



STRETTA WORKTOPS

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Congratulations! You have purchased the most beautiful and versatile worktop available. If properly installed, this **STRETTA** worktop will enhance your home for many years with only minimal care.

DAILY MAINTENANCE OF YOUR STRETTA WORKTOPS

Use a clean, damp, non-abrasive cloth with a mild detergent or household cleaner. To remove stuck-on residue, scrub with a nylon-bristled brush. Do not use harsh or abrasive cleaners or chemicals to clean the worktop. Do not place hot objects directly on the surface. Do not place a toaster, coffee maker, kettle or other kitchen appliances that emit heat directly over a seam between two worktops because the heat can damage the seam. Avoid cutting directly on the worktop, as this may damage the surface. Do not allow bottles, rags or any other container that holds harsh chemicals to come in contact with your worktop.

BEFORE YOU START:

- Be sure to read the entire manual before proceeding with the installation.
- Note that the hardware, adhesive, sealant and tools are not included.
- Wear the appropriate protective equipment to avoid injury (not included).



INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Before installation, store the worktop in a room with normal temperature and humidity levels. Do not place the worktop against a warm radiator or lay it on a cold floor.
- When storing the worktop, stand it on the back edge of its long side.
- Do not open the package until you are ready to install the worktop.
- Not suitable for use in wet rooms.
- Only recommended for indoor use.
- It is preferable to handle and install the worktop with two (2) people.
- The hole for the sink should not be located within 3-7/8" (10 cm) of the edge of the countertop (fig.1).
- The worktop must not be unsupported, between two cabinets, for a maximum of 31-1/2" (80 cm) (fig. 2).
- The maximum overhang that a worktop can accept, without support, is 10" (25 cm) (fig. 2).
- **Stretta** worktops give you two installation options (fig.3):
90° NO CUT (step 3) or **45° ANGLE CUT** (step 3.1)



Fig.1

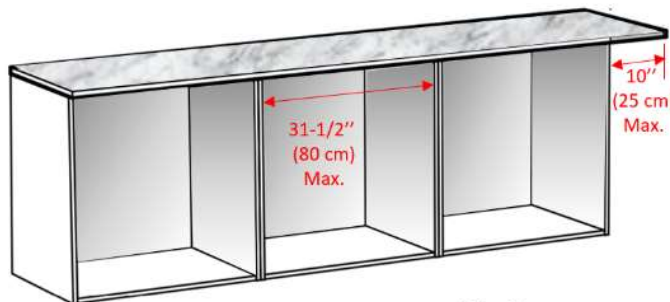
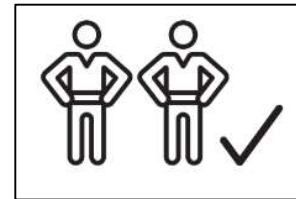


Fig.2

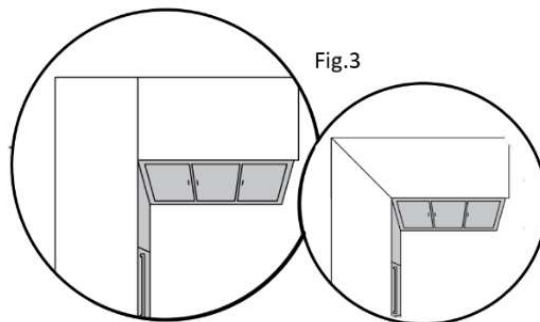


Fig.3

90° no cut

45° angle cut

1- SELECT INSTALLATION OPTION, MEASURE & CUT YOUR WORKTOP:

- Choose the desired installation option and measure your worktops.

