

PRESS RELEASE

United Granite Publishes Countertop Repair or Replacement Guide

United Granite LLC

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DURHAM, NC - United Granite LLC has published a guide for homeowners who are unsure whether a damaged countertop needs a repair or a full replacement. The guide, released on October 2, 2026, covers chips, cracks, seams, scratches, stains, etching, heat marks, sink cutout damage and water damage below the counter.

“The guide follows the same checklist our team uses during an in-home evaluation,” said Orcun Aydin, president of United Granite LLC. “It sorts each type of damage by whether it is repairable and whether a homeowner should try it alone.”

The Durham countertop fabricator handles both new installations and repair and restoration work on existing counters across the Triangle, which gives it a view of both outcomes. The full repair guide is available on the company website.

Chips are described as the most common call and almost never a reason to replace a countertop. The area is cleaned, a tinted epoxy or resin is color-matched to the stone, and the fill is sanded and polished flush. Chips around a sink cutout also receive a support rod or epoxy bracing underneath because that corner already carries stress.

Cracks fall into two groups. A hairline surface crack can usually be filled by epoxy injection and polished level, while a crack that runs the full depth of the slab often signals lost support from an unsupported overhang or a settled cabinet. If such a crack keeps growing or a second one appears, the guide points toward replacement with a properly supported slab.

Separating seams are treated as repairable through a reseam, in which the old filler is ground out, the slab edges are clamped tight and fresh color-matched filler is polished flush. The guide stresses finding the cause first, such as cabinet movement or a missing support brace, so the gap does not return.

The guide also compares how well repairs blend on granite, quartz, quartzite, marble, porcelain and soapstone. Natural variation in granite hides fills well, while porcelain is harder to repair invisibly because its pattern is printed on the surface. Homeowners can review these materials on the products page .

A separate section explains why store-bought repair kits often disappoint, citing color matching, softer cure and the need to grind out a failed attempt before a proper repair. Another covers discontinued stone, noting that natural slabs come from finite lots while engineered quartz colors can usually be reordered later.

According to the guide, repair is usually the right call when damage is isolated and cosmetic and the layout is staying the same. Replacement makes more sense when damage appears in several places, the substrate is failing, or cabinets and appliances are changing anyway.

The guide closes by recommending an in-person look, since a photo cannot show whether a crack is structural or a soft spot hides a damaged cabinet deck. Homeowners who decide on a new countertop can browse completed installations in the company's project portfolio .

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