

# *Creative Cabinets By Design*

## **Bathroom Countertop Options**

While it is tempting to choose a countertop based on looks alone, a materials durability, maintenance and cost are also important factors to consider when making a selection for your new bathroom. Creative Cabinets By Design offers thousands of countertop colors and options to fit your specific taste and needs.

### **Choosing The Right Vanity Top**

You need to assess the way you live before you settle on a countertop choice. For instance, if you have color your hair a light colored granite top or cultured marble top may not be the best choice for your lifestyle. However, with the range of choices today, it is likely you can still achieve your look with one of the many other materials available.

### **Countertop Choices**

**Natural Stone** refers to slabs or tiles of granite, marble, or other stones. These surfaces are available in a wide variety of beautiful colors and have natural textures with glossy finishes. Granite is water, heat and scratch resistant, however, must be sealed to avoid staining. Natural stone tops are made to accept a separate under mount sink bowl made of porcelain, steel, glass or cast iron. These bowls are typically fastened to the vanity top by the fabricator. Also, these tops are offered with or without a separate backsplash.

Other natural stone materials, like slate and soapstone, are softer than granite and require delicate use and greater care. All stone countertops must be sealed periodically.

**Engineered Stone** is typically made of quartz and silica that are bonded together under high temperature and pressure. It is available in an extensive array of granite, marble and other stone looks, colors and glossy finishes. Unlike natural stone, engineered does not require sealing, is more durable, less susceptible to cracking, and resists staining, mildew and bacteria. Many varieties of engineered stone have anti-bacterial treatments built right into the surface. Identical to natural stone, engineered tops are also made to accept a separate under mount sink bowl made of porcelain, steel, glass, or cast iron. These bowls are typically fastened to the vanity top by the fabricator. Again, like natural stone, these tops are also offered with or without a separate backsplash.

**Solid Surface** vanity tops made from composite resins are referred to as Solid Surface Vanity Tops. Because the tops are manufactured, they are available in a huge variety of colors and patterns with a matte finish. The surface is manufactured to be durable, stain-resistant, easy to clean, and, in some cases, repairable. Maintaining a solid surface is easy, stains and scratches can easily be sanded out and there is no sealing that needs to happen. These tops are usually made with a seamless bowl of neutral color or a color-matched bowl. However, solid surface tops can also have other types of bowls attached to them. These tops can be offered with or without a backsplash, either loose or molded as one piece for the easiest cleaning.

**Cultured Marble** over the years has become the most common vanity top material. It is a synthetic product made by casing polymers into a solid countertop form. It has gained its popularity because most tops are premade and available in a range of colors, patterns and sizes. Many companies are now offering colors that look like a solid surface material with either a glossy or matte finish. These tops frequently have a molded 1-piece sink and backsplash and make easy for cleaning.