

HOW TO CHOOSE

If you prefer:	Then choose:
Manmade materials	Laminate, solid surface, stainless steel, or concrete
Natural materials	Stone, tile, or wood
Consistent color	Plastic laminate, solid surface, or stainless steel
A speckled or veined appearance	Stone
Integral sinks	Solid surface, stainless steel, or concrete
A textured feel	Tile or concrete
Decorative edge treatments	Solid surface, wood, laminate, or concrete
A statement-making backsplash	Tile

Needs

If you need to:	Then choose:
Dice, chop, and slice	Any stone or wood
Roll dough and make pastries	Marble, another stone, or stainless steel
Set down hot stuff	Any stone, tile, stainless steel, or concrete
Spill without staining or having to first apply sealants	Solid surface, engineered quartz, or stainless steel
Perform little or no maintenance	Laminate, solid surface, or stainless steel
Protect kids and the elderly	Any material with the corners rounded

Budget

Price depends on:

- Quality and type of material
- Difficulty of installation
- Edge treatment material and design

- Backsplash material and design