



Quick Start Countertop Guide for ...

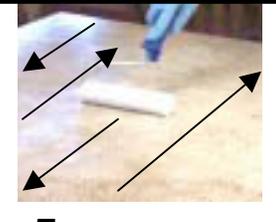


Cold Weather Alert !!! Important!!!

Due to lower outside temperatures during the winter, the temperature of your countertop is likely to be cooler than your room because of the unheated cabinet space below, and their attachment to outside walls. Colder countertop temperatures will slow down the drying times, which may adversely impact the coating.

Consequently, it's important to optimize your counter's temperature during winter projects by taking the following three steps –

- 1) Make sure your GIANI kit is inside your home for at least 24 hours before you start your project
- 2) Turn your heat up to 72°F the night before you start your project - and until you apply your last topcoat -
- 3) Open your cabinet doors to allow the heat in underneath your countertops



1 Clean

Use your common household degreaser - to remove any grease, soap or residue.

Clean extra well around sinks and stoves.

Please clean three times to ensure it's clean.

2 Tape

Use 3M's Painter's Tape for "Delicate Surfaces"

because it prevents "bleed through" of the Primer coat.

Note: be sure to smooth down the edges of the tape to seal

3 Roll & "back roll" thin coat of Primer in 3' sections

SHAKE and STIR can very well because resin settles to bottom.

Work in narrow three foot wide sections so the coating stays wet.

First, use the foam brush to paint a narrow, half-inch wide strip at the top and bottom of the backsplash-

Next, use roller to apply a thin coat to countertop & backsplash.

Apply to countertop first. Then apply to backsplash without re-wetting roller to ensure it's on thin.

Immediately "Back roll" the whole section you just painted - because this minimizes any lap lines created by the roller so they don't show through your granite.

Simply roll back over the section with light, slow, end-to-end rolls.

Do few times. Don't re-wet roller.

Note, the air bubbles will pop.

Clean your brush after using

4 Lightly sponge on all Minerals in 2' sections

Lightly sponge on all the Mineral Colors in two foot sections - because it allows your colors to mix while they're wet.

Sponge lightly because you can always go back and add more color – even when they're dry,

because color on top of color adds depth

Apply colors in their order number. Use the final Mineral color lightly – because a little goes a long way

Sponge lightly on backsplash and edges to prevent runs.

5 Roll on Clear Topcoat

Complete in large sections where there are natural breaks in your counters, such as at your sink, or cover an entire island -

because you want to keep the leading edge of your Topcoat "wet" while you're applying it across your tops.

First, use the foam brush to apply a narrow, half-inch wide strip of Topcoat at the top and bottom of your backsplash.

Next, use the roller to apply a liberal amount of Topcoat to your top. Use side-to-side, roll strokes, across the width of entire section.

Finally, apply Topcoat to the backsplash. Try not to re-wet roller for this because it will ensure the Topcoat goes on thin here - and won't run. **Once applied – do not re-roll areas as they start to dry because it may create uneven, dry spots.**

Note, the Topcoat rolls on milky & will dry clear.

Dry Time Guide

1. Roll on one thin coat of Primer, then wait 8 hours
2. Lightly sponge on all Minerals, then wait 4 hours
3. Roll on first Clear Topcoat, then wait 4 hours

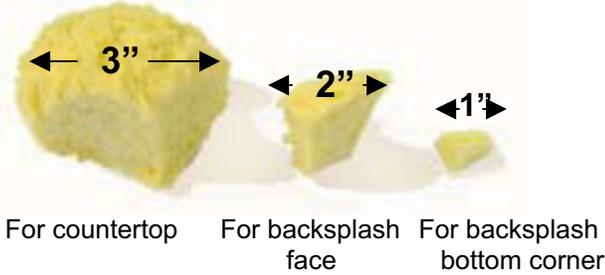
These times are minimums, you may wait longer. No maximum wait period between coats.

