



# INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

## SOLID WOOD WORKTOPS

INSPECT WORKTOP AFTER DELIVERY  
INSTALLED WORKTOP IS ACCEPTED AS GOOD

ALWAYS CARRY WORKTOPS IN VERTICAL POSITION.

INSPECT THE WORKTOP AT DELIVERY.  
DON'T FORGET TO CHECK PACKAGING BEFORE  
UNPACKING THE WORKTOP.

WORKTOP SHOULD BE INSTALLED WITHIN 8 DAYS OF  
DELIVERY.

STORE IT AT ROOM TEMPERATURE (AROUND 20°C) AND  
HUMIDITY AROUND 50%.

DO NOT STORE DIRECTLY ON THE FLOOR, BUT ON SLATS.

DO NOT STORE CLOSE TO A HEAT SOURCE OR IN DIRECT  
SUNLIGHT.

# QUICK GUIDE

## 1. SUPPORTING STRUCTURE

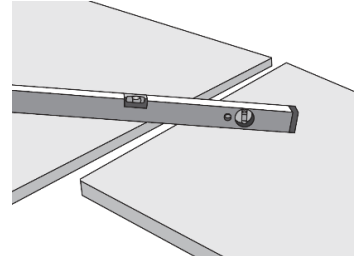
Before installation, it is important that the installed kitchen elements and support structures are level.

Use a spirit level to check, and shims to level out the worktop during installation.

For blind corners or elements without a top, supplementary support structures must be installed so that the worktop is properly supported on all sides.

If cabinets have a full top, remember to ensure air circulation by placing shims under the worktop.

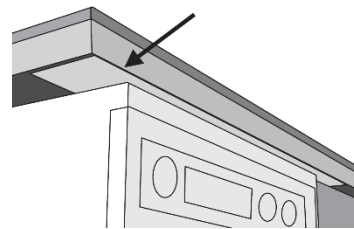
Worktop must be secured every 600 mm.



## 2. MOISTURE AND HEAT PROTECTION

Protective aluminium tape must be installed where moisture and heat can occur.

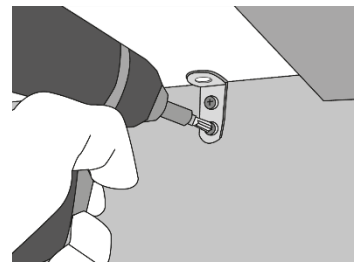
For example above dishwasher, in cut-out for hob. See Section 3 **Error! Reference source not found.** for a full list.



## 3. PREPARATION FOR JOINTING AND SECURING WORKTOPS

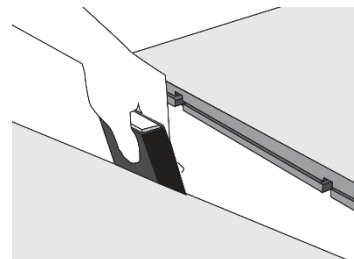
Cabinets with top – drill holes in the top to access and tighten joint brackets from the underside. Drill 10 mm holes to secure the worktop.

Cabinets without top – install the worktop using angle brackets placed into sides of cabinets.



## 4. CLEANING THE JOINT

Lightly sand the wood at the joint to remove any dust and smooth out any unevenness.

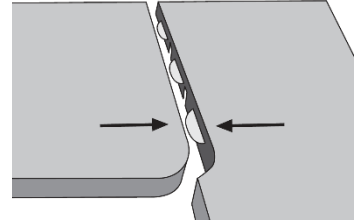


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## 5. TEST FITTING THE JOINT

Assemble the worktops so only 2-3 mm gap remains, with just the mounting pads in the groove.

Check how even the worktops are, and if they are level at the joint. Level out the worktops as best as possible with shims.

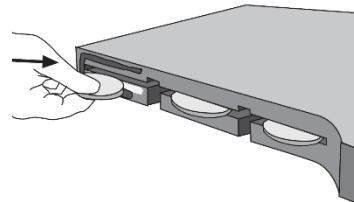


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## 6. GLUING THE JOINT

Squeeze glue from the jointing kit. Apply it for the first 100 mm from the front edge, not for the full span of the joint.

