

SOLID WOOD WORKTOP

INSTALLATION GUIDE

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

All worktops are supplied unfinished. Upon unwrapping it is important to inspect the worktop, any defect must be reported and resolved before proceeding. The standard of the oiling & fitting will determine the final result. Before commencing the installation of your worktops you should read and understand these instructions. If in doubt please contact your supplier for advice before you undertake any work on the worktop. Failure to adhere to these instructions will invalidate the warranty.

Wood is a natural product and can be affected by temperature and humidity. Worktops should be stored flat, fully supported at all times, in their original packaging and away from a direct heat source, i.e. a radiator. Never store vertically or on edge, as this will induce bowing.

IMPORTANT: The worktop must be sufficiently oiled on both faces and all edges prior to fitting. This can be done before or after cutting, but in all cases should be done within one hour of unwrapping the worktop. The importance of correct and sufficient oiling with a high quality oil cannot be overstated.

- A. IMPORTANT.** Prior to installation you must oil the complete worktop and all edges with a minimum of five coats, paying particular attention to all cut edges and end grains. Upstands must also be oiled. Allow at least 8 –10 hours to dry between coats. We recommend a good quality oil is used.
- B.** Allow a 3-4 mm gap between the back edge of the worktop and the wall, this will allow the worktop to expand and contract within the humidity of the kitchen. We advise that an upstand is used to cover the gap. Fix the upstand to the wall and not the worktop. A flexible silicone seal should be used between the upstand and the worktop.
- C.** No cut outs for sinks, hobs, etc., should be nearer than 100 mm from the end of the worktop, as this will seriously weaken the worktop.
- D.** When a worktop is to be fitted near to a constant heat source, i.e. an AGA or Rayburn, allow a minimum gap of 40 mm. Ideally a solid wood return should be fixed across the end grain to help prevent any splits occurring. It is not recommended to install the worktop above a boiler.
- E.** If a kitchen appliance (dishwasher, washing machine, refrigerator, etc...) is to be installed under the worktop, cover the exposed underside of the worktop with a sheet of Insulux 911 moisture barrier paper using PVA wood glue with the foil face outwards. This will help to protect the worktop from any intense heat or moisture. Use the same procedure for installations when you are fixing onto exposed brickwork.
- F.** We do not recommend that drainer grooves are cut into the worktop due to constant water lying on the surface. However, if you are planning to make drainer grooves in the worktop, we would suggest to minimise possible water damage that they are made to the centre of the timber staves and not along the glue joint, with a sufficient gradient slope to drain away any water. This area must be well oiled as drainer grooves are vulnerable to holding water which can cause damage.
- G.** Only use slotted angle brackets, with the slots running horizontally across the width of the worktop, to secure the worktop to the carcass, this will allow natural lateral movement. Always use flat washers with the screws to fix.
- H.** If a carcass has a solid top or you can only secure through the cross-rail it is important to drill an oversized hole (8-10mm) through the top of the carcass and secure to the worktop using a larger flat washer and screw. This will allow the work surface to slide over the washer in case of any possible expansion or contraction. (Do not screw through the carcass directly into the worktop without oversize holes).
- I.** It is important that 3 slotted angle brackets are used across the width at regular intervals along the length of the worktop, especially at the end of a worktop run.
- J.** When joining two worktops together three standard worktop bolts must be used on each joint. The additional use of biscuit joints is also recommended.
- K.** All joints should be Butt jointed and not Mitred. A short Mason Mitre can be used for profiled edges.
- L.** It is not recommended that a solid wood worktop be installed without supporting cabinets, i.e. a peninsular breakfast bar with support leg. If this is to be used an adequate cross bracing framework must be used supporting the underside.
- M.** When installing a Butler/Belfast sink it is essential to apply additional coats of oil to the underside and edges before installation as this area will be subject to continual splashes and will be inaccessible once installed. A continuous waterproof silicone seal must be installed between the top of the sink and the underside of the worktop to prevent water ingress. A drip groove should also be installed on the underside around the edge over the sink.

FINISHING YOUR WORKTOP AND AFTERCARE TO MAINTAIN YOUR WORKTOPS
PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CUSTOMER READS AND RETAINS THIS DOCUMENT

We recommend our own Wood Protector and Hardwax Oil finish be used to treat the complete worktop. The combination of these oils will penetrate into all types of wood, drying to form a hard, durable and water resistant seal to the worktop.

