

# ARTIS

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original & bohemian

## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

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**Please note:**

Installer should read these instructions before installation and pass them onto the consumer for advice on cleaning and maintenance.

May 2019 edition

# ARTIS

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## surfaces

### IMPORTANT

This leaflet explains the correct installation procedure and should be read carefully before starting work.

You are now the owner of one of the world's finest worktops. Properly installed your worktop will give you many years of excellent service while maintaining its freshness and original good looks.

Also included are a few simple steps necessary to keep your worktop in pristine condition.

Please ensure that this leaflet is kept in a safe place as it forms an integral part of the product guarantee.

Before commencing with any fabrication work ensure all products are the same shade and texture and defect free. Claims for installation work cannot be made after the work commences.

Artis gloss worktops have a protective card layer which protects the surface during transit.

We recommend that installers use this card to protect the worktop from scratching during installation.

Please note that normal surface wear can be seen more easily on gloss and lighter textured surfaces, therefore additional care must be taken during installation and in use.

Please note that solid colour designs can sometimes give the appearance of slightly different shades when butt jointed at right angles, installed at different levels or plains, or not fitted totally flat. This is due to the changes in surface light reflection which can emit diverse sheens, thus changing the appearance of the colour when observed from various directions.

Please be assured that this is a natural phenomenon and that all Artis decorative laminate is manufactured in accordance with European Standard EN438 and International Standard ISO 4586. Patterned laminate designs tend to dissipate the light so the occurrence is unnoticeable.

## FITTING & FIXING

### **Dimensions & Planning**

If your new Artis worktop is to replace an existing worktop that is a good fit and can be removed intact, this can be used as a template. If the layout is to be changed, accurately measure the new area, determining both length and depth using a steel tape measure. Since rooms are seldom perfectly square, carefully check all angles; if necessary make a cardboard template of the area. Transfer your new measurements on to the worktop, mark all cut lines and angles with a pencil.

### **Cutting & Cut-outs**

The preferred method to perform any of the following operations would be to use a hand router. If you do not have access to a hand router then follow the relevant section below for the type of saw you have available.

#### **Routing**

When using a router always start at the front edge. With Bohemian 3D acrylic edged worksurfaces, prior to cutting the board you must router a full depth cut through the full thickness of the edge to prevent damage. To minimize possible chipping to the face of a laminate worksurface, apply masking tape over the line to be cut, and score the line prior to cutting. This applies to whichever of the following methods is used.

#### **Hand Sawing**

With the worktop face up using a fine-toothed (4 per cm/10-12 per inch) saw, cut along the waste side of the line marked previously, starting at the postformed edge. Hold the saw at approx 70 degrees until past the postformed edge and then lower the angle to 20-30 degrees for a straighter cut. This will help reduce the chance of chipping. Apply pressure on the downward stroke only to avoid lifting the laminate surface.

#### **Power Sawing**

The cutting action of a power saw, be it a circular saw or jigsaw, is different to hand sawing, therefore cutting must take place with the worktop face down.

#### **Joining**

Before commencing with any fabrication work ensure all products are the same shade and texture and defect free. Claims for installation work cannot be made after work commences. Worktops can be jointed end-to-end or at right angles. These joints are best cut professionally and connected using jointing bolts (3 for a 650mm wide top and 4 for a 900mm wide top). All cut edges must be sealed (see sealing section).

#### **Installation**

The worktops should be connected to level and securely fixed base units. Secure the worktops to the units using proprietary metal brackets, KD blocks or timber battens (not supplied).

#### **Cut-outs**

All cut-outs must have a minimum 6mm radius rounded corner to prevent stress cracking. Mark the position of the type of cut-out using the manufacturer's template supplied, drill a hole in each corner of the template and cut using your preferred cutting method, following the previous instructions. Do not allow the saw to run over the radius formed in the corners as stress cracking may appear once the appliance has been installed. All types of cut-outs for sink, tap hole or hob must be adequately sealed to protect against both moisture ingress and heat transference.

