



WHAT IS CULTURED MARBLE?

Cultured Marble is a precise blend of polyester resin, catalyst, fillers, and pigments that are thoroughly mixed and placed into open molds that have been coated with a clear gel coat. The gel coat is specially formulated to produce a tough, durable, transparent surface resistant to in-service wear. The manufacturer produces a unique range of colors, patterns, and veining.

The chemical reaction initiated by the catalyst causes the resin to polymerize and harden, bonding the entire matrix together in a hard, strong mass. After several hours of chemical curing, the parts are removed from the molds and trimmed, ground, polished and inspected. The parts are then ready for shipment and installation. Cultured Marble is a manufactured product, and like natural marble and granite varies in color. Other products such as carpet, wallpaper, and vinyl tile vary each time they are manufactured. Manufacturers refer to each "run" as a "dye lot."

THE ADVANTAGES OF CULTURED MARBLE

- Beauty – Elegant, luxurious appearance
- Durability – High strength, resistant to denting, chipping, abrasion and staining (with normal use and proper maintenance)
- Lower Cost – The casting process enables the manufacturer to produce cultured marble substantially lower than quarried marble.
- Seamless Construction – Vanity tops can be cast in one piece (up to 12 feet in length) with integral bowls and back splash, minimizing seams
- Water and Mildew Resistant – Silicone is used to seal the seams, and it is much less likely to leak or mildew than ceramic tile installations that use porous grout. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to inspect and maintain all silicone joints. As houses settle and move, there is the opportunity for the joints to separate. This situation should be corrected as soon as possible so that more serious problems do not develop

WHAT PRODUCTS CAN BE MADE OF CULTURED MARBLE?

This list is endless, but the majority of cultured marble we sell is used for the following purposes:

1. Vanity Tops and Integral Bowls
2. Bath Tubs and Jetted Tubs
3. Bar Tops and Integral Bowls
4. Tub Surrounds
5. Shower Bases, Wall Surrounds, and Ceilings
6. Bath Flooring

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF CULTURED MARBLE

Because of the hard gel-coat surface and non-porous surfaces, it resists staining. Care is very simple. Routine cleaning with a soft sponge or cloth and non-abrasive foam cleaner is all that is normally needed to provide many years of trouble-free service. Harsh abrasive cleaners are not recommended.