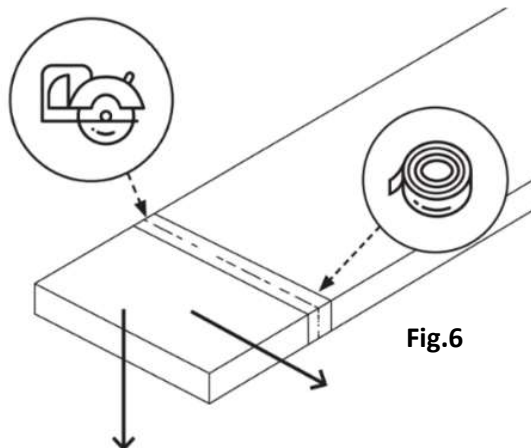
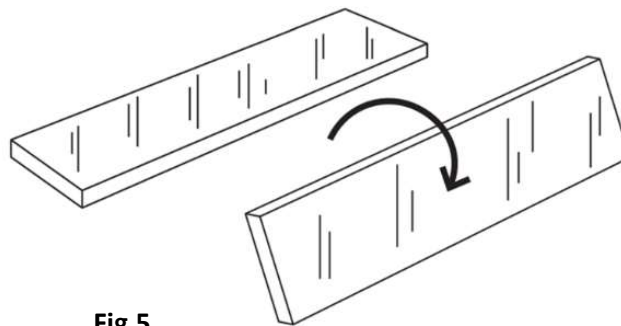
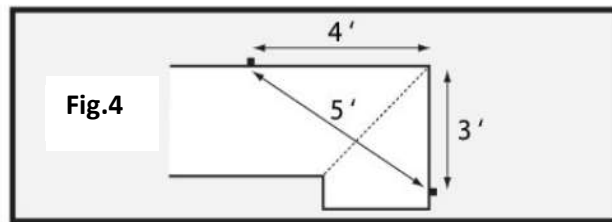
90° NO CUT:

If your wall corner is out of square and the gap is not large, you can compensate with a silicone gasket at the junction of the wall and the workplan. If the gap is too large, adding a backsplash may also be another option.

45° ANGLE CUT:

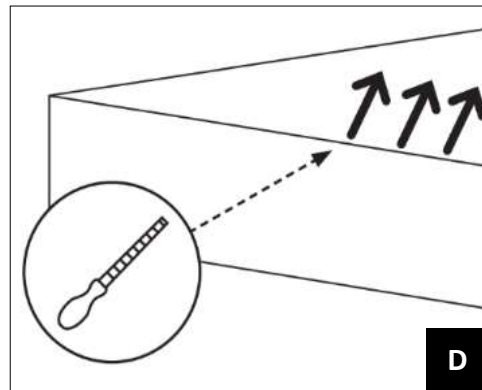
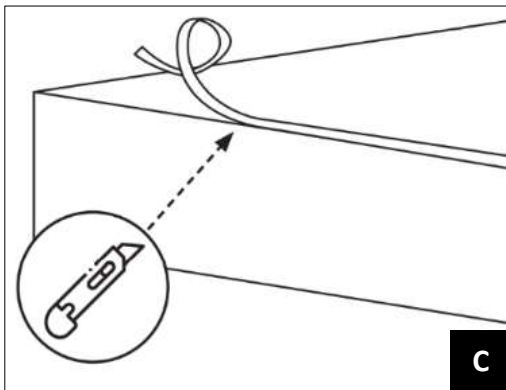
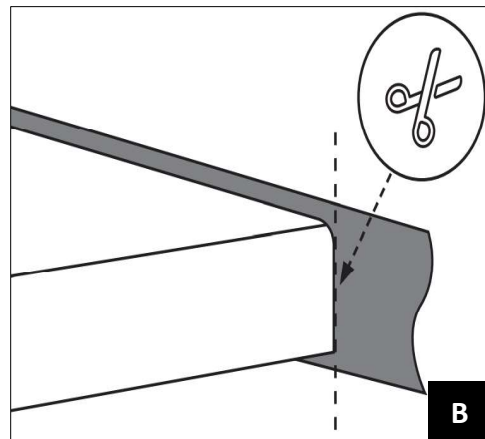
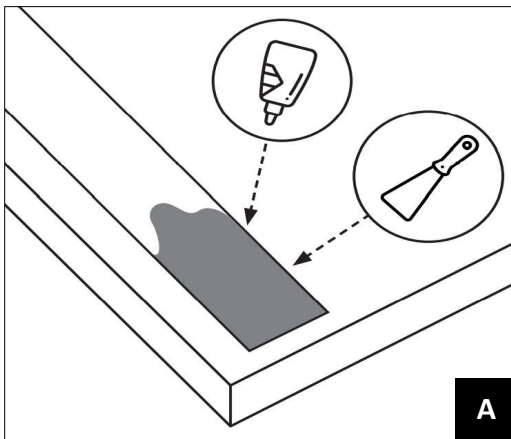
Make sure your wall corner is really 90°. Measure 3' (914mm) on the wall from the corner and 4' (1220mm) on the other side. Mark the two measurements. Measure the distance between the two marks. A perfect 90° angle should read 5' (1524mm). If the resulting length is greater than 60-1/4" (1530mm) or less than 59-3/4" (1518mm), be sure to mark your exact measurement on your countertop (A).