4. Roll on second coat of Clear Topcoat, then wait 24 hours before using countertops
5. After project is completed, wait 72 hours before setting any small appliances back on
6. After project is completed, wait 14 days before using soap to clean

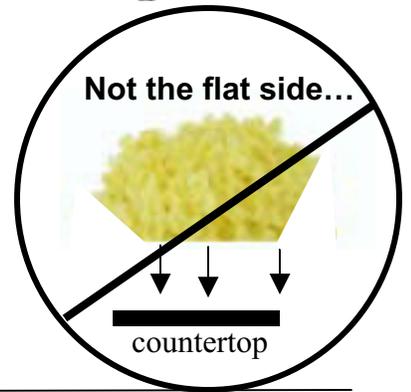
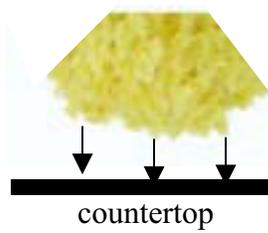
Total project Time is 20 hours . . . 4 hours of painting and 16 hours of drying

GIANI™ ‘Sponging Tips! . . . *Giani*

1 “Cut sponge into wedge sections . . .
Shake out any particles, rinse and dry out.”



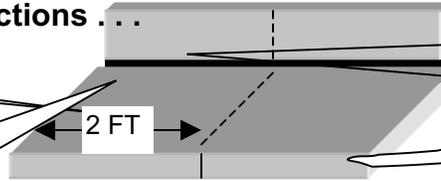
2 “Blot with the ‘spiny side . . .



3 “Sponge on in two foot sections . . .

A. Start on countertop

B. Then do bottom of backsplash. Use the “Pencil Tip” idea below -



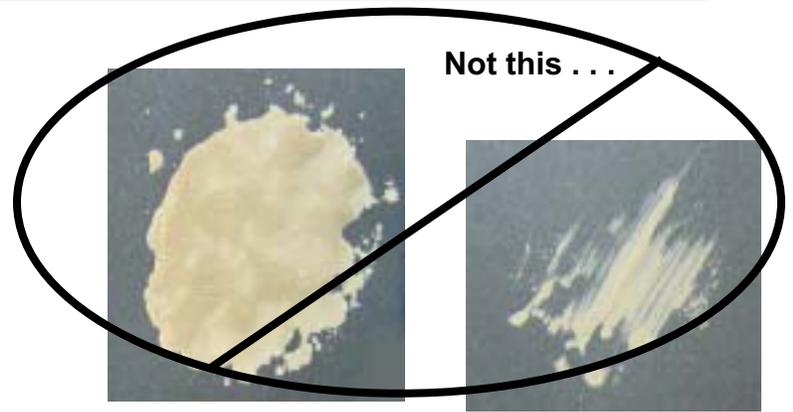
C. Finish up with backsplash face,

Note – sponge very lightly on these faces to prevent runs

TIP – Stick the tip of a pencil into a tiny, one inch piece of sponge and use it to tap all the Minerals into the bottom corner of your backsplash.

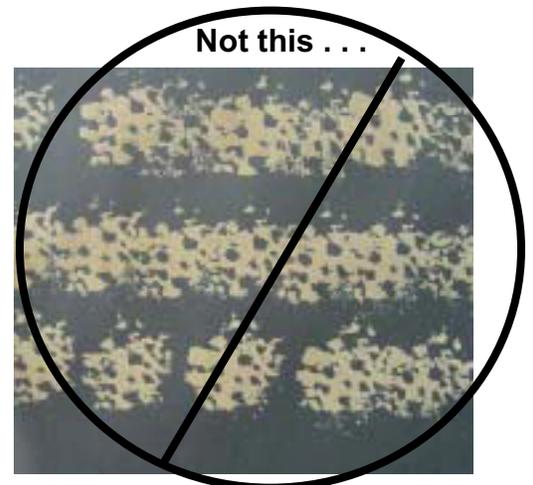
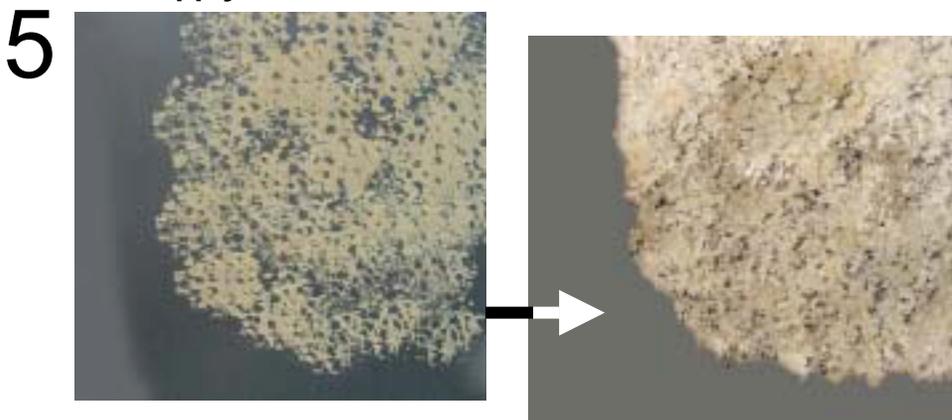


4 “Tap onto your countertop like this . . .



