



A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO CHOOSING THE *Perfect Stone*

Stone has captivated homeowners for centuries. It is the gold standard in home design even up to today. That's because it is permanent, naturally beautiful, and ultimately luxurious. Natural stone continues to be the consequential home upgrade. Whether updating a kitchen, refreshing a bathroom, or transforming the backyard, we hope you find this guide helpful in selecting the ideal stone, confirming your creative style, and finding inspiration in crafting your dream home.

Elevate your home with expert tips, stunning ideas, and practical advice brought to you exclusively by Zion Stone Gallery where you find luxury in every slab



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Why Stone Is the Ultimate Home Upgrade

Stone adds beauty, value, and permanence. Whether you're renovating one room or updating the entire premises, natural stone transforms houses into homes of timeless artistry.



The Top 5 Benefits of Natural Stone

- 1 **Durability:** Stone like granite and quartzite resist the daily wear and tear of scratches, heat, and moisture.
- 2 **Beauty & Elegant Uniqueness:** Each slab, especially marble and travertine, is distinctive and offers endless varieties in color, texture, and pattern.
- 3 **Value:** Stone surfaces increase property value and create lasting market value.
- 4 **Low-Allergen:** Stone—especially when sealed—does not harbor dust mites or mold.
- 5 **Timeless Appeal:** Stone never goes out of style and transcends fads in trends and decor.

Talk to us today about better choices

Why Natural Stone Is Preferred over Fabricated Substitutions & Imitations

Natural stone offers one-of-a-kind, non-replicated uniqueness. Its timeless reputation speaks of elegance across centuries, continents, and cultures. Nothing, save gold, is deemed more precious and valued for both interior and exterior home design. It has unprecedented durability. And in today’s society it reflects a civic eco-consciousness that manmade substitutions just cannot compete with.

Comparison Grid: Stone vs. Manufactured Surfaces

Feature	Natural Stone	Manufactured Surface
Appearance	Unique, no two slabs are alike. Unreplicated beauty.	Uniform patterns that repeat. Commonality in tract homes.
Durability	Highly durability. Weather resistant.	Easily scratched. Fades, low wear resistance.
Maintenance	When sealed, easy to clean.	Lower maintenance at first, then needs replacemen.
Heat Resistance	Excellent.	Good for certain composites but not all.
Cost	Generally high.	Often low without long-life value.
Eco-Impact	Minimal carbon foot-printing and no chemical pollution.	High carbon footprint. Contains synthetics and chemicals and gives off VOC.
Longevity	Decades to centuries.	May chip, fade, or degrade faster.
Resale Value	High.	Moderate to insignificant.

How to Choose the Right Stone for Every Living Space



KITCHENS

TOP CHOICES:

- **Granite:** A perennial favorite for kitchen counters because of its toughness, natural beauty, and heat resistance. Minimal maintenance is needed when sealed properly.
- **Quartzite:** A shimmering, high-end option that's super strong and both stain and heat-resistant.
- **Marble:** Is ideal for confection bakers and entertainers. It adds subtle luxury but is softer, so consider it for low-traffic zones and islands.
- **Porcelain Slabs:** Sleek, modern, and highly resistant to moisture

How to Choose the Right Stone for Every Living Space



BATHROOMS

TOP CHOICES:

- **Marble:** Crisp veining and luxurious looks make it perfect for vanities, tub surrounds, and shower walls.
- **Quartzite:** Quartzite is an excellent, low-maintenance choice for bathrooms where high humidity resistance is preferred.
- **Sintered Stone:** Non-porous, low-maintenance, and a superior performer in moist environments.
- **Onyx:** Strikingly translucent and excellent for accent walls and features.

How to Choose the Right Stone for Every Living Space



OUTDOOR BARBECUES, FIREPLACES, & WATER FEATURES

TOP CHOICES:

- **Basalt, Travertine & Slate:** Non-slip texture, cooling properties, and harmonious earth tones make these great for patios, pool decks, and outdoor kitchens.
- **Sandstone:** Naturally textured, warm, and sturdy, it is ideal for fireplaces and fire pits that gently fold into surrounding natural environments and landscaping.
- **Granite, Marble, & Natural Boulders:** For fountains and water features, granite resists erosion and maintains integrity against the elements, while marble bespeaks timeless elegance. For certain applications, add natural rock boulders.

