

## CHARACTERISTICS OF NATURAL STONE | ASSET OR DEFECT?

Customers have long admired the unique beauty of natural stone. Every inch of a natural stone product is made unique by color variation, veining, pitting and marbling that are a result of the formation of stone and an inherent part of its beauty. To those unfamiliar with natural stone, these traits can be confused with cracks or other defects but are in fact the very features that make customers choose natural stone over tile.

### VEINING

Although veining can be confused with cracking, it is simply a mineral deposit in the stone, and will feel smooth under your hand as opposed to 'catching' like a crack. Veining can vary from large lines of color to thin pencil lines or hairlines. Realstone White Birch exhibits a variety of veining including hairlines.



### PITTING

Pitting is characterized by small holes throughout the surface of the stone. Depending on the size some of the pits may be filled in a neutral colored epoxy. This is a sought after trait most common in Travertine. Realstone Latte is a Travertine with some filled and non filled pitting.



### COLOR VARIATION

Color variation is part of the natural beauty of stone. To ensure satisfaction, customers should examine full size samples in person and dry-lay products prior to installation for an optimum color blend.



Natural stone is a beautiful and enduring product that has been used for hundreds of years as a structural and decorative architectural component. Although the unique traits of natural stone are highly prized, to ensure satisfaction it is important to educate those unfamiliar. Advise consumers that variation is to be expected in natural stone, and characteristics such as veining, color variation or pitting are in fact sought after assets, not defects.