

SUB FRAME SUPPORT & INSTALLATION

VELSTONE counters should never be installed without a sub frame.

Sub frames provide the structural support necessary for Velstone counter top installation. The thickness of the sub frame support will vary depending on the application but should not, under any circumstances, be less than 25 mm. Smooth and non wrapping material such as Medium Density Fibre Board (MDF) is recommended for sub frame support. Do not use wood. The sub frame support should completely cover the underside of the Velstone counter top, except the cut outs. The dimension of the sub frame support should be less by 3mm from each edge of the counter top. This gap allows for the differential expansion between Velstone and MDF. If the counter top requires site joints make sure the individual counters are individually well supported and the sub frame supports will not interfere with the assembly and on site seaming. Cut the individual sub frame lengths and glue them on to the VELSTONE counter using silicone. Two or three zigzag lines of silicone are sufficient.

INSTALLATION OF COUNTER TOPS

Velstone counter tops must be installed maintaining a gap from every wall or fixed structure; this gap is necessary for thermal expansion. Never wedge the counter tops tightly between the walls or fixed structures. Allow at least 1mm gap 1000 mm run of the counter. The counter top must be supported every 600 mm, in length and width, by the cabinets, furniture or brackets. The overhang should not exceed 100 mm. If necessary fix supporting wooden batons on the wall to prevent “sagging” of the counter top fitted over cabinets. Screw the MDF sub frame to the cabinets or brackets.

For counters requiring more than one length or for ‘L’ shaped counters, a site butt joint must be made. It is sometimes very awkward to make the butt joint on site with the reinforcement strip in one single operation. It is preferable to join the reinforcement strip to the first top (Figure SFS1). This strip acts as a level reference and support for the second top during the site seaming of the butt joint. When correctly planned, the strip can be pre-joined in the fabrication shop saving the on site installation time.

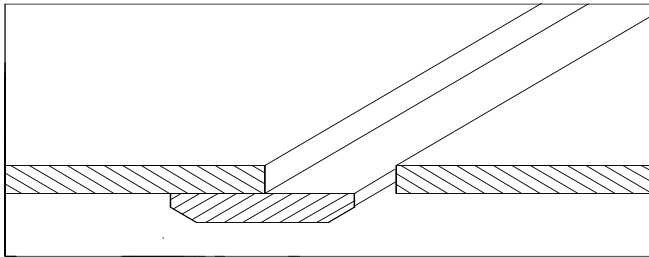


Figure SFS1

Follow the procedure for seaming a butt joint all the way up to sanding and finishing.