**Smart tip** – put masking tape along the edges of the joint, making removal of excess sealant quick and easy.



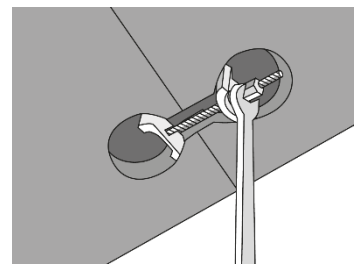
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## 7. TIGHTENING THE JOINT

Finish the joint by tightening the tensioning brackets. Tighten them gently and alternate.

Overtightening will ruin the worktop.

**Smart tip** – level out the joint further by gently tapping with a rubber mallet as you tighten for a more flush result.

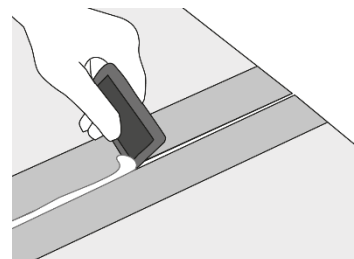


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## 8. CLEANING EXCESS SEALANT

Some sealant should be squeezed out during tightening. Clean it off using a piece of firm cardboard or a rubber putty knife.

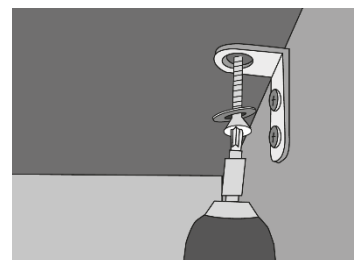
Remnants can be removed with soap water and cloth.



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## 9. SECURING THE WORKTOPS

Now secure the worktops to the supporting structure. Remember to always put washers on screws.



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# MOUNTING INSTRUCTIONS

## 1. SUPPORTING STRUCTURE

### 1.1. PLANNING OF THE STRUCTURE

Pre-requisite to successful installation of kitchen worktops is that the structure to which the worktop will be secured is level.

### 1.2. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORTS

#### 1.2.1. CORNER SOLUTIONS, JOINTS

Make sure the worktop will be secured every 600 mm.

In areas where cabinets cannot support the worktop, like in corners, supporting strips should be screwed into the wall to stabilise the worktop.

Joints must be supported along their entire length except the overhang. See Section 7 below for details.

#### 1.2.2. UNSUPPORTED WORKTOP AREAS

Free overhangs deeper than 300 mm must be supported, for example with an angle bracket.

#### 1.2.3. ENSURING FREE AIR CIRCULATION AROUND WORKTOP

Top and bottom side of solid wood worktop must both be exposed to air. If only one side is exposed, it will absorb or lose moisture faster, leading to the worktop buckling.

Back walls of cabinets need to have holes drilled into them to allow for air circulation. Diameter of at least 25 mm and 200 mm spacing between holes is recommended.

If cabinets have a full top, worktop must be raised with shims, strips or slats at least 5 mm above the top of cabinets.

Worktop must be supported every 600 mm along the length, and ideally across its full width.

## 2. MOISTURE AND HEAT PROTECTION

Aluminium tape needs to be applied in places exposed to moisture and heat, like:

- Above appliances like dishwasher, dryer, washing machine
- Above or next to ovens, around hobs
- Around condensing parts
- Above radiator, floor heating or other similar sources of heat

If the specified protection is not applied in these areas, claims for damage caused by insufficient protection will not be accepted.

### 2.1. PROTECTION ABOVE DISHWASHER, DRYER, WASHING MACHINE

Aluminium tape needs to be applied from the front edge to at least 200 mm inside, along full length of edge above dishwasher (or dryer or washing machine).

## 2.2. HEAT PROTECTION BY OVEN, HOB

Worktops above ovens or other elements that produce steam and strong heat need the same protection to those above dishwashers.

Inner sides of cut-outs for built-in hobs also need to be protected by aluminium tape to protect the otherwise exposed chipboard.

Free-standing stoves positioned next to worktops need to be at least 5 mm higher than the worktop, and aluminium tape needs to be applied to the side of the worktop facing the stove.

Small cracks may still develop due to the high heat despite these precautions. These should have finishing surface treatment (linseed oil, oil wax or hardwax oil) applied immediately. Such cracks are not justification for complaint.

## 2.3. PROTECTION OF CONDENSATION SPOTS

In cut-outs for top-mounted sinks or mixer taps (if they will be installed directly in the worktop), the exposed core wood needs to be properly sealed with silicone before the sink or tap is installed.

**Smart tip** – you can combine silicone and aluminium tape for added protection. First seal the wood with silicone, then apply aluminium tape.

