



Steger (708) 755-5200  
Merrillville (219) 769-5200  
Mokena (708) 478-1402  
[www.TTSGranite.com](http://www.TTSGranite.com)

## ABOUT GRANITE

Granite was formed by the titanic forces of the earth's colliding tectonic plates as many as 100 million years ago. It is almost as hard as diamond. Primarily made up of quartz (35%), feldspar (45%), and potassium, with very little calcite. The minerals in granite came from the same liquid and gas minerals that formed the earth. The earth developed as a massive body of gas and liquid minerals that slowly cooled and condensed to a solid core. Through pressure, the earth's crust began to form and heavy minerals were forced down to the core of the earth where they were trapped. As the crust got thicker, it squeezed around the inner core which created intense pressure and heat and formed within the earth. Crystals and other solid forms began to grow from the mineral vapors that were being released. As the earth's crust began to expand and erode, heat and pressure pushed the solid minerals up to the earth's surface which formed colossal rock beds. Many of the beds are now used as quarries where the stone is mined.

Quarries are located all around the world, with most coming from Italy, Spain, Turkey, United States, Mexico, China, Taiwan, India, Greece, Canada, France and Brazil.

The stone is quarried as large blocks, usually 10 feet long and 6 feet square. These blocks are then cut into sheets called "slabs". The surface is ground away in a multi-step process that smoothes the surface until it achieves a high gem-like polish.