Design tip: Combine travertine with natural gravel or decorative pebbles for modern landscaping. Learn more at [Zions Stone Gallery](#).

Before and After Inspirations

KITCHEN TRANSFORMATION

BEFORE



An outdated, laminated kitchen is about to become an elegant chef's zone with shimmering bold veined quartzite and a natural stone backsplash.

AFTER



Story: "The Smiths turned their crowded kitchen into a sleek, functional space perfect for hosting dinner parties—all thanks to Zion Stone."

OUTDOOR OASIS

BEFORE



Yesteryear's broken concrete gives way to modern travertine tiles and an above ground fire feature.

AFTER



Story: "The Johnsons created an outdoor paradise where their family now gathers for unforgettable summer evenings."

BATHROOM BLISS

BEFORE



Go from outdated boring to magazine-worthy with highly-textured stone slabs and featured lighting.

AFTER



Story: "Zion Stone helped the Masons achieve their dream of a calming oasis within their home."

Inspirations

KITCHENS THAT INSPIRE



Have a flare for minimalism? Do something with white quartzite and upscale appliances!



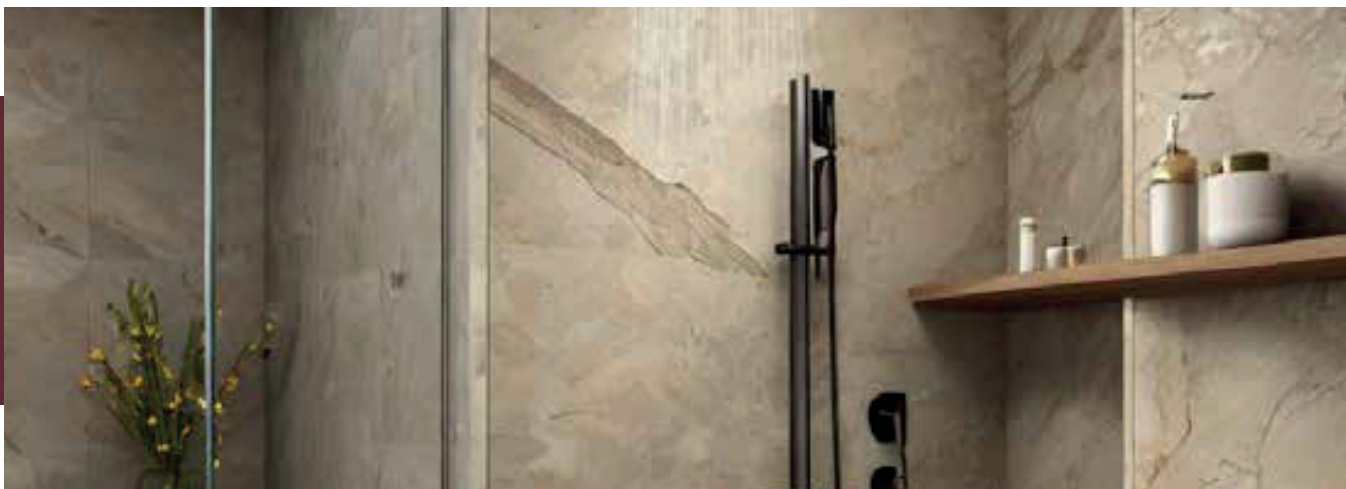
For farmhouse rustic, choose granite as a nice complement to wood.

Inspirations

BATHROOMS THAT INSPIRE



Use marble with rounded edged mirror settings and a free-standing tub.



Sintered stone shows spectacular. Add accent shelving.

Inspirations

OUTDOOR



Travertine pool decking is gripping for both eyes and feet!



Dark slate with a little brickwork makes this outdoor kitchen pop!

There's a Stone for Every Stylistic Taste



MODERN STYLE

RECOMMENDED STONES

- **Quartzite:** Offers sleek and smooth surfaces, perfect for countertops and backsplash features.
- **Porcelain Slabs:** Lightweight and ideal for creating seamless, contemporary designs with minimal grout lines.