## 3. PREPARATION FOR JOINTING AND SECURING WORKTOPS

### 3.1. PREPARATION FOR SECURING

Wood is a living material. As it absorbs or loses moisture, it expands and contracts – and can move. Width wise, the worktop can move up to 2% of its width.

Worktops from solid wood are made in controlled conditions, with temperature stable around 20°C and humidity around 50%. If these conditions are maintained, this movement is usually only around 1%.

Before installing the worktop, decide in which direction you want to allow it to move – towards the back, or front. Then drill all securing holes with 10 mm diameter, aligned so the worktop can move everywhere in one direction.

They must be aligned to all allow sufficient travel in one selected direction.

Mount the worktop with at least 5 mm gap between any edge and a wall to avoid pressure building up.

### 3.2. JOINT TENSIONING BRACKET ACCESS HOLES

Joints need to be tightened with tensioning brackets. These are accessed from below.

So for cabinets with tops, access holes need to be made to allow for the tensioning brackets to be tightened.

These holes can be cut out with a jig-saw or drilled with hole saw. 50 mm diameter is recommended.



## 4. CLEANING THE JOINT

To ensure a neat and sturdy joint between worktops, the joint face needs to be smooth and clean.

Lightly sand the wood at the joint to remove any dust and smooth out any unevenness.

## 5. TEST FITTING THE JOINT

It is important to test fit the joint to make any adjustments that may be needed for a level, smooth joint.

Start by putting the mounting wafers into the joint groove on one of the worktops, then push in the other worktop to a distance of around 2-3 mm. Don't push the worktops entirely together yet.

See if the worktops are level with a spirit level, and if the joint is smooth. Use shims as necessary to avoid minor differences between the worktops at the joint.

## 6. GLUING THE JOINT

Keeping the worktops 2-3 mm apart.

Then fill the length from front edge to 100 mm into the joint with enclosed sealant. Never glue further than 100 mm because this will inhibit wood's ability to move and could lead to the joint shattering.

**Smart tip** – put masking tape along the edges of the joint, making removal of excess sealant quick and easy. Just don't forget to remove the tape immediately after finishing the joint – it could leave a mark if it is left on too long.

## 7. TIGHTENING THE JOINT

Joints between worktops are often at places where problems may develop in the long term. That is why it is very important to make sure the joint is properly secured and tightened.

Tighten the joint with the tensioning brackets, alternating between them. A snug fit is crucial. If the joint is tightened too much, it can be ruined – and if there is a gap remaining at the joint, moisture can seep in over time.

Also keep an eye on keeping the surface level while tightening.

**Smart tip** – level out the joint further by gently tapping the worktop with a rubber mallet as you tighten for a more flush result.

### 7.1. SUPPORTING JOINTS ABOVE CABINET WITHOUT TOP

Joints without support from fixed points like cabinets or walls must be secured with joint connector blocks from beneath.

A piece of wood or chipboard can be used for this purpose.

### 7.2. SUPPORTING JOINTS CLOSE TO CABINET SIDES

If the joint is right next to a side of a cabinet, it should be secured with an angle bracket fastened to the side of the cabinet.



## 8. CLEANING EXCESS SEALANT

If the joint is properly sealed and tightened, some sealant should be squeezed out from the joint.

To clean it off, wait a couple minutes for it to set a little, and then scrape it off using rubber putty knife, firm piece of cardboard or similar. Any remnants can be removed with a cloth (so not use wet cloth as it could seep into the fresh joint).

## 9. SECURING THE WORKTOPS

Secure the worktop to the cabinets using pre-drilled screw holes or angle brackets. We recommend placing a screw every 600 mm in both the front and back side.

The worktop may be secured with clamps while it is being screwed in if protection blocks are used to protect the worktop surface from damage.

If the worktop is secured in a way where it cannot be removed without damaging other parts of the assembly, compensation for such damage to other parts is not provided in the event of complaint.

### 9.1. SECURING OF JOINTS

Both worktops must be secured to the cabinets as close to the joint as possible. Close to the joint, they should also be secured as far towards the back edge as possible.

Worktops must be secured every 150 mm along the length of the joint.

### 9.2. SECURING OF WORKTOP ENDS

Ends of worktops must be secured both as close to the front edge as possible, and as close to the back edge as possible.

Worktops must be secured every 250 mm along the ends.

### 9.3. ADDITIONAL SECURING

In places where the worktop cannot be secured directly to cabinets due to cabinets not being stable enough, angle brackets should be used for reinforcement.