Note – light and thin taps are best – because it’s easy to go back in and add more. Practice your style on the Practice Board.

“Apply in sections like this . . .



Apply Minerals in two foot sections. Apply all 3 Minerals in each section.

Note: the final Mineral color goes a long way – use sparingly and work in. Add more as needed

For the Bombay Black Kit – you may wish to add the “Bronze” after all the other Minerals have dried. Same with adding “veins” to your countertop – you may find it works best to lightly tap in veins after the minerals have all dried.

Remember, you may want to add other color over veins because color on top of color – adds depth to your countertop.

Note – it builds “depth” by going back in and adding light accents after your first application dries!



Detailed Instructions . . .

Need assistance?

Call 800-650-5699 M-F 7:30 am – 4 pm CST
or 636-751-9836 after hours and weekends

Congratulations! you're on your way to a fun and easy moisture resistant upgrade to your Formica®, laminate, Corian®, cultured marble, ceramic tile, butcher block or traditional granite countertops! GIANI is also great for upgrading your bathroom vanity, ceramic tile backsplash, and primed plastic shower walls too!

Coverage: This Kit will cover 35 square feet - or 16 running feet - of standard 24" wide countertop.

Additional items you may need - Thin plastic gloves, household degreaser, clear acrylic caulk, wood patch, twelve paper plates with a shiny coating (because they don't absorb as much paint), 3M Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces™, stiff artist's brush, plastic primer if coating - plastic, acrylic, fiberglass or cultured marble – wood primer for bare wood – and STIX® primer for covering ceramic tile. Not for sink bowls, tubs, shower floors or any surface which may be submerged in water.

Before you get started, prepare your countertops . . .



Clean

Use your common household degreaser to remove any grease, soap or residue.

Clean three times.

Clean extra well around stove & sinks.



Remove any loose caulk

Replace any loose caulk at the top of your backsplash with a paintable caulk.

If you have a seam at the bottom of your backsplash that was filled with a silicone caulk, replace with a paintable caulk



Patch any deep nicks

If you have any deep nicks or seams, fill them with wood patch and sand smooth.

Wipe off sanded material.

Note - thin scratches do not need to be patched.



Mask off with tape

Use **3M "Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces"** because it resists "bleed through". Press down tape's edge to seal. Mask off sink, top of dishwasher - cabinet doors & drawers, stove and the wall above backsplash.

1 Roll on IronCore™ Primer . . .



Paint the Primer Basecoat on your backsplash

SHAKE and STIR very well the Step #1 IronCore™ Primer Basecoat because the resin will settle to bottom.

Next, pour a small amount into a clean roller tray.

Work in narrow 3 foot wide sections so your primer stays wet for back rolling.

Use your two inch foam brush and paint a half-inch wide strip of Primer at the top and bottom of your backsplash - as this will minimize any brush lines that may show through your granite.



Roll Primer onto countertop and "back roll"

Next, use the roller to paint a thin coat of Primer to the countertop and backsplash in that 3 foot section.

Apply to countertop first. Then apply to backsplash without re-wetting roller to ensure it's on thin.

Immediately "Back roll" the whole section you just painted - as this minimizes any lap lines created by the roller so they don't show through your granite.

Simply roll back over the section with light, slow, end-to-end rolls. Do few times. Don't re-wet roller.

Now – move onto next section.

Note, the air bubbles will pop.

Clean your brush after using because will need for topcoat.



Practice Sponging

Once the Primer Basecoat has dried for 8 hours - use the included black poster board to practice sponging on the Minerals. Flip it over for a second practice.

Follow the easy steps and then move right onto to your counters →

Note – paper plates with the shiny coating are helpful because they don't absorb the Mineral paints.

2 Sponge on GIANI™ Minerals . . .



Cut sponge pieces

Cut your sponge into these three approximate widths : 1 inch, 2 inches, and a 3 inch piece.

Important – shake out any particles in the sponge, then soak in water, and dry very well–

Note - the GIANI™ sponge is specifically selected for its texture. Failure to use it may impart unsatisfactory results.

