

STONE BENCHTOP GUIDE

Edge Profile *Guide*

A practical comparison of 8 stone benchtop edge profiles — which suits porcelain, marble, granite and quartz, 20mm vs 40mm, cost tiers and care.

INTRODUCTION

Choosing the right edge profile

The edge profile is one of the most overlooked decisions in a stone benchtop project, but it has a real effect on how the benchtop looks, feels and holds up over time. This guide compares the eight edge profiles TN Stone fabricates most often, explains which profile suits porcelain, marble, granite and quartz, and covers 20mm vs 40mm benchtops, cost tiers and care.

Key takeaways

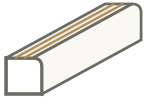
- **Pencil round is the safest default**, especially for porcelain, because rounded edges resist chipping better than square corners.
- Granite and quartz are durable enough to suit almost any profile, including square edge.
- Marble benefits from a softer profile such as bullnose, since it chips more easily at sharp corners.
- Mitred 40mm gives a 20mm slab the look of a substantial 40mm benchtop without the extra material cost and weight.

ABOUT TN STONE

TN Stone Pty Ltd is a Melbourne stonemason and tiling contractor specialising in fabrication and installation of premium natural and engineered stone benchtops, vanities, splashbacks and outdoor kitchens across Melbourne and Victoria.

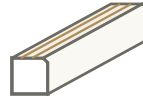
THE OPTIONS

8 stone benchtop edge profiles



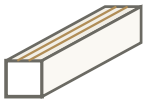
Pencil round **RECOMMENDED STANDARD**

A subtle, rounded edge with a small radius. Comfortable to the touch and the most chip-resistant profile available — our default recommendation for kitchen and bathroom benchtops, including porcelain.



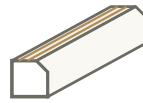
Arris (eased edge) **SUBTLE, LOW-CHIP**

A very light chamfer that softens a square corner without changing the look of the benchtop. A cost-effective alternative to pencil round where a crisper line is preferred.



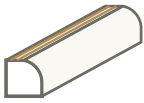
Square edge **CLEAN, MODERN**

A sharp 90-degree corner for a clean, contemporary look. Suits granite, quartz and other durable materials. Not recommended for porcelain.



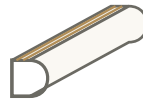
Bevelled edge **ANGLED FACET**

A flat, angled facet cut into the top edge. Adds a defined line of light and shadow, and works well on both natural and engineered stone.



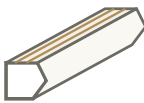
Half bullnose **CURVED, SOFT**

A quarter-round curve softens the top of the edge while the underside stays square — a popular middle ground between square and fully rounded.



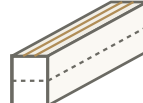
Full bullnose **FULLY ROUNDED**

The entire edge thickness is rounded into a smooth D-shape. Comfortable and forgiving on softer stones such as marble.



Shark nose **SHARP, TAPERED**

A flat top edge tapering to a fine point on the underside, giving a slim, striking profile. Best suited to durable materials such as granite and quartz.



Mitred 40mm **DOUBLED THICKNESS LOOK**

Two 20mm slabs mitred together to create the appearance of a solid 40mm benchtop, without the extra material cost and weight of a true 40mm slab.

MATERIAL GUIDE

Which edge profile suits your stone?

Porcelain

Pencil round or arris. Avoid square edge — porcelain is the most chip-prone material at sharp corners.

Granite

Durable enough for any profile, including square edge and shark nose.

Marble

Half or full bullnose, or a bevelled edge. Marble is relatively soft, and a softer profile protects the edge.

Quartz

Suits most profiles. Mitred 40mm is a popular choice for a bold, substantial island edge.

THICKNESS

20mm vs 40mm benchtops

20mm slabs read lighter and suit contemporary kitchens at a lower material cost. A true solid 40mm slab is heavier and more expensive to fabricate and install. Most fabricators, including TN Stone, achieve the same substantial look for less by mitring two 20mm pieces together at the front edge (mitred 40mm), which is virtually indistinguishable once installed.

PRICING

Cost guide & care

Edge profile pricing generally falls into three tiers:

Standard — pencil round, square edge, arris

Premium — half or full bullnose, bevelled

Custom — shark nose, mitred 40mm

Standard profiles are included in most benchtop quotes at no extra cost. Premium profiles involve a moderate upgrade for the additional shaping and polishing time. Custom profiles such as shark nose and mitred 40mm are priced per project.

OUR PROCESS

From templating to installation

- 1 Template and measure**
We take precise on-site measurements once cabinetry is in place, confirming edge profile, thickness and cut-outs.
 - 2 Slab selection and fabrication**
Your slab is selected, cut and the chosen edge profile is shaped and polished in our workshop.
 - 3 Installation**
Benchtops are installed, joins finished and sinks or cooktops fitted, with a final clean and inspection.
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CARE

Caring for your benchtop edge

Rounded profiles such as pencil round and bullnose are the easiest to keep clean and the most forgiving of daily knocks. Sharper profiles such as square edge and shark nose look striking but show chips more readily, particularly in softer materials. Avoid placing heavy pots or appliances directly on the edge, and always use a chopping board rather than cutting directly on any stone surface.

NEXT STEPS

Not sure which profile suits your project?

Scan the code below to see our full range of stone benchtops, or get in touch for a free, no-obligation quote.



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