints

1. Joints between adjacent pieces of quartz surfacing

   a. Joints shall be flush, tight fitting, level, and neat.

   b. Securely join with stone adhesive.

   c. Fill joints level with quartz surfacing.

   d. Clamp or brace quartz surfacing in position until adhesive sets.

2. Joints [between backsplashes and countertops] [and] [around [tub] [and] [shower] enclosures]: Seal joints with silicone sealant.

3.05 REPAIR

Repair or replace damaged materials in a satisfactory manner.

3.06 CLEANING

Remove masking and excess adhesives and sealants. Clean exposed surfaces.

3.07 PROTECTION

Protect surfacing from damage by other sections.

The drawings below do not adequately specify scope of work or locations of Caesarstone products. The following are for example only.

3.08 SCHEDULES

A. Toilet Rooms: Rooms 102 and 103

1. Countertops
    a. Caesarstone Raven, Color 4120
    b. 20 mm thick
    c. Waterfall front edge
2. Wainscot
    a. Caesarstone Haze, Color 2030
    b. 20 mm thick
    c. Square top edge and butt joint corner

B. Lobby: Room 101

1. Reception Desk
    a. Countertops
        i. Caesarstone Concrete, Color 2003, polished finish
        ii. 30 mm thick
        iii. Bullnosed exposed edges

b. Vertical Cladding

i. Caesarstone London Grey, Color 5000, honed finish

ii. 20 mm thick

iii. Quirk joints

2. Wall Behind Desk:

a. Clamshell, Color 4130

b. 20 mm thick

c. See drawings for edge trim and sandblasted graphics

END OF SECTION

caesarstone®

Countertop Care

Regular Cleaning Due to Caesarstone's high density and non-porous qualities, normal cleaning with a damp cloth and mild detergent is all you need to keep your Caesarstone surface looking great. Thoroughly rinse off the soap/mild detergent with hot water after use and dry with soft cloth or paper towel. To avoid dulling the surface shine, make sure to use a non-abrasive cleaner, and thoroughly rinse off with water after use. Those wishing to use environmentally safe cleaners may also use a combination of 50/50 vinegar & water, rinsing afterwards.

Stubborn Food Stains If needed, apply a generous amount of a **non-abrasive gel**, such as Soft Scrub Liquid Gel with Bleach, to a damp soft cloth or paper towel (not directly on to the countertop). Wipe the area using a circular motion, rinsing thoroughly with water and dry with soft cloth or paper towel. We recommend a thorough cleaning of your Caesarstone surface on a regular basis (because of the patina that will develop on the surface from day-to day use) to keep the surface as beautiful as the day it was installed.

Metal Marks/Rust **Special Use for spot cleaning ONLY** – Because of the abrasive nature of this cleaner, use Barkeeper's Friend only as follows: Place small amount on damp cloth. Using very light pressure, wipe the area where the marks are in a circular motion, rinsing thoroughly with warm water and dry with soft cloth or paper towel.

Dried Spills To remove adhered material such as food, gum or nail polish, first carefully scrape away the excess material with a plastic putty knife and then clean the surface with a damp cloth to remove any marks left behind and any residual dirt. Also, **do not use any abrasive pads** to clean tougher dirt as abrasives can damage the finish/sheen of your countertops.

Please note that HONED, CONCRETE and ROUGH finishes require more cleaning than our polished finishes. Since there is more exposed surface area with these finishes, metal marks, finger prints and other signs of daily living will show on honed material. Most of these marks can be easily removed with little effort and **non-abrasive** cleaning products such as Soft Scrub Liquid Gel.

Are there any chemicals or cleaners to avoid using? Prolonged exposure to cleaning solutions may cause permanent damage/discoloration to the countertop surface. Avoid exposing Caesarstone to chemicals, such as oven grill cleaners, floor strippers, paint removers/strippers, toilet bowl cleaners, oil soaps, tarnish removers, furniture cleaners, drain products, battery acid, dishwasher detergent, etc. Should your surface accidentally be exposed to any potentially damaging products, rinse immediately with water to neutralize the effect.

How does Caesarstone withstand heat? Caesarstone is structurally more heat resistant in comparison to other stones, including granite. However, any stone material can potentially be damaged by sudden and rapid temperature changes, especially near the edges. Therefore, using inexpensive and readily available trivets is always recommended, especially when using cooking units such as electric frying pans, crock pots, or toaster ovens. **Do not put hot cookware directly on the Caesarstone surface.**

How durable is Caesarstone? **Tough, yes – Indestructable, No** Caesarstone is resistant to cracks, scratches and stains. However, like most materials, excessive force and/or pressure from objects can damage the surface. As with any surface, Caesarstone can be permanently damaged by exposure to strong chemicals and solvents. Use of a minimum 1/8" pencil round radius on an edge detail profile can reduce the susceptibility for chipping on the edge. A greater radius (minimum 1/4") is recommended for high traffic areas , such as sink areas and commercial installations.

Caesarstone surfaces are scratch resistant; however, avoid using sharp objects such as sharp knives or screwdrivers directly on the surface. The use of a cutting board is always recommended.