

MARLAM INDUSTRIES

Cast Cultured Marble Disclosure

The manufacturing process for cultured marble is an imperfect science. As such, deviations and variations in matrix density, color shades, clarity and veining may exist in cultured marble used in a home. Additionally, when selecting or matching colors, lighting and reflection may affect color, as well as different companion surfaces such as porcelain, ceramic, acrylic, fiberglass and enameled surfaces. Samples for cultured marble product viewed in the design center are meant to be used as a guide only.

Manufacturing Information

There are several inherent characteristics of cast cultured marble that cannot be perfectly controlled in the manufacturing process. The properties of cast cultured marble that a homebuyer should consider when choosing to install cultured marble in a home are listed in the following:

Yellowing – All synthetic marble will eventually discolor. The yellowing of cultured marble is an inherent property of the material that is part of its normal aging process and is caused by the release of residual styrene in the raw material mixture. At this point in time, manufacturers do not have a practical method to eliminate this characteristic of cultured marble.

Specks or Impurities – Specks or impurities are considered normal. Tiny pieces of undesired material can make it through filtering processes for the raw materials used in a cultured marble mixture.

Irregular Graining or Color - Differences in grain and color can occur because of variations in the mixture of the raw materials and/or pigments used to manufacture cast cultured marble.

Hairline Scratches – Manufacturers consider hairline scratches to be normal and that customer maintenance is recommended to buff these scratches out as necessary.

Gel Coat – The outermost layer of cast cultured marble is prone to certain inconsistencies:

- A) Orange peel effect, caused by temperature or drying.
- B) Ripple Effect, caused by shrinkage.
- C) Stress marks, also caused by shrinkage.
- D) Dimples, caused by impurities in the mixture.

Thermal Shock – Rapid changes of temperature from 50°F to 70°F may cause cracking.

Maintenance and Care

Cast cultured marble has some important maintenance and care requirements to consider. The following list contains some important homeowner responsibilities for maintaining the appearance of cultured marble:

1. Add caulking as necessary from shrinkage or from settling of a residence. Use latex caulking where cultured marble meets walls and silicone caulking where cultured marble meets cultured marble (joints).

2. Apply Gel Gloss (available at local hardware stores) or paste wax by hand with damp soft cloth as directed by the manufacturer of the product to prevent hard water build-up, reduce scratching and to maintain luster. It allows quick and complete water runoff.
3. Avoid gritty abrasive cleaners (any dry powders), bleaches or acetone based nail polish. Use only mild liquid cleansers.
4. Hand wipe or buff any scratches incurred during normal use with similar paste wax using a feathering method.
5. Items NOT to be used or placed on cultured marble: A) Razor blades to remove foreign material, B) Cigarettes placed on any edges or surface, C) Any acetone based cleaners, D) Old style Polaroid negatives, including curing lotion.

Marlam Industries follows all the AZ Registrar of Contractors guidelines and regulations for marble countertops: Any sort of Cultured Marble top with scratches, chips, and dings are covered up to 10 days after escrow. Marble Tubs, Tub Decks, Shower Panels, and Floors have a workmanship and installation warranty of 2 years after installation.

I, _____, acknowledge that I have received and read the above disclosure and am aware of the special considerations and responsibilities associated with installing cultured marble in my home.

Signature

Date