

Required Tool and Supplies

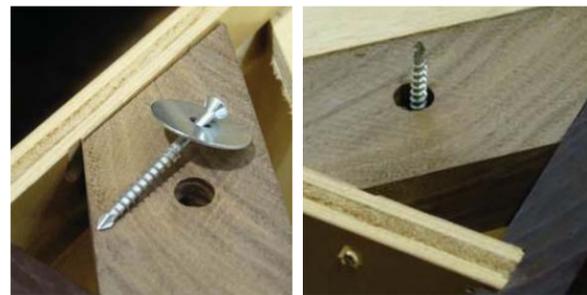
• Cordless Drill	• Level
• Belt Sander with 60 and 80 grit belts	• Random Orbital Palm Sander
• Shur-form rasps -- straight and half round	• 1/2" and 1/8" drill bits
• 5/16" open end wrench	• Rubber Mallet
• Mineral Spirits	• Caulk Gun
• #10 SPAX or other high quality wood screws	• Silicone Caulk - GE Type II 100% CLEAR- for sinks/ backsplashes ONLY
• Wood Shims	• #2 Square-drive bit
• 1" outside diameter fender washers	• Small Rags or pieces of paper towel
• T-Bolt Joint Hardware (Included for jointed tops)	• Franklin Adhesives HiPur Hot Polyurethane Glue Gun and 30 second glue
• Waterlox	• 150 grit sandpaper
• Tape Measure	• Chopsaw

IMPORTANT

Overhangs over 12 inches MUST BE SUPPORTED.

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

Screw holes MUST BE OVERSIZED.



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.
- If there are no corner blocks, see next step.
- 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 the dustcover, corner block or stretcher bar.
- 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 they fit the on the cabinets and between the walls, etc. After this has been done, the pieces can be bolted together using the T- Bolt hardware provided.

- 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 (if they are not already 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. **Do not tighten the hardware fully.**

Note: The T- Bolts are placed in the slot; hand tightened and then fully tightened using a 1/2" open-end wrench.

- Place the tops (finished-side up) and place them on top of the cabinets so that there is access to the T-Bolts from underneath.
- Fine tune the vertical alignment (making the tops flush) using the mallet if necessary and tighten the T-Bolts with the open-end 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. 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 a new spade drill. 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.

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.

Before installing the countertops, verify that the sink will fit in the cabinet. If the sink will not fit in the cabinet it will be necessary to have an experienced cabinet installer cut the cabinet walls down until the sink will fit.

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 entire rim.
- 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 small clean rags or paper towel 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. 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 top edge of the edge profile. Never extend the backsplash past the flat area of the top.
- Measure this distance from an edge that will not be exposed and trim the backsplash to length using a chopsaw.
- Re-coat cut area with supplied Waterlox. Allow to dry.
- Apply silicone (or a construction adhesive) along the wall
- Run a bead small bead of silicone at the corner where the countertop and wall meet. This will seal the backsplash to the countertop.
- Set backsplash in place.
- 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 appropriate size 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 that small pieces of paper towel be used once to clean up the majority of the silicone and then use a rag or paper towel with mineral spirits until clean.
- If an exposed edge needs to be trimmed, sand with 150-grit sandpaper, then re-coat with Waterlox.

Issues and Resolutions

Storage

If the top needs to be stored prior to installation for less than two weeks, leave the top in the packaging and 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 loosely tightened SPAX screws to pull a top into place.
 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 1/16" 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.

Limited Install Surfaces

1. Determine corner blocks placement.
2. Heat the HiPur glue gun.
3. Dry fit the block so that it is even with the top of the cabinet wall.
4. Run a bead of the glue on the two edges of the block that go against the cabinet walls.
5. Push the block tightly into the corner of the cabinet and hold in place for 30 seconds.

Uneven Cabinet Boxes

Use shims along cabinet walls to level the top.

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 should be refinished every 3-5 years to retain original finish's properties.

Visit www.craft-art.com/tech for easy tips on everything from scratch removal to complete refinishing!

Did you know...?

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.

Our countertops are shipped with a fresh coat of Tung Oil. The Tung Oil has a unique smell, like your new car! This mild fragrance will dissipate within 30 days as the finish fully cures.

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!

Need More Help?

Our experienced sales team is ready to help! Email us at sales@craft-art.com or call us at (404) 352-5625.



1209 Logan Circle
Atlanta, Georgia 30318
www.craft-art.com
(404)352-5625

Installation Procedures and Maintenance Guide

The Craft-Art Company, Inc.

1209 Logan Circle NW
Atlanta GA 30318
(404) 352-5625
sales@craft-art.com

Love your new top?

Send us a picture! Share photos on our facebook page, and we'll send a free cutting board as our thanks!



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First time installing a wood countertop?
Check out our install video!
www.craft-art.com/installvideo

