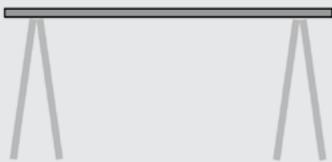
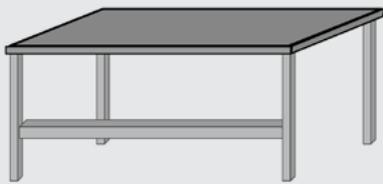


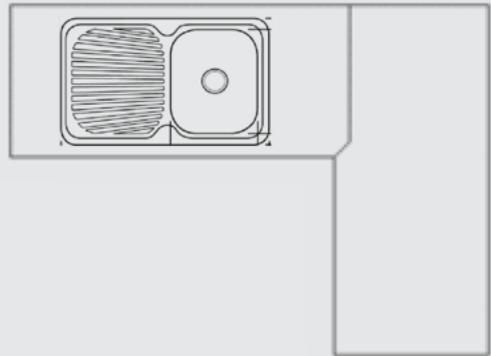


Handitops™

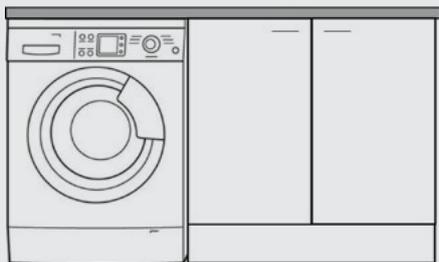
INSTALLATION GUIDE



**TABLES, DESKS, WORKBENCHES,
SEWING & HOBBY TABLES**



KITCHENS



LAUNDRY



STURDY SHELVING

Care and maintenance

General cleaning of the surface requires only a damp cloth and a mild detergent or non-abrasive cleaner diluted in warm water. Abrasive scouring powders, creams and even polishes should all be avoided. Potentially persistent stains should be removed immediately.

MARKS

STAIN OR MARK	DRY CLOTH OR DUSTER	DAMP CLOTH	WARM WATER & DETERGENT	NON ABRASIVE CLEANER	WHITE SPIRIT	NAIL POLISH REMOVER
FOODSTUFFS						
tea			•	•	•	
coffee			•	•	•	
milk			•	•	•	
fruit juice			•	•	•	
curry			•	•	•	
red wine			•	•	•	
vinegar			•	•	•	
lemon juice			•	•	•	
beetroot			•	•	•	
GENERAL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS						
dust or light dirt	•					
soap residue		•	•	•		
oils-mech/eng/veg		•	•	•		
paint-water based			•	•		
paint-solvent based					•	
dyes-washable			•	•		
dyes-permanent					•	•
shoe polish					•	
wax crayon					•	
biro/pen			•	•		
chalk		•	•	•		
lipstick			•	•		
nail varnish						•
bleach		•	•	•		
OTHER						
fingermarks		•	•	•		
blood			•	•		
nicotine			•	•		



THINGS TO DO

To prevent damage from hot objects, use heat resistant mats on the surface of the worktop. Always use ashtrays for cigarettes.

THINGS TO AVOID

Never place objects from the oven or hob directly onto the laminate surface as this may lead to blistering. Care should also be taken with hot irons and cigarettes.



THINGS TO DO

Always use a chopping board for preparing food.

THINGS TO AVOID

Some crockery items, kitchen utensils and other objects sliding across your worktop will produce fine scratches in the laminate. However try to avoid sliding rough based objects across the surface. Never cut foodstuffs directly on the laminate surface.



THINGS TO DO

Wipe spilt liquids away from joints and cut-outs immediately. Ensure that all inset appliances are properly sealed with a suitable waterproof silicone sealant.

THINGS TO AVOID

Moisture will not harm the laminate surface itself but it is advisable to wipe away any spillages as soon as possible. The critical areas are around joints and cut-outs.

