



Top Five Countertops Sold in Past 5 years on North Shore

Type of Counter	Price Range	Appearance	Main Benefit	Maintenance	Draw back	Undermount sink
Laminate (plastic wrapped over fibreboard)	Least expensive	Plastic, all colours, granite look alike, textures	Price, Variety of colours & textures	Stainable, Water is its enemy	Scratches easily, looks old quickly,	No, except with A corian ring, But they cost too much
Granite (Rock that comes out of mountain in slab form)	Mid-least expensive of solid surface countertops	Busy, Lots of Colours usually medium to dark,	Price, can look like the bottom of riverbed, Wow appeal	Needs to be sealed twice/year	Porous, Stainable, can chip out, price higher than laminate	Yes
Marble (Rock that comes out of mountain in slab form)	Mid-least expensive of solid surface countertops	Few colours, light with veining	Price, looks great with dark cabinetry in bathrooms	Needs to be sealed twice/year	Porous and softer than granite, not suitable for kitchens	Yes
Quartz (Rock that comes out in granola form)	Mid-High Depending on material	Smooth, solid colours, and speckled Patterns	Non porous, modern look, Food Safe, twice the hardness of Granite	None	None-other than price and you won't have the pattern of a riverbed	Yes
Corian (Acrylic Composite)	Mid-High	Smooth, solid colours, and speckled patterns	Non Porous, Modern look, Food Safe Seamless	None	Doesn't look like stone, price is high	Yes

Laminate is a good old standby when there just isn't the budget for anything else. Great for basement suites and rental properties, if it gets damaged after a few years, replace it. With so many colours and textures to select from, it makes for a suitable alternative. Stay away from the solid colours or you'll be constantly trying to wipe away watermarks.

By far, **granite** has outsold every other countertop combined. Falling into the least expensive countertops in the solid surface category, it gives you affordability as well as the undermount sink. Sealing the granite is simple and takes little time and effort. It is as real as you can get and is always accompanied with the "wow" effect.

Being softer and more porous than granite, **marble** is a no go for the kitchen. It is lighter in colour and therefore will easily show stains from red wine and coffee. We have sold many marble countertops for the bathroom especially with a dark vanity. It also makes great matching seats and thresholds for the shower.

Quartz is often selected when we have a kitchen that requires a solid white or cream counter over dark cabinetry or when a minimalist modern look is being achieved. The granules quartz are ground up and poured with an epoxy to create an exact blend every time. We would recommend quartz to restaurants and hospitals as it is an authorized non porous surface which inhibits bacteria growth.

Made of acrylic, **Corian** solid surfacing does have all the same benefits as quartz. The colours and applications of this product are endless. Seams can be eliminated and because it has the colour all the way through, it is repairable. It is also warm to the touch and glass doesn't break so easily when you drop it as it does on stone surfaces.