



Granite worktops: Notes for Kitchen fitters

- Existing or temporary tops and wall tiles should be removed prior to templating.
- Templating can only be carried out once all the cabinets and end panels are fitted and fixed to the wall with a batten round the wall to support the back edge of the top. All edges and joints in the granite need to be fully supported. **In particular the front edge of sink and hob cut outs must not deflect.**
- Cabinets must be *absolutely* level. Tops with cut outs are surprisingly fragile until fitted and will break if the cabinets are not level.
- Any angled cuts however slight are charged extra so try to fit cabinets square to each other. Gaps due to minor out of square walls can often be accommodated by covering with upstands.
- Sinks and appliances and their fitting instructions must be on site and available to the templater.
- A representative should be on site to ensure that cut outs etc are correctly positioned and ambiguous details clarified. If no representative or specific information is available, The Company will exercise its discretion.
- No cut out should be closer to any edge than 80mm. Note that as most inset sinks and hobs require a 490mm deep cut out this requires a top of 650mm deep minimum.
- If no information is available we would normally use the following defaults:
 - Centralise the hob with the extractor above rather than with the hob base.
 - The sink / hob cut out 80mm from the worktop edge.
 - The worktop overhang: 20mm over the doors (30mm with full bull nose edge detail).
 - Upstands where required. 60mm x 20mm with arrissed edge.
 - Undermount cut outs to sink manufacturers spec. If unavailable then cut out 10mm smaller overall than the sink.
 - 5 no. Straight drainer grooves 350mm long.
- Undermount sinks can be fitted in two different ways:
 - Clamped to the underside of the granite using the manufacturers clamps and special threaded bushes that we fix into the granite. Sink fitting is done by you *after* the granite is fitted and requires approximately 50mm space at the corners of the sink. Since the granite must support the sink the granite itself must be well supported. We suggest a 100mm vertical MFC rail across the front. Double cabinets may require an extra leg in the front centre.
 - Rebated into a special top you have fitted to the sink base. Sinks should be loose fitted to a so as to allow slight adjustments on site. Undermount sinks should be fully supported and flush with the top of the cabinet. We will seal all such sinks with sanitary grade silicone. This is our preferred method.
- Some ceramic sinks can be quite bowed. Please ensure that no part of the sink is higher than the top of the cabinets. This not only results in scratching to the sink but can stress the granite to the point of cracking it. Belfast sinks and the like should *not* support the top. A full three-sided support round the sink should be fitted if a separate tap board is used, otherwise two sided should suffice.
- Some dishwashers require to be screwed to the worktop. We suggest fitting a batten under the top, which is fixed to the adjacent cabinets. This means the dishwasher will be lower by the thickness of the batten. Most integrated dishwashers can accommodate this but please check.
- Abortive templating visits will be charged at 70% of the templating fee.
- A detailed drawing will be forwarded to you after templating and prior to fabrication, which will be deemed by us to have been approved by you if we have had no response within 1 working day. Any delay in approving drawings will likely result in a delay to the installation date. Quotes will be reviewed after templating and any changes in cost passed on.

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