TIPS

- Use polished quartzite in light tones (like white or gray) for a clean, open look that enhances natural lighting.
- Pair quartzite countertops with stainless steel or black matte hardware for a sharp, modern edge.
- Incorporate large-format porcelain slabs for walls and flooring to maintain a minimalist aesthetic.

There's a Stone for Every Stylistic Taste



RUSTIC STYLE

RECOMMENDED STONES

- **Sandstone:** Known for its warm, earthy tones and natural textures, perfect for creating cozy interiors.
- **Travertine:** Complements rustic designs with its aged, natural aesthetic.
- **Slate:** Adds rugged charm and durability, ideal for rustic fireplaces or flooring.

TIPS

- Combine sandstone flooring with woven natural fiber rugs and wooden beams for a grounded, rustic look.
- Use tumbled travertine tiles for walls or outdoor patios to achieve a textured, lived-in feel.
- Incorporate slate tiles in darker shades for fireplaces, entryways, or mudrooms to add contrast and depth.

There's a Stone for Every Stylistic Taste



CLASSICAL ELEGANCE STYLE

RECOMMENDED STONES

- **Marble:** Offers classic sophistication with soft veining and a polished surface, ideal for bathrooms and entryways.
- **Granite:** Adds durability and elegance to kitchens, staircases, and tabletops.
- **Onyx:** A luxurious choice for accent walls and backlit features, adding a striking focal point.

TIPS

- Pair polished marble floors with gold or brass fixtures to enhance their opulent appeal.
- Use granite countertops in rich, warm tones for kitchens to create a welcoming yet elegant atmosphere.
- Consider an onyx feature wall with backlighting for dramatic, upscale interiors.

There's a Stone for Every Stylistic Taste



BOLD & ECLECTIC STYLE

RECOMMENDED STONES

- **Blue Bahia Granite:** Vibrant blue tones with intricate veining, perfect for unique countertops or tabletops.
- **Amazonite Quartzite:** Bold green and turquoise hues to create eye-catching feature walls or accents.
- **Mosaic Tiles:** Combine different colors and patterns to craft artistic backsplashes or flooring.

TIPS

- Mix textures and colors, combining polished surfaces with textured finishes to add depth and character.
- Use Blue Bahia Granite for kitchen islands or bathroom vanities to make a bold statement.
- Incorporate mosaic tiles in geometric or artistic patterns for added visual intrigue in entryways or powder rooms.

Design Survey

Making choices can be daunting. Take the following short 1-minute survey for insights into your design preferences. Or come by our convenient location for personalized help.

Circle the answers that best describe how you feel most of the time about each of the following:

1 I AM MOSTLY DRAWN TOWARD

- a. Sleek, minimal lines
- b. Warm, cozy textures
- c. Bright colors and bold patterns
- d. Familiar and timeless looks

2 WHICH HOME FEATURE IS MOST ALLURING?

- a. A statement kitchen with an eye-catching island or other centerpiece
- b. A warm natural stone fireplace
- c. A custom stone wall in the formal dining area that sparks conversations
- d. A grand entryway with elegant stone flooring

3 WHEN I ENTERTAIN, I DREAM OF

- a. Simplified dinner parties
- b. Outdoor gatherings by the fire
- c. Relaxed casual meals
- d. Family movie nights

4 IF I COULD TRAVEL TO LOOK FOR DESIGN IDEAS, I WOULD GO TO

- a. A modern art museum like in New York or Tokyo
- b. An outdoor retreat in Wyoming or the Alps
- c. A vibrant marketplace in Algiers or Marrakech
- d. A historic villa in Florence, Italy

5 I PREFER STONE WITH

- a. Subtle yet consistent color tones
- b. Different kinds of textures within the same range of colors
- c. Some pocks and character marks
- d. Bold, dramatic veining

6 MY BATHROOM ENVY IS

- a. A spa retreat with calm colors and modern fixtures
- b. A cozy den with wooden features, natural plants, and soft light
- c. Unique mosaics with uncharacteristic fixtures
- d. Luxurious marble with gold accents

