



RAW Sunshine Coast

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BENCHTOP INSTALLATION GUIDE

Warranty void if instructions are not followed.

We recommend that vanities be installed by a licensed tradesperson.

Correct installation is essential to ensure longevity of benchtops. Every benchtop at RAW Sunshine Coast is crafted from select grade kiln dried timber. As timber is a natural material, it will continue to expand and contract with changes in humidity.

Changes in timbers moisture content can be due to many factors including the climate (moisture in the air – dry or wet), air conditioning and appliances such as dishwashers, ovens and kettles. The timber will expand with increased air moisture and contract as it decreases. Movement across the grain can be up to 1mm per 100mm. This movement is quite normal and should be allowed for during installation.

FINISHES

Every surface must be sealed correctly to prevent major changes in the timbers moisture content. It is best to do this prior to installing the benchtop. When sealing, thoroughly cover all surfaces including top, bottom, edges and ends. It is important to pay attention to any exposed end grain and cut-outs.

As a standard, we supply all benchtops coated in OSMO PolyX Oil, unless otherwise requested. This high-quality finish penetrates deep into the wood, forming a low-maintenance, protective barrier. No harsh chemicals should be used on the finished timber, nor should any abrasive products as these will break down the finish.

If you undertake any cuts onsite, ensure you coat these with at least two coats of OSMO PolyX Oil. Please get in contact with us if you require OSMO PolyX Oil to complete the install.

Ensure all cut-outs and the gap between the splashback and benchtop are finished off with a bead of silicon to ensure water cannot enter.

CUT OUTS

All appliances, sinks etc. should be installed as per the manufactures specifications. If you've opted for a benchtop to be supplied without cut-outs, measure and mark the required cut-outs for sinks and appliances as per the manufacturer's instructions. To reduce the benchtop from splintering from the jig-saw blade, apply a low adhesive masking tape around the outside of the intended cut-out.

Ensure that the benchtop is not restricted from expanding and contracting when fitting cooktops, sinks and other cut-outs such as post holes. A 5mm clearance is required around all appliances.

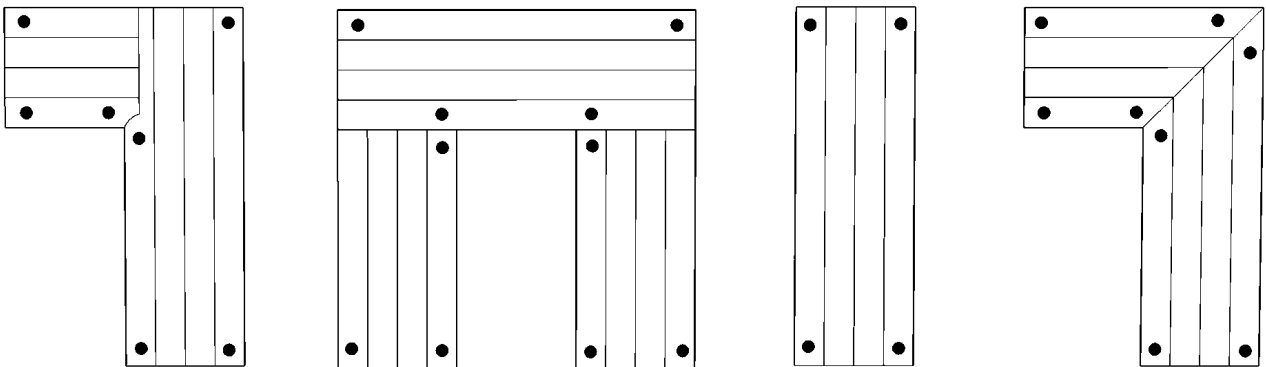
To reiterate, any cut-outs made onsite must be coated with at least two coats of OSMO PolyX Oil.

FIXINGS

Due to the weight of a solid timber benchtop and the addition of fittings such as plumbing, minimal fixing is required to hold it down. To secure the benchtop, fix from the underside of the benchtop, on the same piece of timber along the length. See diagram 1.

It is important to not overtighten screws. Overtightening may cause the benchtop to crack.

Diagram 1. Correct Fixing (underside of benchtop)

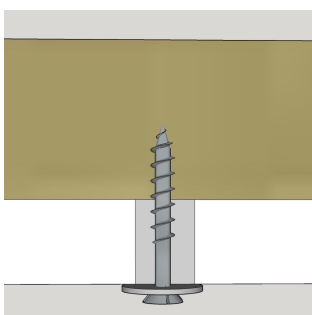


SCREW HOLES

It is recommended to fix the benchtop through the framework on the underside of the bench. This should be achieved by using a 10mm clearance drill hole and an 8-gauge screw hole with washer. Make sure the screw is centrally positioned within the clearance hole. See diagram 2. This will allow for the natural expansion and contraction of the timber. All holes should be pre-drilled.

Benchtops should never be glued down, as this prevents the natural movement of timber.

Diagram 2. Screw Hole (underside of benchtop)



Our benchtops are intended for indoor use only unless stated otherwise. We use highly moisture resistant glues to laminate our benchtops, however, they are not designed for exterior use. Direct sunlight and moisture sitting on horizontal surfaces breaks down most clear coatings, exposing the timber to the elements and allowing moisture, humidity and heat to penetrate and damage the timber.

OVERHANGS

If overhangs exceed 300mm, then some form of under bench support must be used.