

# Solid Surface Installation Guide

**IMPORTANT:** Please read through the entire instructions before starting your installation. Failure to follow these instructions could possibly void the warranty on your Countertops. The limited warranty covers replacement or repair only. View our Solid Surface Installation video at: [www.midwestmanufacturing.com](http://www.midwestmanufacturing.com).

Inspect the countertop as soon as possible and prior to any tear out of existing countertops at the job site. This inspection should take place within 24 hours of pickup.

Solid Surface countertops must be mounted to an even surface. Failure to level cabinets will cause stress and possible damage the tops.

Check all dimensions, and test-fit seams and miters if applicable.

**DO NOT** cut your own cooktop cutouts. These must be cut at the factory due to special precautions.

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## Additional Materials Required

Clear Silicon & Caulk Gun  
Pencil or Fine-Tipped Drill  
& 1-3/8" Hole Saw  
Hot Melt Glue Gun  
Tape Measure  
48" Level  
7/16" Wrench  
Denatured Alcohol  
Belt Sander

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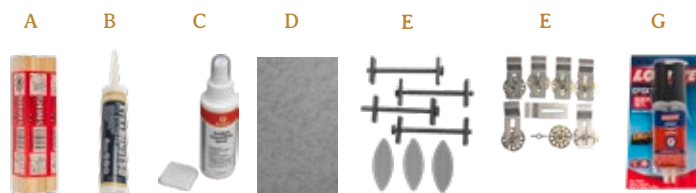
## Install Kit (Included)

A Shims  
B Color Match Silicone  
C Spray Mist  
D Finish Pad

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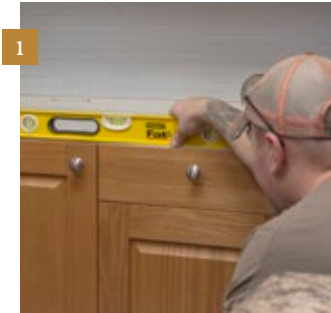
## Based On Order

E Miter Bolts & Biscuits  
F Sink Clips  
G Epoxy



## 1 Transporting & Handling

1. Corinthian countertops should be stored in original packaging and transported on edge or vertical position to avoid damage until installation. Carrying them in a horizontal position will cause stress and possible damage.
2. Be sure to allow 24 hours for the countertops to acclimate to room temperature. Never install cold or hot solid surface countertops. The day before installation the tops should be brought into the room they are to be installed in.



## 2 Leveling Cabinets

1. Use a 48" level to find any non-level areas.
2. Level if possible. If not, mark these areas, so later in the installation process you can shim the countertops to a level position.

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NOTE: Failure to level will cause stress and will possibly damage the countertops.

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## 3 Pre-fit

1. Visually inspect your countertops to ensure each piece is the proper size and is free of defect. Measure the cabinet run and then the countertop to ensure accuracy.
2. With help, slowly position the countertop above the mounting surface as the picture illustrates.
3. Gradually tip the countertop to a horizontal position. Be aware of upper cabinets and sinks if applicable.
4. Dry fit any seams, if applicable, by placing the seamed pieces together.

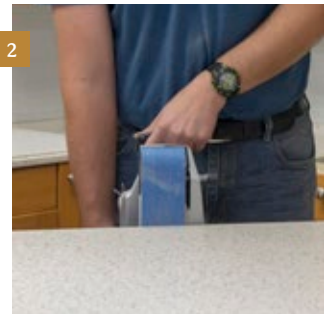
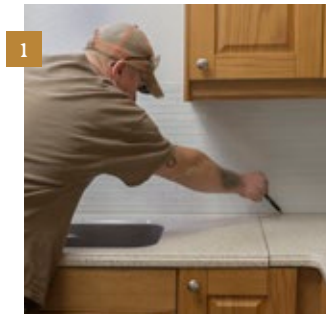
## 4 Scribing Countertops

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NOTE: Scribing the countertop to match the contour of the wall will be necessary if a gap between the countertop and wall exceeds the material being applied to the wall.

