

Silica Dust

Health & Safety Guide



Silica Dust Warning

WHAT IS SILICA DUST?

Silica, often referred to as quartz, is a very common mineral. The dust created by cutting, grinding, drilling or otherwise disturbing these materials can contain crystalline silica particles. Some dust particles can be so small that they are not visible; these are commonly referred to as respirable particles.

Respirable silica dust particles are small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs and can cause irreversible lung damage.

WHAT DISEASE CAN SILICA DUST CAUSE?

If you are exposed to and breathes in silica dust you could develop:

- chronic bronchitis
- emphysema
- acute silicosis
- lung cancer
- kidney damage
- scleroderma

SILICA DUST SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

When working with silica, take the following precautions to protect yourself and others.

1. Use all available work practices—water sprays, ventilation systems and blasting cabinets—to control dust exposures.
2. Always wear proper personal protective equipment.
3. Make sure you are properly trained in the use and maintenance of your respirator.
4. Don't alter the respirator in any way and always inspect your respirator before use. Alert your supervisor and replace your respirator if you find a crack, puncture, tear, leak or any other unusual condition.
5. Shave facial hair when you're going to be working in environments that require a respirator. Even a tight-fitting respirator will not create a good seal between the respirator and your face if you have a beard or mustache.
6. Wear disposable or washable work clothes and shower if facilities are available. Vacuum the dust from your clothes or change into clean clothing before leaving the worksite.
7. Be aware of the operations and job tasks creating silica exposures in your workplace environment and know how to protect yourself.
8. Be aware of the health hazards related to crystalline silica exposure. Habits like smoking can add to lung damage caused by silica.

SILICA DUST SAFETY PRECAUTIONS CONTINUED...

9. Don't eat, drink, smoke or apply cosmetics in areas where silica dust is present. Wash your hands and face outside of dusty areas before performing any of these activities.

Remember, take extra care at all times when working with silica—a little dust now can cause big health problems later.

For more information on crystalline silica, health risks and hazard controls, visit the Safe Work Australia Silica advice page: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/silica>



TrendStone® Charcoal & LeMode French Pattern Ivory

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COLOUR VARIATION

Due to the changes in raw material, variation in colour can occur. When ordering your product, order all products of your project together to reduce the possibility of colour variation. We do not guarantee different batches will be the same colour.

EFFLORESCENCE

Efflorescence (a salty deposit) is a natural occurrence in masonry products. Efflorescence does not affect the structural integrity of the product and will usually diminish and disappear in the course of time as the product is exposed to the elements. No responsibility will be accepted for the occurrence of efflorescence.

CLAIMS

Claims must be reported within 72 hours of delivery. No claims will be accepted once product has been installed. Please contact the store where goods were purchased to report any concerns regarding product delivery or quality.

Minimum order quantities apply to Made to Order colours.