Installation and maintenance

IMPORTANT NOTE: PLEASE READ FIRST

SAFETY FIRST

- Always wear safety goggles, ear protection, suitable footwear and a dust mask when cutting Formica® Handitops™
- Ensure that the Formica Handitop is supported and clamped (if necessary) during cutting, drilling or sawing operations.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO THE INSTALLER

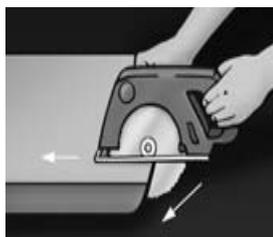
Before you do any work to your benchtop, please ensure that you are completely satisfied with the product by checking for damage or defects. Colour and surface finish compatibility should also be checked before fitting takes place and remember to "measure twice and cut once!"

USES

Formica Handitops can be used for many applications from desktops, shelving and garage worktops, through to residential laundry and kitchen worktops. Formica Handitops Standard range should not be used for high wear or where high impact resistance is required.

CUTTING OR TRIMMING

- Draw lines to be cut with a soft pencil on the face of the benchtop
- Before cutting check measurements again
- If using a handsaw cut from the top. If using a power saw, cut from the back.
- It is difficult to maintain a totally chip-free finish when using a saw. For the best result, cut oversize by 5mm and finish the edge using a router, straight edge and 'G' clamps. Clamp the straight edge to the worktop with the decorative side face up or down, but always ensuring the cutter enters into the postformed edge, this will result in a perfectly straight chip-free cut.
- Particular attention should be paid to sealing the joint with a silicone sealant or adhesive, this will minimise possible damage from water absorption.



FINISHING EDGING

All edges must be sealed with silicone sealer, paint or polyurethane. In kitchens and bathrooms visible edges must be finished with the laminate edging strip provided with each benchtop. For non kitchen uses, visible edges can be finished by simply painting with a complementary coloured paint.

KITCHEN USE

Formica Handitops can be installed by any kitchen installer, or by a confident DIYer. It's worth remembering though, that fitting a kitchen benchtop is an advanced DIY task and any mistakes made during cutting can prove costly. With this in mind, if you are in any doubt, hire a professional to do the job for you. For a list of professional fabricators please call our customer services team on 0800 303 606.

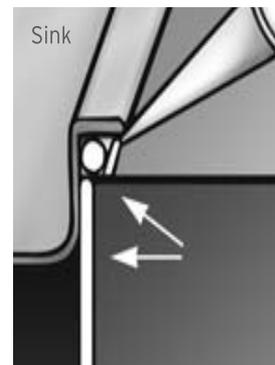
KITCHEN INSTALLATION TIPS

- Accurately measure the walls along which the benchtop is to be fitted and decide the layout of any corner joints
- Joints should be placed as far from sinks and hob cutouts as possible.
- Plan for the benchtop to overhang the front edge of the cabinet carcass (without doors) by a consistent measurement, usually 20 - 30mm. This allows for the doors to be attached and retain a small overhang of a few millimeters.
- Joints should be a straight mitre or a mason's mitre joint. A mason's mitre is preferred for strength and appearance and requires a benchtop jig for cutting, usually by a professional.

WORKING WITH SINKS, COOK TOPS AND DISHWASHERS

- Always follow the sink or appliance manufacturer's recommendations.
- If you have not been supplied with a template, turn the appliance upside down in the desired position on the benchtop and draw around the edge with a pencil.
- Mark a line 10mm inside the original line to create a supporting 'lip' for the appliance to sit on.