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1. Place the countertop in position. Mark with a pencil directly on the countertop. Any irregularities in the wall that create a gap or a void. (Fig 1)
2. Move the countertop to a sturdy work area, such as a set of saw horses, and use a belt sander to remove the excess countertop material up to, but not past, your pencil mark. (Fig 2)
3. Place the countertop back into position and repeat this process as needed. Repeat this process for all individual pieces of your countertop.



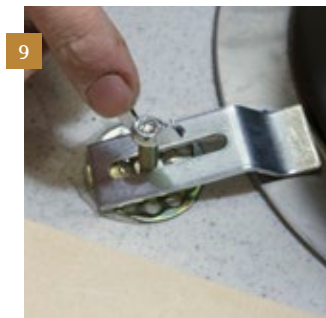
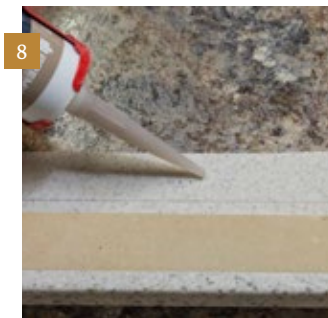
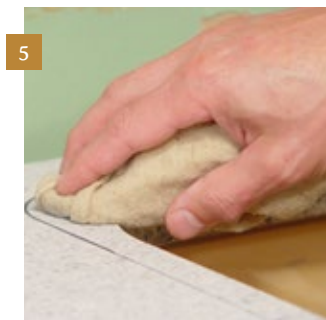
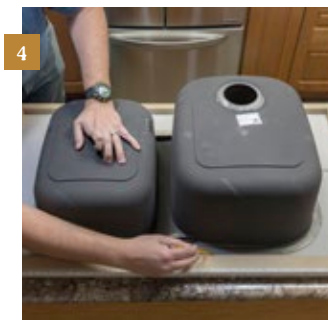
## 5 Undermount Sink Installation (If Applicable)

1. Set the countertop in place with the unfinished, underside facing up. Position the sink upside down, centered over the sink cutout with equal amounts of overhang or reveal visible on all sides of the sink. (Fig 3)
2. With a pencil or fine-tipped marker, trace the outer of the sink to the underside of the countertop. (Fig 4)
3. With denatured alcohol, wipe down the underside of the countertop where the sink rim and anchoring posts will be adhered to. (Fig 5)
4. With an epoxy, bond the undermount sink anchoring posts to the underside of the countertop at the four corners and central locations along the cutouts width and length (Fig 6). Be sure the posts are next to your traced line, but not inside the area where the sink rim will adhere to the countertop. Mix the 2 part epoxy thoroughly, otherwise the epoxy will not set. Apply epoxy to cleaned mounting locations and press the mounting posts into the epoxy in the anchoring locations. Smooth the epoxy around the anchoring posts and let the epoxy dry for a minimum of 20 minutes.

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NOTE: Do not place anchoring posts in front of sink. (Fig 7)

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5. Run a quarter-inch bead of silicone caulk inside the traced sink rim area on the underside of the countertop. (Fig 8)
6. Position the undermount sink within the traced area and butting up to the anchoring posts, press down firmly.
7. Attach undermount sink to the anchoring posts with supplied brackets and wing nuts. Wait approximately one hour for caulk to set before moving the countertop section for final placement. (Fig 9)

## 6 Install Single Countertop Pieces

1. Using a shim, level up the marked areas that were made in step 2.
2. Apply a dime-sized dab of color-matched caulk every 24" along the front and back edge of the cabinet run.
3. With help, slowly position countertop above the mounting surface.
4. Gradually tip the countertop to a horizontal position. Be aware of upper cabinets and installed sinks (if applicable).
5. Once in final position, firmly apply downward pressure to seat the top in the caulk.

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NOTE: This installation process will also be used for pieces such as islands

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## 7 Install Larger Countertops Pieces with Seam or Miter

1. Before placing large pieces of countertop, apply a dime-sized dab of color-matched caulk every 24" along the front and back edge of the cabinet run.
2. With help, slowly position countertop above the mounting surface.
3. Gradually tip the countertop to a horizontal position. Be aware of upper cabinets and installed sinks (if applicable).
4. Once in final position, firmly apply downward pressure to seat the top in the caulk.
5. For large countertop pieces it will be necessary to caulk along the outer seam between the underside of the countertop and the cabinet face.

