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A Guide to Natural Stone Tiles by MPG Stone

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From granite and sandstone to expensive Travertine and marble, there are many types of natural stone tiles to choose from. This guide will help you learn about the different types, common applications and even the most popular textures and finishes.

Types of Natural Stone Tiles:

1.Granite. This type of natural stone is almost as hard as a diamond and is most commonly used at countertops. It has many striking colors to choose from, such as black, gray and white.

2.Slate. Natural slate is extremely popular for use in patios and other outdoor applications. Its natural coloring makes it a striking option for kitchen or bathroom floors as well.

3.Tumbled stone. Usually made from granite and other natural stone, tumbled stone has been cobbled and distressed to look like itâ€™s from another era. This stone is very popular for flooring.

4.Marble. Like granite, marble is another trendy stone for countertops and flooring, and it also has many striking colors and patterns.

5.Limestone. This versatile stone was once used for building materials, and now can be used for flooring, walls and countertops, plus for patios and other outdoor areas.

Types of Tiles:

1.Decorative tile. These are used for decoration, or as trim or complimentary edges for different patterns and designs.

2.Field tile. Used mainly for cover a floor or wall.

3.Trim tile. Used for edges, corners and for finishing other tiles patterns (bullnose, v-cap, etc.).

Different Tile Applications:

1.Countertops. Most popular to use is Granite Backsplash and marble.

2.Backsplashes. These go hand-in-hand with countertops, so use a similar tile to go with the countertops you choose. Make sure they coordinate so you will not have to replace anything.

3.Showers and bathtubs. Travertine tile would make a striking and beautiful wall for your shower or bath.

4.Walls. Choose a tile with lots of texture for the best tile for walls.

5.Floors. The best floor tiles would be travertine, limestone or even granite.

6.Fireplaces. Fireplace tiles can make a huge statement, so try to choose a dramatic black or gray granite or marble for this.

7.Patios. Limestone, slate and Tumbled Stone are best for patios and other outdoor areas.

Textures and Finishes

1.Polished. Smooth finish tiles provide a classic look that looks great for both traditional and modern designs.

2.Cleft. These finished give a rough, more natural look.

3.Matte. These are softer and richer looking.

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