

W.L.West & Sons Ltd

Worktop Installation and Care Guide

Installation

Before installation it is essential to treat all surfaces and edges and back, with a suitable proprietary finish. (Please refer to surface finishing guide below)

It is important that the worktops are inspected after delivery for transit damage and complaints are notified to the sales office within 3 working days.

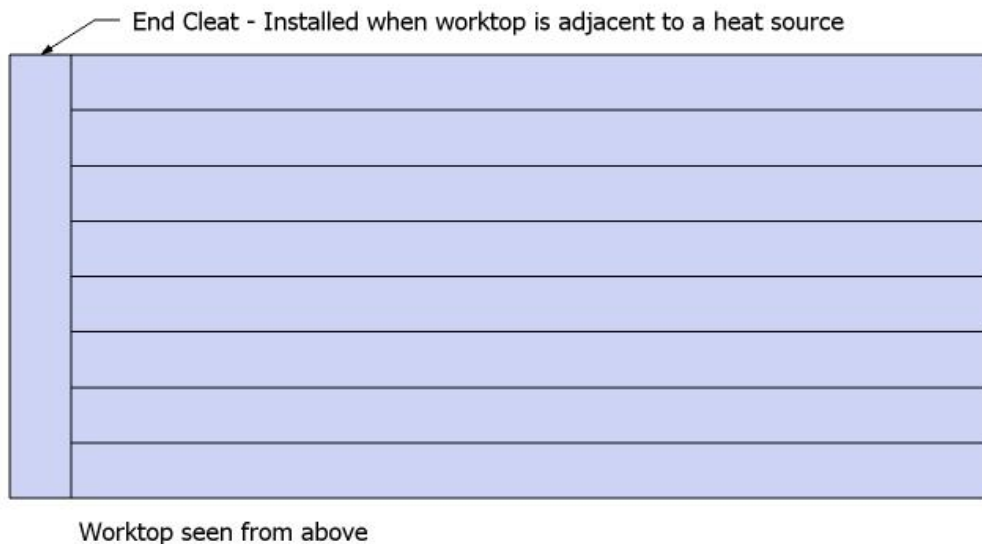
Worktops should remain wrapped until you are ready to install them.

Worktops over 750mm in width will need further bracing when fitted to prevent bowing, screw holes should be oversized to allow for movement and domed screws used.

At the time of installation the area where the tops are to be fitted should be at normal room temperature and humidity, for example 20°C and between 40% and 60% relative humidity and free from wet trades, i.e. painters, new screed, new plaster etc.

If there is an Aga/wood fired burner in the room, it is likely that this will affect the worktops and cause them to dry and shrink more quickly than under normal circumstances. Additional fixings and allowance for this movement should be taken.

Edges and surfaces adjacent to built-in kitchen appliances, including Aga's, must be sealed and should be isolated by at least a 20mm air gap and faced with a heat/moisture barrier to prevent '**end splitting**'. All worktops abutting a gas or similar cooker ***MUST*** have end cleats covering the end grain.



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When fixing, use 'L' Shaped fixing brackets with elongated slots (across the grain) to accommodate any natural movement in the worktop. If the carcass tops are solid, then a slotted hole should be made. When fixing, use round-headed wood screws with washers to allow for natural movement in the worktop.



Around sinks, hotplates and pipes allow a 5mm gap, and insulate the edges with moisture/heat barrier.

When jointing worktops together install two worktop joining bolts into recessed holes on the underside of the worktop with slots and biscuits and draw together.

Timber is a natural product and may vary in colour. The colour may vary over time with natural ultra violet light. This may depend on the finish used, as some may have UV inhibitors within the treatment.



Worktop fixing bolt

Guidelines for Finishing

The application of a surface coating is vital in slowing down the absorption of, and drying out of moisture. All worktops must be treated with a suitable finish on all surfaces prior to installation.

There are many different finishes suitable for kitchen, laboratory and bar worktops. It is essential that the manufacturers guidelines for using these finishes with your worktop are followed. If you are unsure, please use the manufacturer's technical helpline.