## 10. ON-SITE MODIFICATIONS

Warranty does not extend to other modifications and cut-outs made on-site, or issues stemming from these.

However if such modification is performed, follow the specifications below.

There needs to be at least 100 mm between the cut-out and end of worktop.

There needs to be at least 150 mm between the cut-out and any joints.

There needs to be at least 50 mm between cut-out for mixer tap and sink.

There needs to be at least 60 mm between cut-out and front edge, and 50 mm between the cut-out and back edge.

## 11. BACKSPLASH MOUNTING

Backsplashes are secured by gluing them to the wall. It is recommended to use slow-hardening glue to have more time for adjustments.

It is crucial to test fit the backsplash, see how it sits on the wall, if any adjustments are needed.

After test fitting the backsplash, clean its underside (side without decor) with denatured alcohol to ensure surface is clean for sealant adhesion. Lay it flat on the worktop near the wall with the decor side down.

Then put sealant on the backsplash.

After the sealant is placed, raise the backsplash to the wall and press it in.

If the wall isn't completely straight, you may need to hold the backsplash in until the sealant sets.

Fill the joint between backsplash and worktop with silicone.

# PRODUCT DESCRIPTION – SOLID WOOD WORKTOPS

Type:	solid wood worktop
Material:	solid wood (18, 30, 40, 80 mm width)
Surface:	natural linseed oil, white wax oil, OSMO hard wax oil
Edge:	straight, R1/R3/R5, or R8 top edge with R1 bottom
Decors:	see our full range at <b>deskform.com</b>

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Solid wood worktops are available in many species with differing characteristics like hardness, colour, grain and structure.

Wood is a living material, and naturally absorbs or loses moisture based on the humidity and temperature it is exposed to. This makes surface treatment which seals the wood, and thus limits the extent of such swelling or drying, crucial.

- Worktops must be inspected as they are being unpacked. Any damage must be documented immediately after discovery.  
If damage is found or documented afterwards, it is not covered by product guarantee.
- Modifications performed in place, or generally not performed by DESK-FORM, are not covered by product guarantee.
- Wood is a living material. As it absorbs or loses moisture, it expands and contracts – and can move. It also reacts to drying out from heat.  
Small cracks may still develop due to this. These should have finishing surface treatment (linseed oil, oil wax or hardwax oil) applied immediately.  
Such cracks are not justification for complaint.

## 2. DECOR, COLOUR

There can be slight differences in colour between worktops in same decor – especially when ordering additional worktops separately. These slight differences can be especially visible at joints.

As wood is natural material, wood grains and structures should be expected. Large knots are repaired during manufacturing, but some smaller one may be present in the finished worktop.

## 3. SINKS

Sinks can be installed under the worktop, secured with fittings and silicone seal. **Do not remove the fittings.**

The upper wooden edge has a bezel as a sharp edge would be impractical and would soon be ruined.

We do not recommend drilling holes for taps directly into the worktop. Such hole exposes the wood at a spot exposed to moisture and condensation. If this hole is made, you must seal the chipboard with silicone, and ideally also apply aluminium tape.

# USE, CARE, MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

## 1. CLEANING

Daily cleaning of worktops should be carried out with a damp cloth. Do not use detergent as it may dry the wood, leading to cracks.

Remove liquids from the surface immediately to prevent them soaking into the wood.

## 2. MAINTENANCE

Surface treatment of the wood has to be periodically renewed to keep the wood protected from moisture and drying out.

The process differs based on the surface treatment applied.

### 2.1. NATURAL LINSEED OIL

Pour the oil onto the top of the worktop and spread it with a cloth. Leave the oil to soak into the worktop for about 30 mins and observe the areas where the oil remains on the surface. After that wipe the worktop with a cloth, drying the surface completely.

The oil-soaked cloth might catch fire so soak it in water and put it in airtight container before you dispose of it.

Wipe any excessive oil as it could create a hard film that is very hard to clean.

Use sanding sponge from the mounting kit while coating to smooth the surface. Always sand along the grain of the wood.

The worktop must be treated repeatedly during the first year to ensure full impregnation with natural oil.

First treatment should take place immediately after installation.

Then repeat it weekly for the next month.

Follow with a treatment a month after that, then after three months and finally after six months.

Afterwards, treatment should be repeated twice or at least once a year.

