

Business History

Established in 1996 by Steve Bristow an experienced and creative stonemason the business has grown steadily over the years and is now considered to be the West Country's leading suppliers of natural and bespoke work-surfaces such as granite, stone and marble.



Steve Bristow
STONE MASONRY
GRANITE · MARBLE · STONE
Specialists in natural and bespoke worktops

Starting life in a small garage with the most basic of cutting facilities Steve built the business solely on reputation and successfully established long-lasting relationships with kitchen and bathroom companies, interiors designers, construction companies and private clients which in-turn secured the ongoing growth of Steve Bristow Stone Masonry. Investing all profits back into the business, regular expansion plans were fulfilled and Steve Bristow Stone Masonry has become a leading light in the industry.



Relocating to its current premises 10 years ago the business has developed and expanded year upon year and now boasts the very latest state of the art cutting machinery including fully automated CNC equipment. With a team of 16 staff the business continues its expansion plans and most recently acquired an adjacent unit which will allow room for further growth and additional manufacturing and workshop space.

With a passion for offering first class service and the very best quality materials Steve prides himself on sourcing beautiful natural stones, granites and marbles and spends much of his time uncovering eye-catching and exciting materials. With excellent overseas suppliers Steve travels to Verona regularly to inspect the stone which originates from many countries including Brazil, Africa and India. *"I take a very hands on approach to the business and we have built our reputation on supplying only the best quality products, therefore I like to keep a close eye on the materials we use and enjoy meeting with suppliers whilst hunting out a few stunning granites, marbles and stone to bring back to the UK"*



With a designated showroom attached to the workshops you can not only see first hand a comprehensive selection of natural work-surfaces but also get a feel for the quality whilst discussing individual requirements.

Next on the agenda is the Stone Show in Italy where Steve will be searching out new stock, liaising with suppliers and formulating ideas for more business developments throughout 2009.

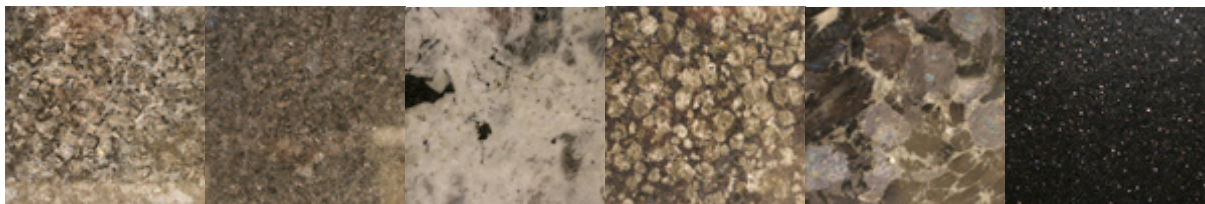
www.stevebristow.co.uk

Top Tips for choosing natural work-surfaces

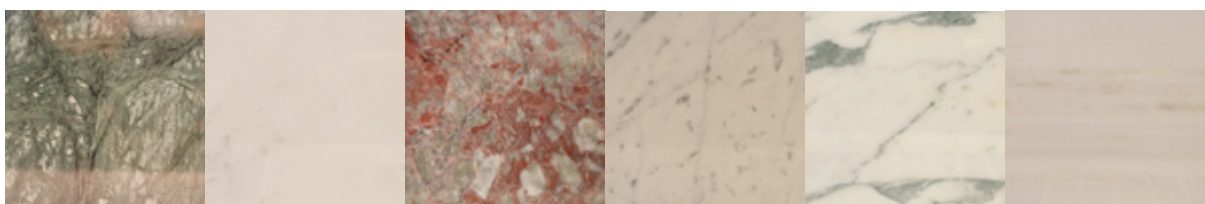


1. **Type of Material** - When selecting a material for your work-tops you need to think carefully about the overall look of the room as the worktop will undoubtedly dictate the style and the space. A modern sleek-looking black granite can look out of place in a traditional cottage or country house setting where as a 'not perfect' open grain granite featuring natural pits, sand holes and spa lines will look much more at home in a period style environment.
2. **Colour Selection** – colour choice is crucial, it is often a mistake to go for too bold or strong a colour and once a material is in situ the effect can be overwhelming. In a smaller space or narrow galley kitchen a lighter surface should be considered as a darker colour can appear to pull the walls inwards. If space isn't an issue dark or black granite can look very dramatic especially at night where the light is reflected off the surface giving a touch of glamour to a room.
3. **Style of Property** – choosing a material that works in harmony with the room is also very important and if selected well will finish off a room perfectly. For a contemporary space why not go for a glitzy look with a 'White Pearl' or 'Star Galaxy'. For a more classic look 'Baltic Brown' or 'Fountain Blue' can be very effective and enhance the overall style of the room.
4. **Bathroom Bliss** – Bathrooms are spaces in which to luxuriate so why not make more of a personal statement with a touch of luxury. Marble works so well in bathrooms as the material lends itself to both contemporary and classic designs. White marble gives a light, sophisticated and timeless feel to the space and will never look outdated, only growing more beautiful with time.

Granites



Marbles



Expert Advice from Steve Bristow Stone Masonry



Is granite the most hard-wearing surface?

Granite is undoubtedly one of the toughest work-surfaces around, it is hard-wearing, practical and hygienic, however, you must ensure that the very finest quality granite is used or you may find it can develop weak points. Also the manner in which it is measured and fitted is crucial, badly fitted work-surfaces not only look dreadful but are also more at risk of incurring chips and scratches.

Can granite be repaired?

Yes. If your granite work-top receives some wear and tear there are some remedies that can be taken but only by experts. Chips and scratches can be invisibly repaired by granite specialists and most stains removed with specialist products and solutions. However it is fair to say that turmeric and cast iron pans should always be handled with care.

How can I look after my new worktop?

- Granite must not be treated with abrasive materials such as metal scouring pads or metal brushes nor scouring powders or bleach instead use a gentle detergent. Use warm water and dry and buff with a cloth or chamois leather
- Spilt liquids should be cleaned straight away to avoid staining. Alkaline and Acidic liquids are more likely to cause damage such as vinegars and oils
- Don't allow the granite to be bashed with anything heavy as cracks may occur
- Always use a chopping board to avoid the risk of marking the surface
- Don't apply direct heat to the granite such as a hot pan, instead use pot rest

Granites



Marbles