## Sealing

The back edge of the worktop is sealed. All other edges of the worktop, if cut, must be sealed. If the edge is seen you can use laminate edging with contact adhesive. (With Artis Bohemian 3D acrylic edging, use Dorus LD084 adhesive in conjunction with clamps). If an edge or cutout is not seen, use a coat of Formica Lifeseal, silicone sealant or polyurethane varnish (minimum 2 coats).

## Tiling

We recommend a 5mm gap between the tiles and the worktop which then should be sealed with silicone sealant; this will allow for any movement between the worktop and the tiles and allow for easier removal of the worktop if required.

## Sink Installation

The sink should be sealed to the surface with either the rubber gasket or sealing compound supplied with the sink. Additional protection for the underside of the front edge of the worktop should be added by using a coat of either Formica Lifeseal, silicone sealant or polyurethane varnish (minimum 2 coats), for approximately 50mm from the end of the factory installed edge. The raw chip core from the sink cut out should also be sealed with Formica Lifeseal, silicone sealant or polyurethane varnish (minimum 2 coats).

## Butler/Belfast Style sink installation

Butler and Belfast style sinks are not recommended for use with laminate worktops.

## Hob Installation

Particular attention must be taken with hob cut-outs. In addition to protection from moisture ingress (see Sink Installation & Sealing) the edges also need to be protected from radiant heat. Therefore allow a minimum 3mm gap between the edge of the cut-out and the appliance. The application of a reflective aluminium tape to the raw core and underside of the cut-out will help to protect the worksurface from heat damage. No metal part of the hob must be in contact with the worktop surface. Always use the gasket supplied with the appliance.

## Dishwashers, washing machines and driers

Additional protection for the underside of the front edge of the worktop should be added by using either a coat of Formica Lifeseal, silicone sealant or polyurethane varnish (minimum 2 coats), for approximately 50mm from the end of the factory installed edge treatment or by installing a baffle plate.

## Ovens

The front edge and the whole underside of the worktop is factory sealed. To avoid damage by localised excess heat, apply heat reflect tape to the underside front edge of the worksurface. (Contact your appliance supplier for guidance and recommendations).

## Free standing cookers

When installing worktops where a free standing cooker is to be used, the worktop surface must be below the top edge of the appliance to stop any transference of heat to the surface, which may result in damage to the worktop or edging. Also there should be a gap of a minimum of 20mm between the appliance and the edge of the worktop.

## Splashbacks/Upstands

Are intended for use in domestic kitchens only. The use of larger commercial style pots and pans should be avoided as contact with deflected naked flame or the pans may damage the decorative surface. N.B. Should not be used with commercial or range cookers and free-standing appliances. Splashbacks and upstands must be installed at a minimum of 130mm from any heat source and thoroughly sealed against the worksurface to prevent moisture ingress. (Extra care should be taken when installing metal foil splashbacks as these can scratch more easily than laminate splashbacks. Only use metal foil splashbacks on vertical applications). Advice from a qualified electrician must always be sought with regard to earth bonding when installing real metal foil splashbacks.

# AFTERCARE

## Heat

Boiling water & cooking splashes should do no harm. However never place cooking utensils directly from the oven or hob on to the worktop surface as this may burn and blister your work surface. Always use suitable protection against direct contact with heat. Electric kettles and fryers should not be placed over worktop joints to avoid the risk of excessive heat.

## Scratching

Due to the inherent nature of the product, gloss and lighter textured worksurfaces will require special attention. Therefore do not slide crockery or utensils across the worktop as this will cause scratching. On a heavier textured worksurface this is less likely to cause a problem. A protective mat or cutting board should always be used to avoid marking the surface of the worktop.