7 MY FAVORITE COLOR PALETTE IS

- a. Neutral tones leaning toward grays, white, and beige
- b. Warm terracotta shades, sand, and olive green
- c. Vibrant hues like magenta, mustard yellow, and turquoise
- d. Richer dark colors like navy, emerald, and purple

8 HOW DO YOU PREFER TO SPEND TIME OUTDOORS AROUND HOME?

- a. Hosting intimate dinner parties on a posh patio
- b. Relaxing with family and friends in a natural environment
- c. Trapsing around garden areas and quirky yard sculptures
- d. Entertaining guests around an elegant firepit and plush seating

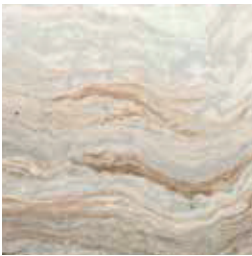
9 WHAT SHOULD YOUR HOME SAY MOST?

- a. "I'm stylish and modern."
- b. "Comfort and nature should be cherished."
- c. "I like boldness and creativity."
- d. "Elegance is timeless."

Count up the number of times you picked each lettered choice. If you answered mostly

- A:** You tend to be a "Modern Minimalist"—choose sleek granites or smooth quartzites.
- B:** You lean toward a "Rustic Charmer"—opt for slates, sandstones, or textured granites.
- C:** You're about "Eclectic Mediterranean"—go for stones with color or patterns like travertine, marble, or quartzite.
- D:** You get "Traditional Classicalism"—gravitate toward marbles, honed limestones, or understated granites.

Result: Modern Minimalist & Rustic Charmer



MODERN MINIMALIST

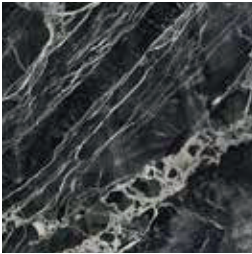
- **You love clean lines and sleek finishes.**
- **Recommended Stones:** Quartzite, polished granite, and porcelain slabs.
- **Design Tip:** Use light-colored stones to create bright, open spaces.



RUSTIC CHARMER

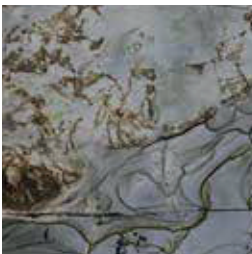
- **You prefer a warm, natural vibe that feels grounded and inviting.**
- **Recommended Stones:** Travertine, sandstone, and honed slate.
- **Design Tip:** Pair textured stones with natural wood for a cozy aesthetic.

Result: Eclectic Mediterranean & Traditional Classicist



ECLECTIC MEDITERRANEAN

- **You're drawn to classic designs with luxurious details.**
- **Recommended Stones:** Marble, onyx, and richly veined granite.
- **Design Tip:** Use statement stones to create focal points like vanities or entryways



TRADITIONAL CLASSICIST

- **You thrive on creativity and unique features that stand out.**
- **Recommended Stones:** Exotic quartzite, colorful onyx, and mosaic tiles.
- **Design Tip:** Mix patterns and textures for a playful, artistic space.

Let Your Favorite Season Dominate

Take a “seasonal approach” to your styling and décor. But be totally confident that you will remain happy living with one seasonal theme year ‘round. If you’re a person who happily leaves Christmas decorations up all year, or forever choose ‘daisy décor,” this might be for you. But if you’re the kind of person who rearranges the furniture every time you vacuum, steer clear of this choice. After all, “engraved in stone” is permanent for a reason!

SEASONAL IDEAS AND TRENDS INCLUDE



SPRING: Freshen up patios with travertine and potted plants.



SUMMER: Use porcelain for poolside spaces.

Use a Season to Dominate

Take a “seasonal approach” to your styling and décor. But be totally confident that you will remain happy living with one seasonal theme year ‘round. If you’re a person who happily leaves Christmas decorations up all year, or forever choose ‘daisy décor,” this might be for you. But if you’re the kind of person who rearranges the furniture every time you vacuum, steer clear of this choice. After all, “engraved in stone” is permanent for a reason!