- Apply masking tape where you will cut and using a soft pencil, trace the cutting guide on the work surface.
- Circular saw: laminate face down (fig.5).
- Start sawing from the decorative, profiled edge (fig.6).



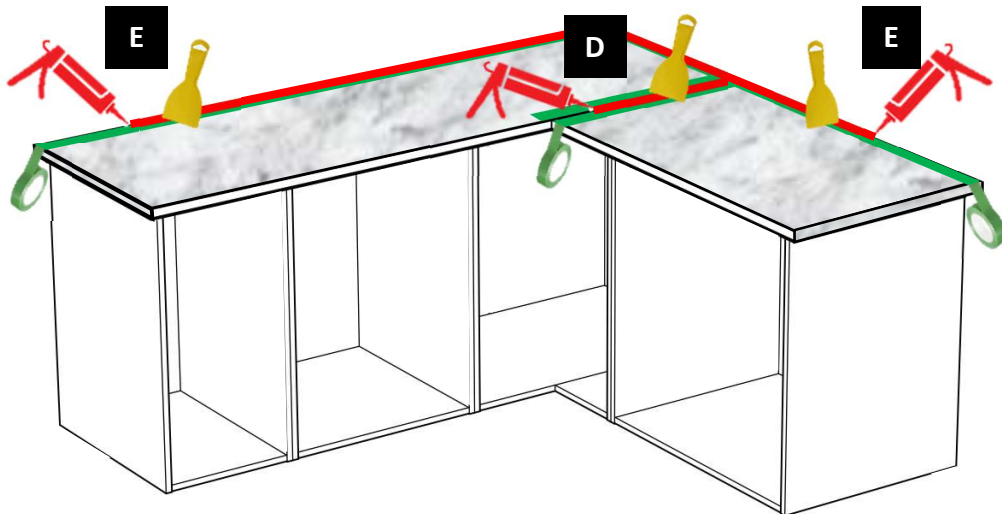
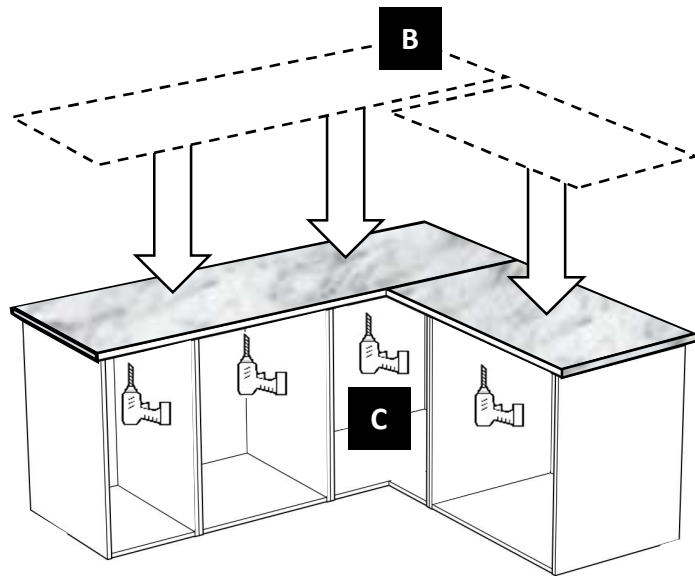
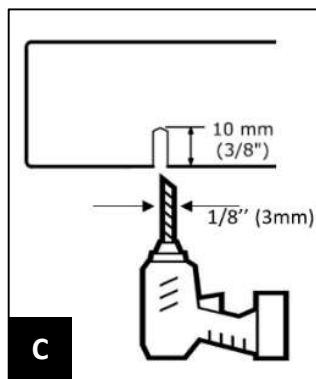
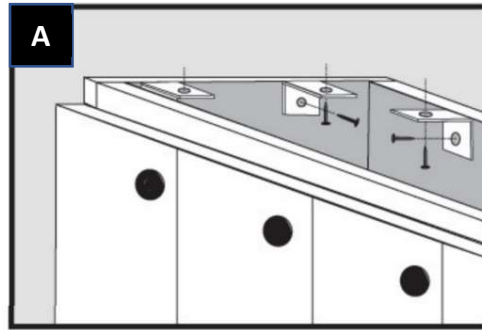
2- APPLY THE EDGEBANDS:

- A. Ensure the cut edge is flat, clean and dust-free and apply contact adhesive to back edging. Spread the glue evenly with a spatula.
- B. Remove excess with scissors.
- C. Trim the remaining excess on top and bottom.
- D. Lightly bevel edges with fine file.



