

Required Tool and Supplies

• Cordless Drill	• Level
• Belt Sander with 60 and 80 grit belts	• Random Orbital Palm Sander
• Tape Measure	• 1/2" and 1/8" drill bits
• 1/2" open end wrench	• Rubber Mallet
• Hole Saw	• Caulk Gun
• #10 SPAX or other high quality wood screws	• Silicone Caulk – GE Type II 100% CLEAR- for sinks/back-splashes ONLY
• Wood Shims	• #2 Square-drive bit
• 1" outside diameter fender washers	• Clean, lint-free rags
• T-Bolt Joint Hardware (Included for jointed tops)	• Mittersaw
• Waterlox	• 150 grit sandpaper

IMPORTANT

Overhangs over 8 inches MUST BE SUPPORTED.

Silicone MAY NOT be used to install the wood to the cabinet base.

Screw holes MUST BE OVERSIZED.

Failure to do so will void the warranty.



Proper screw and fender washer preparation

I. Installation

- Determine best location for screws.
 - For Island Tops, place one screw at each corner;
 - For Perimeter Tops, place one or two screws at each end.
- Drill a 1/2" hole through the dust cover, stabilizing bar, or corner bracket where the screws will be placed. Corner blocks are included for cabinets with limited install space.
- Set top in place. Verify that all overhangs are correct.
- If there is a cut out for a sink or stove, verify the location and fit.
- Make sure that the screws are at least 1/4" shorter than the combined thickness of the countertop and corner blocks.
- Pre-drill 3/4" into the top using a 1/8" bit.
- Place one fender washer on a screw, and then screw through the oversized hole into the countertop. The 3/8" holes are larger than the screw diameter and will allow the top to move horizontally and "float" on the cabinets. *Do not over-tighten screws.*
- Any use of silicone to attach the countertop to the cabinet base is expressly prohibited and will *void the warranty.*

II. Multi-Piece Tops

Before installing a multi-piece section, put all of the pieces together in place to verify that the fit.

- If there is room, turn the tops upside down on a level surface being careful to protect the finish from any abrasion, etc.
- Insert the supplied biscuits in the ends to be joined.
- Push the tops together (you may use the rubber mallet to tap them into place). This is a **dry seam**.
- Install the T- Bolts into the slots. Hand tighten. **Do not tighten the hardware fully.**
- Place the tops (finished-side up) on top of the cabinets so that there is access to the T-Bolts from underneath.
- Fine tune the vertical alignment with a rubber mallet (making the tops flush) and tighten the T-Bolts using a 1/2" open-ended wrench.
- In situations where access is limited, create a platform using 2x8's or 2x10's on which to place the tops. This will allow access to the T- Bolts. When the tops are together, carefully remove the platform pieces and lower the tops into place and screw the tops in place.

III. Supporting Overhangs

- Overhangs over 8 inches must be supported for countertops less than 1 1/2" thick.
- Overhangs over 10 inches must be supported for countertops 1 1/2" thick or greater.
- Proper support includes corbels and legs.
 - Corbels: The triangular design of a corbel is vital. L-brackets are not sufficient. Corbels must be screwed to the cabinet AND the top.
 - Legs: Legs must be screwed to the top and bolted to the floor to prevent upward curling.
- Failure to support an overhang properly will void the warranty.*

IV. Installing Sinks

All sink cut out areas are routed from the underside to a thickness of 1-1/2" so that the sink is seated up into a recessed area. In addition, the back of the sink is routed out so that the faucets will install without any need for extensions.

To ensure that the reveal is maintained, it is recommended that undermount sinks be installed after the countertop is set in place.

- Position the sink, and then put a heavy bead of silicone around rim. A sink setter may be helpful.
- Seat the sink so that the reveal is even around the entire opening. Install the clips and tighten the screws evenly.
- Remove all excess silicone with a clean rag and mineral spirits.
- Be sure the silicone fills the void between the sink and countertop so there is no opportunity for water to pool.