- Drill a 10mm hole close to the inside line and then use the jigsaw to cut out the remaining shape, creating rounded corners to avoid splits.
- Seal all exposed edges of the MDF substrate with silicone sealant and also apply sealant to the underside edge of sinks and appliances during installation to prevent water damaging the benchtop.
- Where a dishwasher is to be installed it is recommended that the underside of the benchtop be painted or sealed with polyurethane, to ensure steam from the dishwasher does not damage the benchtop.
- If the dishwasher has been supplied with a protective steam deflector, then take care to fit this according to the dishwasher manufacturer's instructions.
- Secure the benchtop to cabinets with screws through either metal "L" brackets or up through the cabinet rails.
- Benchtops spanning more than 600mm, not resting on cabinets should be supported in either direction (length or width) via horizontal battens screwed to the wall, metal brackets or vertical supports (either flat panels or tubular benchtop legs).
- Where two appliances are sited next to each other under the top, a supporting panel must be positioned between them



APPLYING LAMINATE EDGING STRIP

- The most convenient method to attach the edge clashing is with contact adhesive available from your local building merchant. This can either be in liquid form, (applied with a roller or brush) or an aerosol can. Please follow the manufacturers' instruction.
- When an adhesive is a contact this means it adheres to itself, taking along what ever it is attached to. To use a contact adhesive you simply apply even coats of the adhesive to each material you wish to adhere, allow it to dry, and stick them together. Contact adhesives are ideal when it is awkward to clamp, or when you have a large surface area.
- The most common mistake that people make with a contact adhesive is to attempt to bond the materials too soon. The thicker the layer of adhesive, the longer it will take to dry. So even if the instructions say it is ready for bonding in ten minutes, this is better tested by touching the adhesive. If it does not come off on your finger, then it is dry enough to bond.
- The more even your application of contact adhesive, the more even your drying time and the stronger your bond. For an even coat use a small paint roller. If you are using a solvent free adhesive, this will wash up in soap and water. For solvent-based adhesives, it is easier and less harmful on the environment to throw the roller out after use, instead of using the appropriate solvent to clean your roller. Also, a foam brush gives a fairly even coat as well.
- To remove excess edging strip use either a portable trimming machine or a sharp block plane. Final finishing can best be achieved by using a 250mm smooth file.
- Clean any excess glue with mineral turpentine or solvent as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.