SEASONAL IDEAS AND TRENDS INCLUDE

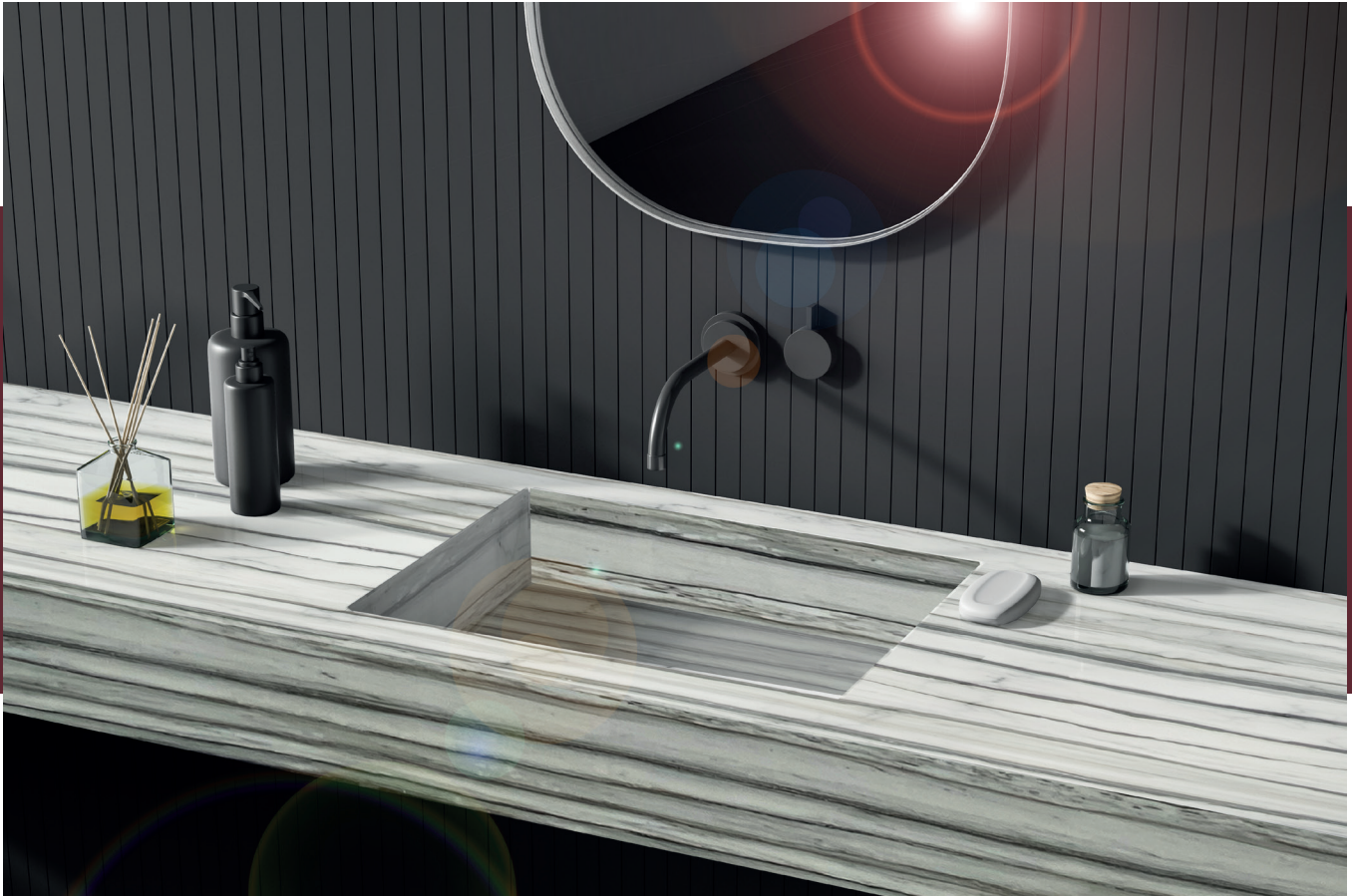


AUTUMN: Warm up with sandstone fireplaces.