Important – the Minerals are applied in the order they're numbered because they'll achieve more depth from various shades.

Use all three Minerals in roughly two foot sections before moving on to the next section, so they mix.

The final Mineral color is light – so use sparingly. Work in – and more as needed.

On the Bombay Black you may wish to add the Bronze specks after the other colors have dried to keep them vibrant.

You may go back in later and add any of the colors - as desired.

Shake the Step #2 Mineral and pour small amount onto a paper



Sponge the Minerals on in 2' sections plate. Next, dab the textured side of the big 3" sponge into the #2 Mineral on the plate.

Dab off the excess Mineral onto a separate paper plate. Then, lightly tap the sponge all around in a two foot section of your countertop, using frequent up-and-down movements

Light, small taps are ideal – because you can always go back in and add more.

Note - the spiny texture of your sponge will prevent the Minerals from completely covering the black Base Coat.

Each additional Mineral will cover more.

There's no 'right or 'wrong granite – it's natural - so just tap it on randomly!

Next, sponge on your Step #3 and Step #4 Minerals in the same section.

You will need to make multiple taps to work the colors "in" together as you need

Note, add your final color sparingly, a little goes a long way. Tap frequently to work in.

For "Bombay Black", you may wish to add the Bronze after the others colors have dried -

Use your 2 inch sponge on your backsplash face, and the 1 inch



Dab Minerals on at backsplash bottom sponge stuck into a pencil – for the bottom of your backsplash. You may also use a large artist brush here.

Sponge very lightly onto your backsplash and edges to prevent runs. If you see a run, simply tap it out before it dries.

Repeat process across entire counter. Rinse and dry out your sponge and replace your paper plates as needed.

Every once in a while - pause and step back to view your work. You may always go back in and add more color, even if it's dry.

Add veins - once it's dry, you may add further depth with light accents or veins -

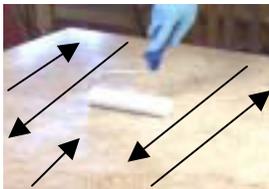
Dip the corner tips of a small piece of sponge into a small amount of a Mineral, and tap off the excess until it's almost dry. Then lightly tap the sponge's tips onto your countertop in random, curvy lines or accents.

Note – it's ideal to 'soften the addition of veins and accents by adding another color on top of the vein, in various places –

Remember – it builds "depth" by going back in and adding light accents after your first application dries!

See attached on "How to apply GIANI™ over old cultured marble bathroom vanities and ceramic tiles"!

3 Roll on Clear Topcoats . . .



Roll on Clear Topcoats

Let your GIANI™ granite dry for **four hours**.

Important – don't apply Topcoat until you're satisfied with your countertop look.

Feel for any high tips, roughness or particles on your countertop - and lightly smooth them out with a 600 fine grit sandpaper, Wipe up dust.

Shake your #5 Clear Topcoat and pour a small amount into a clean roller tray.

Complete in large sections where there are natural breaks in your counters, such as at

your sink, or cover an entire island -

because you want to keep your Topcoat wet while you're applying it across your top

First, use the foam brush to apply a narrow, ½" wide strip of Topcoat at the top & bottom of your backsplash in the section.

Next, use the roller and apply a liberal amount of Topcoat to your countertop. Use side-to-side, roll strokes across the width of entire section. This allows you to roll up close to your backsplash.

Finally, roll on the Topcoat to the face of the backsplash. If possible, don't re-wet the roller for this, because it ensures the Topcoat goes on thinly here and won't run.

Do not re-roll areas as they start to dry because it may create uneven dry spots.

Let first Topcoat dry 4 hours. Feel for any high tips and lightly sand smooth . Two Topcoats are required. Do not apply more than 3 coats.



Wait 24 hrs. – caulk sink

Be sure to score tape's edge with knife when pulling up masking tape

Important - after 24 hours - apply clear acrylic caulk around your sink's so water doesn't get under new coating!!!

Wait 72 hours before placing any small appliances on it. For first 14 days - avoid incidental food contact – use a soft cloth and warm water to clean spills – and ensure standing water is removed

Caution: Do not take internally. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Use with adequate ventilation. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Apply 60F– 90F. **Clean with GIANI Cleaner or soft cloth, mild soap and warm water. Do not use cleaners, scrubbers or polishes.** Not for cutting, chopping, food prep. Do not set hot pans on GIANI™. 800-650-5699 GIANIgranite.com