



## CHINA REFINE INDUSTRY CO.,LTD

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## How to Transport Granite Counter Tops

- *Stone countertops such as granite or marble are a popular way to finish kitchens to provide a higher-end look and a solid, earthy feel to the room. Stone is, as a rule, quite heavy and somewhat brittle. Some softer or thinner stones may come with a fiberglass cloth embedded in resin added to the underside of the slabs for extra reinforcement, but no matter how the stone comes, it requires special handling techniques and tools to move safely. Stone is a natural material with character that can cause weak spots that may fail during handling and can cause property and bodily damage due to the weight of the material involved.*

### Things You'll Need

- Rack (A-frame)
- Screw clamps
- Wood pads

### Instructions

## Moving Stone

1. Clean the stone and the clamp beams and ensure that they are free of sand, diamond grit and stone dust. Lay the beams lengthwise down the top and parallel to each other. Place the suction clamps along the beams, one at each end and two more equidistant from the ends. Place an extra pair of clamps close to the edges of the sink cut-out on each beam. This will help support this greatly weakened section of the top during handling.

2. Prepare for carrying the top. Position a strong person at each end of the top and slowly slide the top off of the table. Slide the top until it starts to teeter on the edge, then lower the front edge and stand the top up until the top rolls off of the table. This will keep the stone supported until you get it vertical. Carry the stone in this vertical position until you get another support surface--A-frame or cabinet--to take the load.



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3. Place the bottom edge of the top onto the bottom surface of the A-frame. Slide the edge of the top back until it bottoms on the vertical members of the A-frame and then lean the top into the verticals. Pad the edge of the top at the verticals and use a screw clamp to hold the top in place. Do not over-tighten the clamps, as they can easily apply enough pressure to break the stone. Add the ratchet straps wherever possible for extra insurance during the

4. Remove the clamps and straps once the top is moved to the new location. Reclamp the suction clamps as they can lose suction over time. Stand the top up vertically and carry it to its cabinet. Lift the top, still vertical, up until the front of the cabinet touches the middle of the top. Rest the underside of the top on the cabinet edge and carefully roll it down to horizontal. Slide the top onto the cabinet and substrate as it rolls down and do not stress any unsupported parts of the top. Release the suction clamps and remove them and the beams.

### Tips & Warnings

- Always keep at least one hand underneath the bottom edge of the top when it is being carried vertically. Do not rely on the beams or suction clamps as carrying devices; these are only to stiffen the stone for transport and cannot be trusted to hold the load. All stone is rather brittle, but marble, as a rule, is more easily broken or bruised than granite.
  - Do not slide the beams along the stone. Carrying beams are typically made from aluminum extrusions and can transfer small amounts of metal to the stone, leaving marks similar to pencil marks. Stone is heavy, brittle and expensive. Do not attempt this if you have any physical problems such as a bad back or knee. Dropping a stone top is almost guaranteed to destroy it, damage what it falls on and cause serious bodily injury.
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