V. Faucet Holes Drilled On-Site

- Make sure that all of the hardware is on-site.
- Using blue painter's tape and a pencil, mark the hole locations.
- Drill the holes with an appropriately sized hole saw. Verify the size of all holes with manufacturer's specifications.
- Drill the hole out until the centering point of the drill bit goes through. If possible, finish the hole from underneath the cabinet to eliminate tear out. If this is not possible, slowly finish drilling the hole from the top.
- Apply a generous amount of Waterlox to the inside of the holes with the included packet. *Failure to do so will void the warranty.*

VI. Installing Wood Backsplash

- After the countertops have been installed, set the backsplash in place and determine the correct length for the backsplash. Measure from the wall to the beginning of the edge profile.
- Trim the backsplash wall-side to length using a mittersaw. If the backsplash meets a sidesplash, cut at a 45 degree angle.
- Re-coat cut area with supplied Waterlox. Allow to dry.
- Apply silicone (or a construction adhesive) along the wall.
- Run a small bead of silicone on the wall where the countertop and wall meet.
- Set backsplash in place and run a second bead along the seam, using a clean rag to remove excess. This will seal the backsplash to the countertop.
- It may be necessary to pull the backsplash down to the countertop. This is done with a cabinet finish screw from underneath the cabinets. Pre-drill with an appropriately sized drill bit through the countertop first and then screw through the countertop into the backsplash. It is necessary to have two people to do this.
- It is recommended a clean rag be used to clean up the majority of the silicone.
- If an exposed edge needs to be trimmed, sand with 150-grit sandpaper, gently easing the edges, then re-coat with Waterlox.

Issues and Resolutions

Storage

If the top needs to be stored prior to installation for less than two weeks, store pallet flat in a climate controlled space.

Bowing

It is not unusual for wood tops to bow slightly as they acclimate to a new environment.

1. Use SPAX screws to pull top into place. Don't overtighten.
 2. If the top has a greater bow, place the top on the cabinet and loosely start screws in the four corners of the top and on the front corners where the farm sink or cook top cut is located.
 3. Place additional screws where needed.
 4. Now tighten each screw a small amount at a time, moving from screw to screw in the same way as a wheel would be put on a car.
- A 1/8" bow after proper installation is normal and should not cause concern.

Dust Covers

Drill large breathing holes in the plywood every 4-6 inches. Any plywood beneath any wood countertop must be vented at a minimum of 50% to prevent warping of the top.

Uneven Cabinet Boxes

Use shims along cabinet walls to level the top.

Humidity

Wood is a living product. It expands and contracts with seasonal changes. One way to diminish this effect is to control humidity in the home. Optimal level is between 40-45% relative humidity at 70°F.

Cure Time

Our countertops are shipped with a fresh coat of Waterlox. The Tung Oil in this finish has a unique smell, like your new car! This mild fragrance will dissipate within 30 days as the finish fully cures. Extra care should be taken for the first 30 days to maintain a perfect finish.

Grain Characteristics and Color

Every tree is different. Grain and color variation add a unique appearance to your custom countertop. Color will grow richer as it ages, which is a sought after characteristic of wood!

Maintenance of Waterlox Finish

Cleaning your wood top is easy! Simply fill a squirt bottle with 1:4 white vinegar and water. Mist the top with this natural and inexpensive disinfectant, wipe dry, and you are done!

A mild detergent like dish soap can also be used. **DO NOT USE AMMONIA, ALCOHOL, ACETONE, OR BLEACH.**

We recommend most tops be refinished every 3-5 years to retain the original finish's properties.

Contact us at info@heirloomcountertops.com for easy tips on everything from scratch removal to complete refinishing!



Heirloom Warranty

Following the installation, care, and maintenance instructions in this booklet will extend the life of your countertop. Failure to follow these instructions will void the warranty. Accidents do happen, so if you have any issues with your countertop, please have your installer contact us immediately for a damage assessment and repair quote.

**For more information on our warranty,
please visit:
www.heirloomcountertops.com/warranty**

HEIRLOOM
WOOD COUNTERTOPS

1209 Logan Circle
Atlanta, Georgia 30318
heirloomcountertops.com

Installation Procedures, Warranty, and Maintenance Guide



Need More Help?

Our experienced sales team is ready to help!
Email us at info@heirloomcountertops.com
or call us at 866-357-9399.