3- INSTALL YOUR WORKTOP USING OPTION 90° NO CUT:

- A. If needed, install $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20 mm) metal brackets with $\frac{1}{2}$ " (12 mm) screws to secure the worktop from inside the cabinet modules. In cases where there is already a horizontal wood strip at the front and back of the cabinet, you do not need brackets.
- B. Place the worktop in its place and level it. If necessary, adjust with wood wedges.
- C. Drill $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) x $\frac{3}{8}$ " (10 mm) deep pilot holes in strategic places. Fix the worktop in place.
- D. Apply silicone to prevent liquids from penetrating between the worktops. Apply masking tape as shown to make this step easier.
- E. Apply silicone to the junction of the walls and worktops, and remove the excess with a spatula. Remove the masking tape.



3.1 INSTALL THE WORKTOP USING OPTION WITH 45° ANGLE CUT:

ATTENTION: For 45° angles, Belanger strongly recommends that you order a custom countertop. A 45° angle is extremely difficult to do without a professional countertop saw.

Note: The instructions described below are those provided are for Belanger Laminates 4-piece mitre-bolt kit that you can obtain from your retailer. The mitered edges should be assembled prior to installing them onto the cabinet.

- If needed, install $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20 mm) metal brackets with $\frac{1}{2}$ " (12 mm) screws to secure the worktop from inside the cabinet modules.
- After having carefully aligned the two worktop pieces, cut the mortises with the router to insert the mitre bolts (Illustration 1).
- Apply a water-resistant adhesive where the joints meet to prevent water infiltration, press to seal, and wipe off the excess.
- Place the 4 miter bolts in position (Illustration 2) and lightly tighten only to hold the miter bolts in place.
- Match the front of the countertops. Once flush, tighten the nearest miter bolt to it (Illustration 3A). Check the miter where the backsplash sections join. If flush, tighten the nearest miter bolt (Illustration 3B).
- When the countertops are level, tighten all 4 bolts. Place the countertops onto the cabinets. If one section is higher than the other, place a wooden block on the elevated area and pound lightly with a rubber mallet to level the two sections. (Illustration 4). DO NOT POUND DIRECTLY OVER THE MITER BOLTS.
- Tighten all the keys to secure the assembly.
- Drill $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) x $\frac{3}{8}$ " (10 mm) deep pilot holes in strategic places. Fix the worktop in place.