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NOTE: If you do not have access, it may be necessary to assemble the seam before moving pieces into final position on the cabinets.

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## 8 Assembling Seams

1. Place the two countertop pieces in position, leaving a 3/4" gap between the two.
2. Make sure you have access through a cabinet to reach the under-side of the seam before completing the caulking part of this step.

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NOTE: If you do not have access, it may be necessary to assemble the seam before moving pieces into final position on the cabinets.

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3. Install the supplied biscuits in the precut slots. (Fig 10)
4. Apply a 1/4" bead of color-matched caulk on the edges of the two pieces of seamed countertop. Be sure this bead runs the full length of the seam. (Fig 11)
5. Carefully slide the pieces together, place the miter bolts in their precut pockets, and tighten to squeeze joint together.
6. Once the joint is secure and tight, wipe any excess caulk away from countertop.



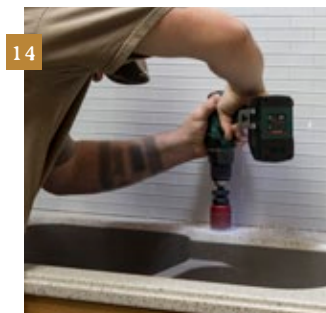
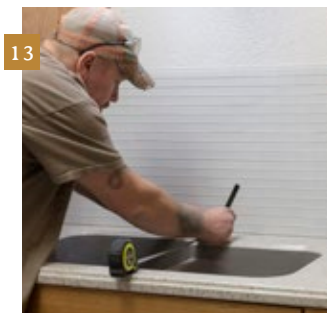
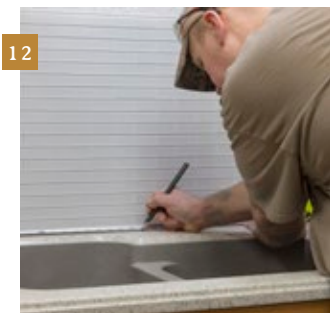
## 9 Cutting Faucet Holes

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NOTE: You will need a hole saw for your drill. Use a 1-3/8" for kitchen and 1-1/8" for vanity faucet holes or as specified by the faucet vendor.

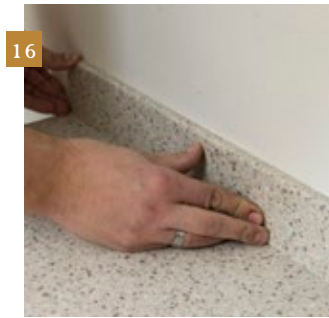
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1. First, determine the location of your faucet. Measure the sink's center and mark this point on the countertop behind the sink. Then, center within the area behind the sink from front to back. (Fig 12, 13)
2. Using the proper size hole saw and a drill, carefully drill a hole through the material. (Fig 14)
3. Clean up any debris and test the fit of the faucet in the hole. Do not install the faucet at this time.



## 10 Backsplash Installation

1. It may be necessary to cut your loose backsplash to length. Make sure when cutting with a miter saw, the blade is sharp and is up to speed. Cut slowly to avoid chipping. Butt seams are typically used in the corner to transition backsplash 90 degrees.
2. Dry fit pieces to ensure proper fit.
3. Place dime-sized dabs of silicone and then hot melt every 18" or so on the back of the backsplash pieces. (Fig 15)
4. The glue will set relatively quickly so position it in a timely manner.
5. Press firmly back and down against wall and countertop until hot melt sets. (Fig 16)



## 11 Caulking Backsplash

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NOTE: It is important to seal the area between the backsplash and the countertop from moisture.

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1. Apply an even bead of color matched silicone along the seam where the backsplash and countertop meet. (Fig 17)
2. Use the supplied finishing spray to spray the entire length of caulk bead.
3. Use supplied finishing tool or wet finger to smooth the silicone bead. (Fig 18)
4. Repeat the above steps to silicone along the top of the backsplash and wall.



## 12 Faucet Installation

1. At this time, install your faucet per the manufacturer's instructions.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Solid Surface made of?

