

## How to Tell the Difference Between Damage and Imperfections in Natural Stone

**Q.** I am purchasing natural stone countertops, and I am concerned that I might not recognize the difference between naturally-occurring imperfections and unnatural damage. Can you provide some resources to help me make a good decision on my purchase? I'm willing to go with a stone that has less personality, if it also has less worries.

**A.** Thanks for contacting us. We can recommend two articles that will educate you and help you make an informed decision. The first is [Crack or Fissure: What's the Difference?](#) and the second is *Perfectly Imperfect: Understanding and Embracing the Unique Characteristics of Natural Stone* on page 22 of the Winter 2019/20 Edition of [SurpHace BUZZ](#) magazine. Make sure if you decide to purchase a slab that you feel may be potentially problematic that you and your fabricator have a clear understanding of expectations in writing.

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