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Durasein
Planning & Layout



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Fabrication and Installation Planning & Layout

BULLETIN NO.
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TECH INFO
Planning & Layout

Introduction

Durasein prides itself in having state-of-the-art systems to ensure the products we deliver meet the highest standards in the industry. Planning and Layout of projects is an important part of any project. Here are some important considerations.

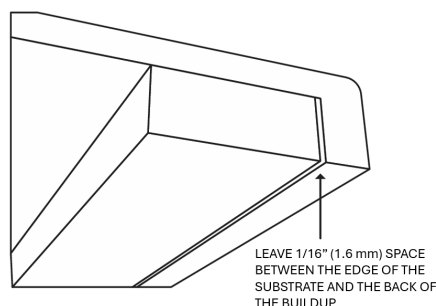
Expansion & Contraction

Like all solid surface material, Durasein® Solid Surface expands or contracts with temperature changes. For typical interior kitchen and bath installations, ambient temperature changes (ΔT) could be as much as 25-30°F (14 to 17°C). For a countertop length of 12 feet, this could result in a change of overall length of about 1/8" (3 mm).

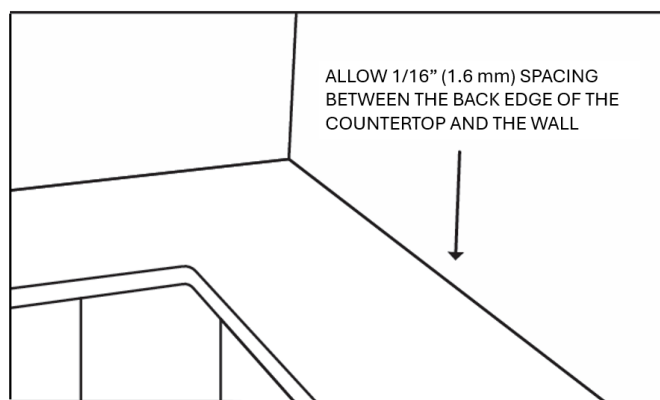
Because of this potential change of overall countertop dimension, some details in the layout, fabrication, and installation of the top need to be followed.

For example:

- Leave a 1/16" (1.6 mm) gap between the countertop support strip and the rear of the countertop edge build-up.



- Leave a 1/16" (1.5 mm) gap between the back edge of the countertop and adjoining walls.



- Use flexible adhesives to attach Durasein® to dissimilar materials. 100% silicone is recommended.

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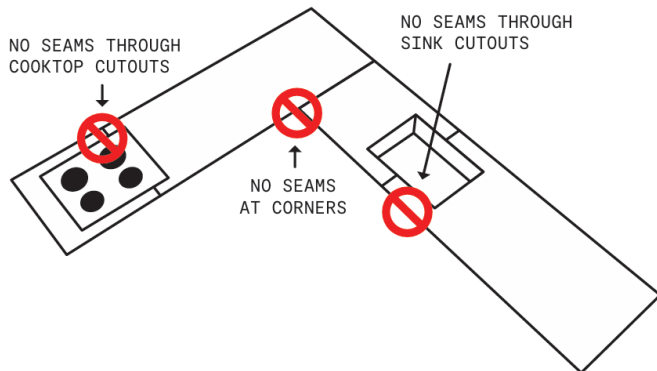
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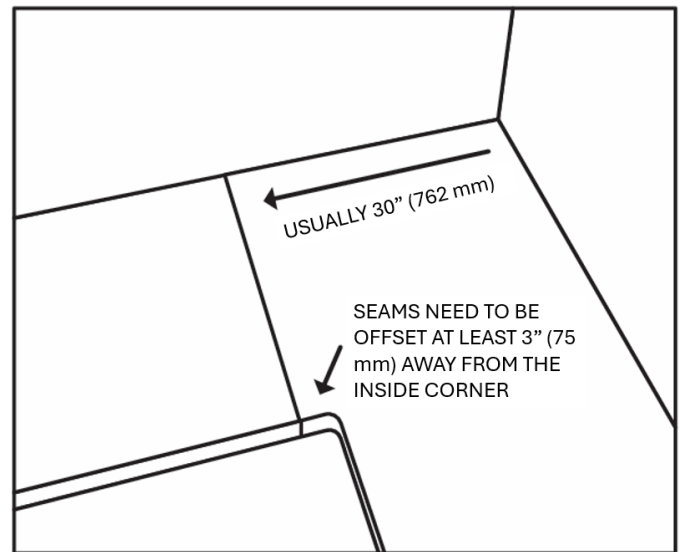
Locating Seams

From the perspective of both design and structure, the location of seams is a critical part of the fabrication and installation process. Since a seam is potentially weaker than the Durasein® sheet itself, a seam could be located where stresses in the installed top could result in a failure if proper fabrication and installation procedures are not followed. More details about seams are presented in the Durasein SEAMS Technical Bulletin. Here are recommendations about the actual locations of the seams.



Avoid placing seams in the following locations:

- Inside corners.
- In cutouts or within 3" (75mm) of cutouts.
- Over dishwashers or other heat producing appliances.



Seams also need to be offset from the inside corner. Corners are an area where stresses can focus, so placing the seam away from the corner reduces the possibility of problems. We recommend that seams be placed at least 3" (75 mm) away from the inside corner.

Leave appropriate gaps to allow for expansion & contraction of countertops. Use flexible adhesives between Durasein® and dissimilar materials. Don't locate seams near inside corners or through cutouts.



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