WINTER: Create cozy interiors with marble and quartzite.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Accent Walls & Back Splashes



Transform kitchens, bathrooms, or living rooms with a striking stone accent wall or backsplash. Use different tones, sizes, or patterns of stone veneer to create visual depth and tailor the look to your style.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Accent Mix Textures & Finishes



Combine polished and matte stones or mix rough-edged pieces with sleek tiles for a layered, designer-inspired statement. Don't be afraid to use contrasting grout for added drama.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Painted Designs & Faux Finishes



For a fresh twist, consider painting natural stones with subtle motifs, geometric patterns, or color washing for a modern update. You might use sponges and layered painting techniques to mimic different stone types and to create customized looks.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Stone Edging and Borders



Use slim stone tiles or pebbles to edge mirrors, vanities, fireplace surrounds, or even wall art. This gives spaces a more defined appearance.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Gardens and Features



Arrange leftover or remnant stones into garden paths, define flower beds, or cluster around water features for a peaceful, curated looks. Mix stone shapes and sizes for a more organic and inviting feel.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Custom Furniture & Décor



Repurpose smaller slabs for serving trays, tabletops, or shelving. Add felt or cork pads on the underside to protect furniture. Stone pieces might also be stacked or glued (with strong adhesives) into bookends, candle holders, and outdoor garden stools.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Stone Veneer



Use stone veneer to panel exterior siding, columns, or fireplace facings. Some veneers are designed for DIY homeowner installation and limited expense can yield dramatic before-and-after results without the cost of a professional mason.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Contrasting Grout



Experiment with colored grout for a contemporary twist. Perhaps charcoal grout with white stones for a stark contrast or sand grout with dark slate for subtlety.

DIY Stone Styling Tips: Lighting Accents



Highlight stone surfaces using under-cabinet lighting, backlighting, LED strips, or spotlights. Lighting enhancements bring out the natural veining and adds warmth and sophistication to every surface or room.

Luxury Home Planner

Here's a consummate Luxury Home Project Planner. It has 59 line-items covering all sorts of rooms and home features. Click [here](#) [Insert link] to find our convenient online version. You can modify it to add or delete areas and categories as you wish. We list everything from a formal porte cochere to spas and accent walls. There are even built-in formulas to calculate costs. Add columns for "duration," "time estimates," or set "end dates" for projects. We hope this helps.

								
Luxury Home Project Planner								
Project	Primary Use	Secondary Use	Features	Style	Colors	Investment	Designer	Vendor(s)
Porte cochere								
Entry								
Kitchen								
Breakfast area								
Pantry								
Master suite								
Master bathroom								
Bathroom 1								

Sample of the Luxury Home Planner



Click Here to Download
the Luxury Home Planner

Make It Easier with Zion Stone Gallery

Choosing the right stone is easy and enjoyable when you contact or visit Zion Stone Gallery. We are Southern Utah's premier stone showroom & warehouse. We offer:

- **Unparalleled overview and experiential help for homeowners.** When facing the vastness and dogged details of your home projects, don't go it alone. We will help you.
- **Design and cost guidance.** We'll help you find and select stellar choices while strictly adhering to your budgetary needs.
- **Direct importation of thousands of over-sized natural stone slabs from around the world:** From as far away as Australia, Italy, and Brazil we bring the finest stone slabs directly to your doorstep.
- **A massive 25,000 square foot, climate-controlled warehouse** where you shop in comfort year 'round.
- **Vast inventory:** No one in the region has a bigger display of granite, marble, quartzite, and more.
- **Full accommodations for designers, architects, and builders** who choose to tactilely impress clients by bringing them in for personalized service and selection.
- **Expert Guidance:** In-depth consulting with experienced specialists who appreciate the variables and competitive nature of Southern Utah.
- **Unwavering support:** We will help you find the best and most reliable installers and project partners.
- **Lifting equipment:** Rent one of our Quattrolifts. They are specifically designed to easily lift, move, and position stone slabs for expert installation.

Visit Zion Stone Gallery and touch, see, and compare exceptional stone selections. Let our design team help you create the home you dream of.