Solid Surface is made of 100% acrylic material.

### Is Solid Surface repairable?

Yes, Solid Surface is the only renewable countertop surface on the market today.

### Is Solid Surface food safe?

Yes, due to its non-porous nature, Corinthian™ Solid Surface products are safe for food preparation.

### How do I clean Solid Surface?

Soap, water and a soft dish cloth is generally all that is needed. Hard water marks can generally be removed using ordinary vinegar. Bleach and harsh abrasive cleaners should NOT be used.

### How can I buff out scratches that may occur?

Scratches are more noticeable in dark colors, but Solid Surface is completely renewable and repairable using the Solid Surface Refinishing Kit (Sku 485-4283) found at your local Menards® store.

### Is Solid Surface resistant to heat?

While Solid Surface withstands heat better than most materials on the market, it can be damaged by extreme temperature changes, whether sudden or prolonged. Always use a trivet with rubber feet when placing hot items on your countertop surface. These items include, but are not limited to, pots, pans, and crock-pots.

### Can I cut on a Solid Surface Countertop?

No, avoid cutting directly on countertops, always use a cutting board.

### Do I need to add supports if I have an overhang?

Overhangs of 10" should have support added. Any overhangs 15" or more require support to the floor.

## CustomCraft Countertops® Solid Surface Limited Lifetime Warranty

The manufacturer warrants the original purchaser only that this countertop is free from defects in workmanship and material for its lifetime. The manufacturer, at its sole discretion, agrees to repair or replace the defective product. If the product must be replaced, the manufacturer will send the replacement product to the store where the product was purchased. The original purchaser will then, at their own expense, pick up the replacement product. The original purchaser must also return the defective product to the store where it was purchased, at the purchaser's sole expense. This limited warranty does not cover any labor for the replacement of any defective product. This limited warranty does not cover any damage that has resulted from abuse or misuse of the product. This limited warranty does not cover any miters or field joints where there was improper gluing when joints were assembled. The rights under this limited warranty are limited to the original purchaser and may not be transferred to subsequent owners. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. Sellers shall not be liable for any special, incidental or consequential damages. THIS SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY AGAINST SELLER WILL BE REPAIR OR THE REPLACEMENT OF ANY DEFECTS as provided herein. As long as the seller is willing or able to repair or replace the defective product, as provided above, THIS EXCLUSIVE REMEDY shall not be deemed to have failed of its essential purpose.

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## Care And Maintenance

To clean the surface, wash with a mild dish washing liquid or powdered detergent; add warm water. Use a soft dish cloth. Rinse with warm water and dry with cloth. Water is generally all that is needed. A quick wipe will clean most stains.

Periodically go over the entire surface with a mild abrasive cleaner or a wet blue Scotch-Brite® pad to maintain a uniform appearance. For Harder to remove spots, use an all-purpose cleaner or bathroom cleanser. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Rinse with warm water and dry with a soft cloth. Please note, do not use cleansers that contain harsh abrasives.

For stubborn spots, scrub the stained area with a mild abrasive cleaner using a blue Scotch-Brite® pad, working on a circular motion.

Factory integrated sinks will use the same process outlined above. In addition, to keep the sink bright occasionally fill it 1/4" full of water and add 1-2 cups of bleach. Wipe the sides and the bottom, let stand for 15 minutes, drain and rinse.

While Solid Surfaces have durable finishes, you should not cut directly on the surface or lay any utensils warmer than approximately 170°F on the countertop for extended periods of time. Hot pans and heat-producing appliances (such as electric griddles and skillets), when set directly on the countertops, can damage the countertop. Always use a hot pad or a trivet. Pre-warm your sink bowl with hot tap water before pouring any boiling water into the sink in order to avoid possible heat damage.

Solid Surfaces color and pattern are consistent throughout, allowing the tops to be renewed over and over. Scratches can be removed using the solid surface refinishing kit (SKU 485-4283) available in the Cabinet & Appliances department at your local Menards® store.

### Questions or Concerns

For guest assistance contact countertop help by sending an email to: [CountertopHelp@MidwestManufacturing.com](mailto:CountertopHelp@MidwestManufacturing.com)

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