You can check whether the worktop needs oil coating, you can try a water drop test. Sprinkle a few drops of water onto the worktop.

If the water creates little balls as on freshly wax coated car then the worktop is still impregnated.

If the water soaks into the wood, the worktop needs coating.

Worktops exposed to strong wind or high temperature require more frequent treatment.

## 2.2. WAX OIL

Sand the worktop with a fine sandpaper and wipe it clean.

Apply a layer of wax oil that is included in the mounting kit.

Wipe the excessive wax along the grain of the wood and wipe or polish the surface to acquire the desired look.

The cloth soaked in wax oil might catch fire so soak it in water and put it in airproof container before you dispose of it.

Leave the surface to dry for at least 12 hours and repeat if necessary.

Oil wax will be drying for about 8-10 days. Do not put any heavy objects on the worktop during this period, as they may damage the surface.

## 2.3. OSMO HARD WAX OIL

Sand the worktop with a fine sandpaper (320-400 grit) and wipe it clean.

Apply a layer of oil with brush, roller or cloth along the grain of the wood.

After a few minutes, wipe the excessive oil.

The oil-soaked cloth might catch fire so soak it in water and put it in airproof container before you dispose of it.

Leave the surface to dry for at least 12 hours.

Oil wax will be drying for about 14 days. Do not put any heavy objects on the worktop during this period, as they may damage the surface.

## 3. STAIN RESISTANCE

Liquids with strong colour can stain the wood and should be removed as quickly as possible.

## 4. SCRATCH RESISTANCE

Solid wood can be scratched with sharp objects.

Scratches may disrupt the important surface treatment.

Never use such objects directly on the surface of the wood – use a carving board, don't drag objects with rough surface (for example cast iron or ceramic pots) across the worktop.

If scratches occur, they can usually be repaired by sanding them off and re-applying surface treatment. See the relevant part of Section 2 of maintenance instructions.

## 5. HEAT RESISTANCE

Solid wood is not heat resistant. Never put hot cooking vessels directly on the surface – use a pad, carving board, or other heat protection.

## 6. SINK MAINTENANCE

### 6.1. STAINLESS STEEL SINKS

Clean by wiping with a damp cloth.

Avoid using steel wool since it can leave behind small particles and scratches that can develop into rust spots.

Avoid leaving cast iron pots and fry pans in the sink as these can also cause rust stains.

If, despite precautions, small scratches or rust spots appear, these can be sanded off. Use mild sandpaper (220 grade) and rub in long, even strokes.

## 6.2. SILGRANITE SINKS

Clean with regular scrub sponge with detergent.

If severe calcium deposits develop, fill the sink with a warm solution of vinegar (7%) for a few minutes, then rinse off with water.

Silgranite sinks in lighter shades can be stained by strongly coloured liquids. Wipe the sink off with a wet cloth after draining such liquids to prevent discoloration.

## 6.3. PVD SINKS

Clean the sink with a soft sponge, using lukewarm water and mild soap, at least once a day. In case of persistent dirt, dip a soft cloth in a solution of equal parts of water and white wine vinegar with acidity 4-8% (50% water – 50% vinegar), and clean the entire surface. Limescale stains (white stains) can be easily removed with white wine vinegar. Just dip a soft cloth in the vinegar and rub gently the stained surface. Repeat the operation if needed.

Then rinse your sink thoroughly with running water.

Finally dry carefully with a soft cloth, to prevent water stagnation. Always wipe in the direction of the grain, to preserve the satin finish.

Do not use products containing ammonia, bleach, chlorine, hydrofluoric acid, muriatic acid, citric acid, hydrogen peroxide, active oxygen.

Avoid abrasive and aggressive chemicals. These products may alter the surface of the sink.

In case of doubts, test your cleaning product on a small area of the sink before applying it to the surface.

Do not wash any components of the sink in the dishwasher.

Do not use steel wool, abrasive pastes, abrasive sponges, metal scouring sponges that may scratch the sink's surface.

Do not throw sharp or heavy objects into the sink.

Do not leave wet sponges, wet metal scouring sponges, as well as metal utensils or cans which may rust in the sink, for more than a few hours, as they may lead to the formation of dark rust-like stains.

Do not leave any acid foodstuff such as lemon, tomato, wine, pickled vegetables or salt, as well as highly pigmenting substances (for example teabags, coffee) in the sink for long, as they may stain the sink.

In case you accidentally use these substances in the sink, immediately rinse the sink and dry it.