Formica Handitops pre-fabricated benchtops

7 year limited warranty

1. Subject to the conditions and limitations set out in this warranty below, Fletcher Building Products Limited trading as Laminex New Zealand warrants to the original purchaser of any Formica Handitops product for interior residential use that Laminex New Zealand will at its option, repair or replace any Formica Handitops product without charge if it is defective directly as a result of its manufacture or supply by Laminex New Zealand or the materials used in its manufacture by Laminex New Zealand during the first seven (7) years after initial purchase (proof of purchase will be required). Subject to paragraph 6, this obligation terminates at the expiration of seven years from the date of purchase of the product concerned from Laminex New Zealand.
2. This warranty does not cover any defect caused by:
 - a) Any act of God, any natural occurrence, or any other act or circumstance beyond Laminex New Zealand's control; or
 - b) Failure to follow any procedures recommended by Laminex New Zealand, at the time of fabrication, sale and/or installation of a Formica Handitops product; or
 - c) Physical abuse, misuse, accidents, exposure to excessive heat, exposure to excessive moisture, the use of solvents or inappropriate cleaning products/materials, improper maintenance, normal wear and tear, scratches, scuffs, burns, stains, wipe marks on darker colour surfaces, exposure to chemical products; or
 - d) General fading and discolouration or damage due to direct and indirect light (exposure to sunlight should be avoided); or
 - e) The product being used in applications that are not recommended by Laminex New Zealand in the product literature published; or
 - f) Faulty workmanship by any person other than Laminex New Zealand, for example edge clashing and joins; or
 - g) Variation in colour, pattern, shade of material against the sample material, displays and/or printed illustrations.
 - h) The defect being trivial or insubstantial; or
 - i) Where, as at the date of notification of the defect to Laminex New Zealand, the type or colour of the alleged defective product no longer forms part of Laminex New Zealand's standard stock range and the person complaining of the defect does not agree to the supply of a replacement which is as close a type or colour match as is possible from Laminex New Zealand's then prevailing stock range; or
 - j) Anything that has been disclosed as a feature or limitation of the Formica Handitops product in any literature published by Laminex New Zealand; or
 - k) Outdoor application.
3. This warranty applies only to Formica Handitops product:
 - a) Purchased from Laminex New Zealand for interior residential use in New Zealand;
 - b) That has remained installed at the location at which it was first installed after its sale by Laminex New Zealand;
 - c) Which has been installed, maintained, used and protected in the manner recommended by Laminex New Zealand, as at the relevant time of such installation, maintenance, use or protection, in its literature published and included with the product at sale or by writing directly to Laminex New Zealand at the address given below; and
 - d) Where Laminex New Zealand has been notified of the defect within seven days of the first person to become aware of it.
4. A replacement product may not be reasonably available from Laminex New Zealand in the same shape, type or colour as the original Formica Handitops product covered by this warranty. If a replacement product of the same shape, type or colour is not reasonably available, Laminex New Zealand reserves the right to provide a replacement product of as close a shape, type and colour match as is reasonably possible from Laminex New Zealand's then prevailing product range in satisfaction of its obligations under this warranty.
5. Except as expressly provided in paragraphs 1 and 6, all terms, conditions, warranties, undertakings, inducements and representations, whether express or implied, statutory or otherwise relating in any way to Formica Handitops product are excluded. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, Laminex New Zealand will not be under any other liability in respect of any loss or damage (including consequential loss or damage) however caused (whether by negligence or otherwise) which may be suffered or incurred or which may arise directly or indirectly in respect of the Formica Handitops product.
6. Where any applicable legislation implies any term, condition or warranty into the contract of sale between Laminex New Zealand and a person, or Laminex New Zealand's relationship with a person, which has acquired a Formica Handitops product, or otherwise gives that person a particular remedy against Laminex New Zealand, and that legislation or any legislation voids or prohibits any provision excluding, or modifying the application of, or exercise of, any liability under such term, condition, warranty or remedy, then that term, condition, warranty or remedy shall be deemed to be included in or, as the case may be, apply to that contract or relationship. However, Laminex New Zealand's liability for any breach of such term, condition or warranty or under such remedy, shall be limited, at Laminex New Zealand's option, in any one or more of the ways permitted by that legislation including, where so permitted:
 - a) If the breach related to a Formica Handitops product:
 - i. The replacement of the Formica Handitops product or the supply of equivalent product;
 - ii. The repair of the Formica Handitops product;
 - iii. The payment of the cost of replacing the Formica Handitops product or acquiring equivalent product; or
 - iv. The payment of the cost of having the Formica Handitops product repaired; and
 - b) If the breach relates to services:
 - i. The supplying of the services again; or
 - ii. The payment of the cost of having the services supplied again.
7. The provisions of this warranty shall apply in addition to and not in substitution for Laminex New Zealand Conditions of Sale. Where there is any conflict between the terms of this warranty and the Conditions of Sale, unless Laminex New Zealand in its sole discretion determines otherwise, the Conditions of Sale (other than Condition 10.1(a)) shall prevail.
8. Please note that the law may confer on person's rights arising out of the supply of a Formica Handitops product. This warranty should not therefore be read as an exhaustive statement of the rights of the original purchaser or any other person. Nothing in this warranty shall affect any rights a consumer, as defined in the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993, may have under that Act.
9. This warranty does not cover any other product used or installed in connection with the Formica Handitops product.
10. This warranty is not transferable or assignable.
11. To make a claim under the provisions of this warranty:
 - a) if product is not installed, return the benchtop to the retailer.
 - b) if the product is installed, contact Laminex New Zealand.
12. Any inquiries regarding this warranty should be sent to Formica Handitops warranties, Laminex New Zealand, PO Box 12270 Penrose Auckland 1642 Ph: 0800 303 606 Email: info@laminex.co.nz

Remember to retain your proof of purchase.



Handitops™