Preparation – The wood surface must be dry and clean.

Wood Protector 4006 - Apply 2 coats generously to both faces and all edges (including sink/hob cut-outs etc.) using a cloth, wipe off any excess after 5 minutes. Please pay particular attention to the SINK AREAS. Ensuring good ventilation, allow 8-10 hours between coats and leave approx. 24 hours to dry before application of the Hardwax Oil. (See technical information sheet for instructions or back of tin).

Hardwax Oil 3032 - Apply first coat thinly to both faces and all edges (including sink/hob cut-outs etc.) with a cloth wiping off any excess after 5 minutes. Leave to dry overnight (at least 8–10 hours) ensuring good ventilation. Apply second coat to the face and all edges. Apply one more final coat to the face and edges (3 in total). Please pay particular attention to the SINK AREAS. (See technical information sheet for instructions or back of tin).

Note when using other oil finishes it is essential that the above instructions are followed and that before using the worktop the correct amount of oil coats have been applied, especially around the sink area. In the case of Finishing Oil or Danish Oil this would require a minimum of 5-6 coats to build up the barrier required.

Aftercare

Please remember that wood is a natural material and a proper course of oil treatment is essential to build up a surface protection to stains and humidity, which will ensure a long and trouble free life.

In the first few days of use some care must be taken to prevent the worktops becoming stained before they have built up sufficient oil protection. In particular water must not be allowed to lie on the surface, but wiped off immediately with a cloth.

The kitchen installer should already have applied at least 5 coats of oil to both surfaces and edges of the worktop. However you will need to oil the face again after installation building it up to the required amount subject to the oil you are using (see specific instructions). Using a cloth, apply the oil to the whole surface, leave for a few minutes, and then using the same cloth wipe off any excess oil. Leave to dry for 8–10 hours. This is best done overnight to allow the maximum drying time. Each coat must be dry before you apply the next.

Once you have built up the recommended coats of oil, you will need to restore the sheen of the tops with a coat of oil when you feel they start to look a little dull, or for precaution every 3-6 months, this will return them to their natural beauty.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS FOR WOOD PROTECTOR 4006 & HARDWAX OIL 3032

DO NOT USE WITH WATER-BASED STAINS

Wood Protector 4006 Clear

Wood Protector is a unique wood wax primer based on natural oils and waxes produced entirely without organic biocides, and therefore entirely safe for indoor use. It is a preventive protective against blue stain and mildew and is extremely water repellent. The natural oils and waxes penetrate into the wood, keeping it flexible and healthy, and preventing it from getting dry and brittle. Shrinking and swelling are reduced. The wood is allowed to breathe.

Preparation – The wood surface must be dry and clean.

Application

By soft cloth or brush. Wood Protector is ready to use straight from the tin. Please do not thin. Stir well. Apply first coat generously to both faces and all edges (including sink/hob cut-outs etc.) wiping off any excess with a cloth after 5 minutes. Please pay particular attention to the SINK AREAS. Leave for 8-10 hours before applying the second coat. Leave approx. 24 hours to dry before applying the Hardwax Oil finishing coats (see below), ensuring good ventilation. Brushes can be cleaned using white spirit.

Hardwax Oil 3032 Clear

Hard wax oil is a professional, clear, satin-matt finish based on natural vegetable oils and waxes. It is micro porous and does not crack, flake, peel or blister. Again the natural oils and waxes penetrate into the wood, keeping it flexible and healthy, and preventing it from getting dry and brittle. Shrinking and swelling are reduced. The wood is allowed to breathe

Application

By soft cloth or brush. Hard Wax Oil is ready to use straight from the tin. Please do not thin but stir thoroughly. Apply first coat thinly to both faces and all edges (including sink/hob cut-outs etc.) wiping off any excess with a cloth after 5 minutes and leave to dry overnight (at least 8 –10 hours) ensuring good ventilation. Apply second coat to the face and all edges. Apply one more final coat (3 in total). Please pay particular attention to the SINK AREAS.

Note: The sanding pad can be used between coats to remove any high spots or possible raised grain. Brushes can be cleaned using white spirit.

The surfaces can be cleaned with damp cloth containing a small amount of dishwashing agent. If your worktops start to look a little dull after a long period simply re-oil in order to return your tops to their natural beauty.

Caution

Keep out of reach of Children

Work in areas of good ventilation

In case of contact with eyes rinse immediately with water

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