## Staining

Whilst the worktop surface will resist most household chemicals, including alcohol and cosmetics, certain items such as beetroot, concentrated fruit juices, dyes, chemicals and sanitary cleaners may stain. It is therefore always advisable to wipe off any spillage immediately.

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## Cleaning

The worktop surface can be easily maintained by cleaning with water and diluted detergent. Gloss worktops need extra care to maintain the surface finish. Never use abrasive cleaners, harsh scouring powders or abrasive pads on your work surface as these may cause scratching. Persistent marks can be removed using non-abrasive cleaner.

## Moisture

Any excess water must be removed immediately from the worktop surface to avoid the possibility of moisture ingress into the core at joints and cut-outs. Bohemian Chrome and Square Edge worksurfaces come with a PVC or PP edge. These products are more susceptible to moisture ingress at the top and bottom of the front edge. Although the adhesive is moisture resistance it is not waterproof so extra care must be taken with these products (see Sink Installation and Sealing). **Spillages, excess and standing water can and will deteriorate edges if left for any period of time. Wipe up any spills immediately.**

## PVC Aprons

The use of PVC aprons is not recommended as contact with the front edge of laminate surfaces over time may result in premature wear.

## NATURE OF STAIN - METHOD OF CLEANING

### Normal stains

**Dirt, soil, oil, fat, finger marks, rust, lime deposits, juice, coffee, tea, blood, waxes etc.**

Wipe with a cloth dipped in water and mild detergent.

### Resistant stains

**Discolouration through long exposure to fruit juice, tea, coffee etc.**

Clean with washing powder or diluted bleach.

N.B. Do not repeat this action too often.

**Lead pencil, ballpoint and felt tip pens, crayons, shoe polish, lipstick, nicotine.**

Remove with organic solvent such as methylated spirits, acetone, benzene, perchloroethylene or nail polish remover.

**Paints, varnishes and adhesives.**

Remove with water or organic solvent depending on product base constituent.

N.B. Remove two part component paints and adhesives immediately.

**Melamine, urea, epoxy and phenolic resin.**

Remove immediately, do not allow to harden.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Subject to the conditions set out below the Company warrants that the Product will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of 10 years from the date of delivery (the "Warranty"), subject to the following conditions:
  - 1.1 The company shall be under no liability in respect of any defect arising from the failure to fit the product in accordance with the Company's instructions;
  - 1.2 The Company shall be under no liability to the extent that the same results from the buyer's failure to notify the Company of a defect as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 7 days of the buyer's becoming aware of such defect;
  - 1.3 The Company shall be under no liability in respect of any defect arising from fair wear and tear, willful damage, negligence, abnormal conditions, misuse or alteration or repair of the Product without the Company's approval;
  - 1.4 The Company shall be under no liability under the Warranty (or any other warranty, condition of guarantee) if the total price for the Product has not been paid by the due date for payment.
2. The warranty shall extend to replacement of a Product which cannot (in the Company's sole discretion) be repaired and to the cost of repair of an existing Product or fitting a replacement for a Product.
3. The warranty shall not extend to materials not manufactured by the Company, in respect of which the Buyer shall only be entitled to the benefit of any such warranty or guarantee as is given by the manufacturer to the Company.
4. All other warranties, conditions or other terms implied by statute or common law are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. Any claim by the Buyer which is based on any defect in the quality of condition of the Product shall (whether or not delivery is refused by the buyer) be notified to the Company within 7 days from the date of delivery or (where the defect or failure was not apparent on reasonable inspection) as soon as reasonably practicable following discovery of the defect or failure. Except in respect of death or personal injury caused by the Company's negligence, the Company shall not be liable to the Buyer by reason of any representation (unless fraudulent), or any implied warranty, condition of other term, or any duty at common law, or under an express term, for any indirect, special or consequential loss or damage, costs, expenses or other claims for compensation whatsoever (whether caused by the negligence of the Company, its employees or agents or otherwise) which arise out of or in connection with the supply of the Product.

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