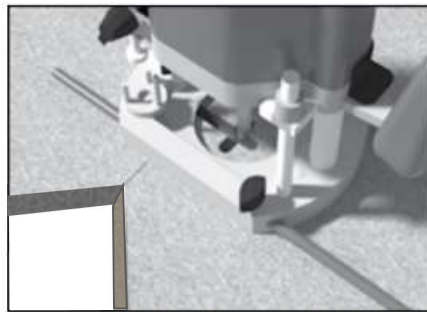


Illustration 1

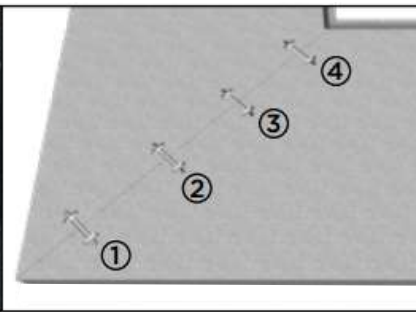


Illustration 2

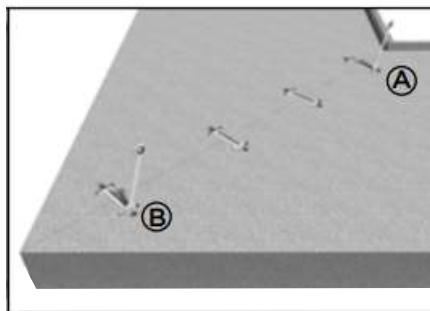


Illustration 3

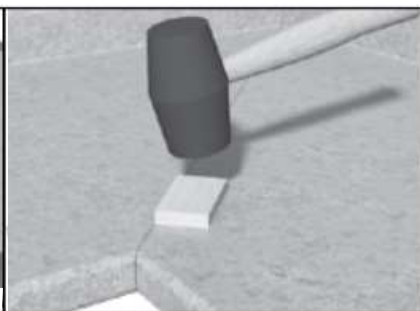
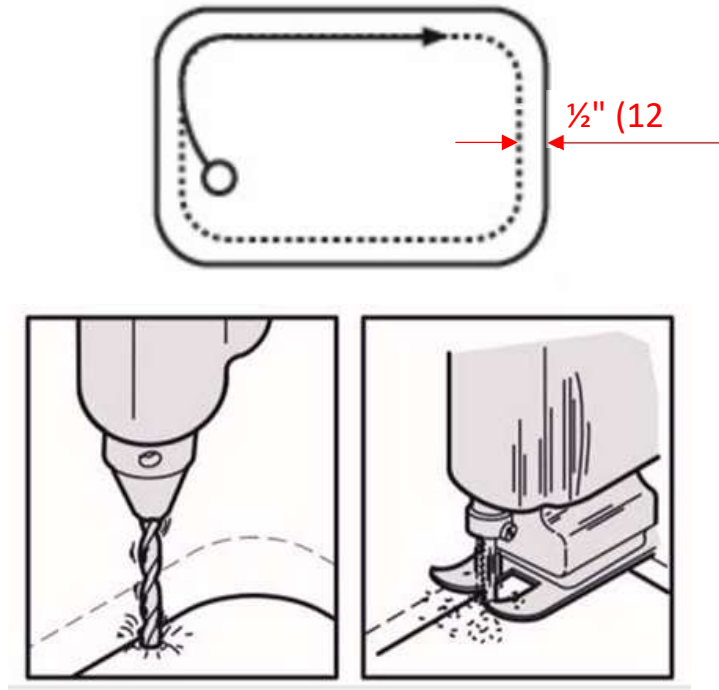


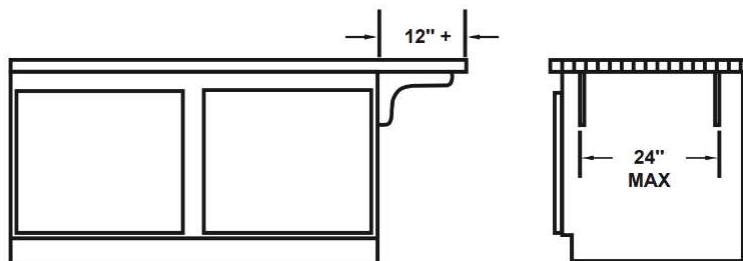
Illustration 4

4- SINK INSTALLATION:

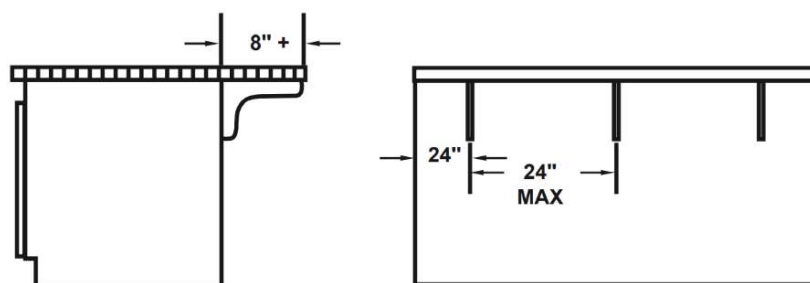
- I. Trace the outline of the sink at the desired location.
- II. Trace the cutting line $\frac{1}{2}$ " (12mm) inside the outline.
- III. Drill a hole inside the cut line large enough to insert the blade of your jigsaw.
- IV. Cut along the cut line using a laminate cutting blade. Attention: **Make your corners slightly rounded.**
- V. Apply a water-resistant sealer on the bottom edge of your sink, press firmly and wipe off the excess.



INSTALLATION OF SUPPORTS FOR OVERHANGING COUNTERTOPS



In the case that a top is placed on a base that results in an overhang of 12po (30cm), the overhang portion **must be stabilized with brackets**. These brackets should be spaced no more than 24po (60cm).



In the case that a top is placed on a base that results in an overhang of 8po (30cm), the overhang portion **must be stabilized with brackets**. These brackets should be spaced no more than 24po (60cm).

Several types of brackets are readily available (see the suggestions illustrated below). Be sure to follow the installation recommendations of the manufacturer of the product you choose. Use the correct type and length of screw so as not to perforate the countertop. Take care to reinforce your cabinets if necessary, so that these brackets are firmly fixed.

These types of brackets will prevent warping and strengthen your countertop. If these recommendations are not followed, your counter's warranty could be affected.



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