



# EagleRock

BRIDGE SAWS  
FABRICATION CENTERS

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*A SOLID CUT ABOVE*

## Remnant & Slab On-Line Database Plan

We are pleased to share with you how we built our own remnant database for virtually no cost with some documentation time and some web-site link work.

- 1) **Mark and Document Slabs & Remnants:** Use a little white paint to mark the end of each slab and begin a numbering system. We used a combination of letters and numbers (i.e. A-101, A-102, etc.) But simply numbers will work too. Once the paint has dried, start a sequential numbering of all your slabs.

While marking slabs this way, on a chart, note the slab's number then note the slab type by stone name, main color(s), category (granite, travertine, marble, quartz, etc.), and "movement." We came up with a 1-5 scale for movement that defines the variation in each slabs colors. A "1" for movement means it's very uniform in color throughout. A "3" shows some differences, a "5" shows dramatic veining and color differences across the slab. Also measure the slab size (largest usable rectangle) and note the thickness as well.

- 2) **Label Your Yard:** We divided out our stone yard in to sections labeled "A, B, C," etc. Each section is about 10 feet long and has approximately 30 – 50 slabs in it. This way, finding a slab is easy as you'll only have to look through one section to find the specific piece. While marking the pieces and taking down the information, also note the location of the slab. If slabs have to be moved, be sure to keep them within the same section so as to keep the tracking accurate. If they have to be moved to another section – be sure to make the change in the database.



Numbered slabs



Location markings

- 3) **Create Your Database:** We used a free, on-line database by Flexlists.com. It costs nothing, is quite intuitive to set up, and allows anyone to access and view it from the web. As the administrator, you have the rights to enter data and for the public, it's viewable and searchable but not editable which is perfect. We noted sizes and the location of where the slab could be found. We used the following headings as we created our database:

Slab Code# / Stone Name / Material / Location / Color(s) / Width / Height / Thickness / Movement

- 4) **Enter Data Into the Flexlist Database Page:** Once you've documented all your slabs and locations, put this data into an Excel spreadsheet. Once you are done, go to your Flexlist page and upload your data from your Excel spreadsheet into your Flexlist page.
- 5) **Link Flexlist database to Your Website:** Now your online database is complete – you just have to create a way for people to find it easily. Simply create a link from your website to this Flexlist page. We created a dedicated page that gives instructions of how to use the database and placed the link on that instruction page. You can view it by going to:  
  
[www.theyardaz.com](http://www.theyardaz.com) click on “granite search” to get to the instructional page. From this page you will see the “Search the Yard inventory link” to get to the Flexlist database page.
- 6) **Maintenance of your Database:** You'll also need to keep an ongoing solid system in place as you add new slabs (paint and number them, document the data) as well as remove slabs from the system once they are sold. By keeping up with your inventory – you'll have:
  - a. A resource that your customers will love
  - b. You will use it to find pieces that may be helpful to finish a job or perform a repair
  - c. Other fabricators will use it for pieces they may need to buy from you.
- 7) **Reap the Benefits:** We've found that designers, other fabricators, and home owners love the fact that they can research our remnant yard from the comfort of their own homes, print a list of pieces that work for them, then come in and find exactly what they need.

People often ask if there are pictures of the granite pieces on-line. We tell them that we don't do that because it would dramatically increase the cost and time involved to maintain the database and also that ultimately, a picture is not enough – you have to see the piece yourself to make a final decision. (If you have the granite name listed, they can easily Google that granite name and see a nice array of examples of what that stone looks like on Google.)

***We wish you well with your granite database experience!***