

# WHITE QUARTZITE

## THE FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

### WHAT IS TRUE QUARTZITE?

Quartzite is a non-foliated metamorphic rock composed almost entirely of quartz. It forms when a quartz-rich sandstone is altered by the heat, pressure, and chemical activity of metamorphism.

### QUARRYING AND PROCESSING OF STONE

Resin is pumped into quarried blocks for stabilization, then each processed slab is individually resined under pressure to fill voids. Resin is filling some voids between crystallized silica and acts a filler. Some resin is not UV stable and may darken or amber. This resin can trap water underneath and in deep holes not allowing water to escape.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

When fabricating these stones: water, heat and friction occur during cutting, drilling and polishing. This water is pushed into the stone and settles in dry areas away from edges. With time and temperature changes the water and impurities go to a drier area which is now the edges that have air flow or any open cut or drilled area. You may also see discoloration in the center where water never escaped.

### WHERE HAVE WE SEEN THIS?

We have seen this occur with many kitchens, baths, fireplaces across the country and the issue is increasing monthly. We have examined quartzite that is sealed, unsealed, sealed with Stain-Proof® products and sealed with other leading brands as well. It occurs pre-installation, post install and in some cases months later.

### IS THERE A SOLUTION?

Does it go away on its own with time? In some small cases yes but not usually. Poultices have had little effect, heat can sometimes improve but not always. Some white quartzite installations have been replaced with the same stone only to have the same problems reappear.

A few restoration teams have removed moisture with heat guns and irons. A few fabricators have pre-sealed entire slabs and wait a few weeks before cutting. Some fabricators are fully drying stone and using a moisture meter before installation.

This issue is still being monitored nationwide, for more information on Natural Quartzite go to:

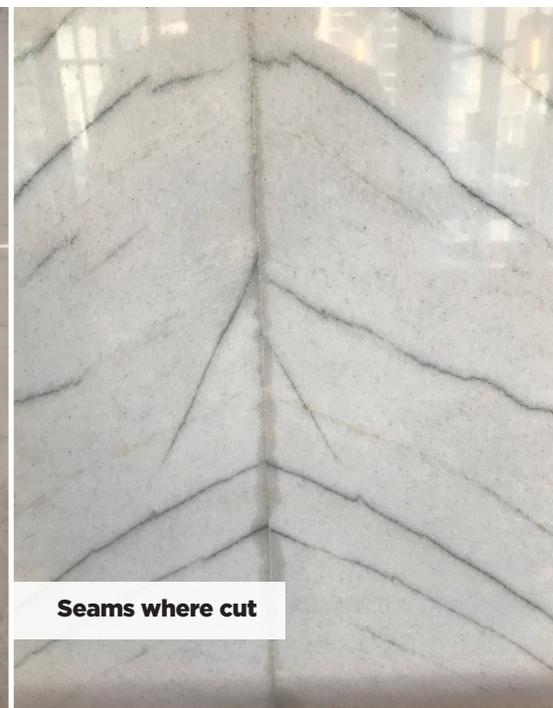
<https://usenaturalstone.org/properties-of-quartzite/>



Sink cuts & polish



Edges



Seams where cut



**Edge cut & polish**



**Drill Holes**



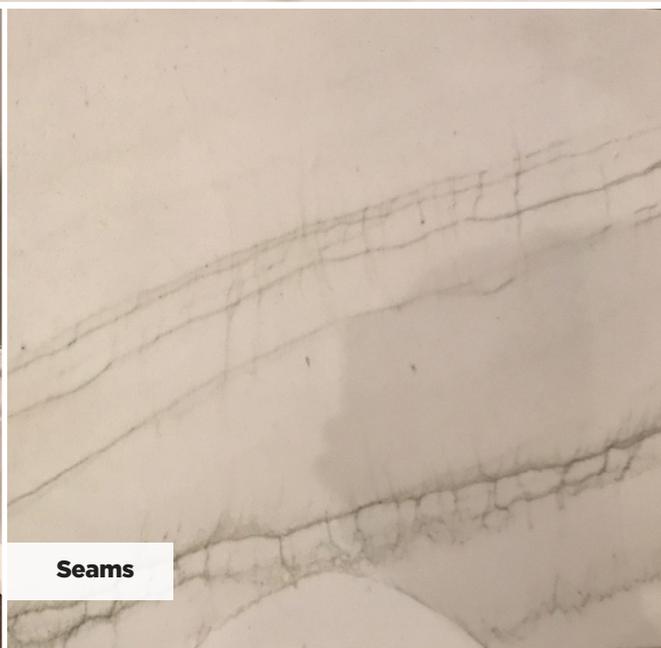
**Top of vanity**



**Edge of cuts**



**Edge of cuts**



**Seams**