FITTING MIROSTONE TO KITCHEN AND BATHROOM CABINETS

When fitting Mirostone to kitchen cabinets apply dabs of silicone every 200mm to the cabinet and then apply the work surface to the top of the cabinet, then press into place. Leave 1mm per metre expansion gap at each end when butting to walls or other units as the product will expand and contract with the conditions.

MAXIMUM SPANS AND OVERHANGS FOR MIROSTONE

It is important that prior to installing a Mirostone benchtop, all cabinets are level and that the Mirostone benchtop will be supported adequately.

All spans over 600mm must be supported at the front by ensuring that the rail is installed vertically to eliminate any flexing of the Mirostone product. If the front rail of the cabinet cannot be rotated to a vertical position, then the suggested method of support is to insert a 25mm square tube behind the front rail, which would be routered into the top of the carcase ends. Consideration must be given to the general adequate support of the benchtop on the cabinets, especially in instances such as 'mondo' style corner units etc.

OVERHANGS

Applications such as breakfast bars sometimes require a certain overhang. The permitted overhang dimension must be determined by a professional cabinetmaker or trades person, and is dependent on many factors relevant to the particular application. The ratio between the length and width of the Mirostone benchtop surface, will also determine what supporting fixtures will be required.

Mirostone benchtop overhangs of 300mm or less are unlikely to require additional support depending on the application. All overhangs greater than 300mm will require either steel support bars/support brackets or 18mm MDF substrate to ensure adequate support of the Mirostone benchtop.

Mirostone is manufactured using modified acrylic polymer, and overtime will slightly distort to a minimum / maximum tolerance of approximately 1.5mm per meter after installation.

DARK COLOURS

Dark colours are more prone to showing scratches and marks than lighter colours. In addition, it is not recommended that dark colours have a higher level of finish than 600 grit.

It is a condition of Mirostone limited warranty that the following supplementary guidelines are followed.

It is also a condition of the Mirostone Limited Warranty that before commencing any fabrication or installation work, you first inspect the condition of your Mirostone solid surface products and in particular, ensure that you are satisfied that there are no colour matching issues.

Before working with Mirostone, please carry out a risk assessment and take all steps to minimise any risks to general health and safety. This must include the use of dust masks, adequate dust extraction for all power tools and the provision of adequate ventilation within the area of work.

JOINING BENCHTOPS

Do Not remove the protective film. It is designed to protect the surface from scratching during fitting process.

Carefully measure the Mirostone benchtop piece that is to be cut. Use a straight edge and power saw to trim to exact length – dry fit the join to check that edges form a perfect join. The edge can be sanded with a fine sandpaper and block if required. Finally use the sandpaper to apply a 1mm round to the top edge to match the factory machined edge. From the underside of the top, mark the position for the benchtop connectors. Using a jig and small router, rout out for the benchtop connector fittings. Once ready to join, apply a bead of Silicone Sealant to the join.

We recommend using a Coloured Silicone Adhesive similar to that of benchtop, alternatively a Clear Acetic Cure Silicone. Bring joint together and carefully fit benchtop connectors to the underside of the benchtop. Use a block of wood and mallet to help set the two pieces flush.

Tighten up all the connectors evenly. Once the joint is clamped tight clean up the excess silicone that has come out of the joint. Spray a fine mist of Water and Detergent over the join and remove the excess silicone. Turpentine and/or Methylated Spirits can be used to clean off any silicone residue however we recommend you refer to the Silicone product guidelines. Secure the Mirostone benchtop in place using clamps until the silicone has cured.

Please dispose of any Mirostone off-cuts or sanded dust safely in an appropriate waste bin. Do not incinerate any waste materials from your Mirostone installation.

Mirostone work surfaces can be installed using woodworking tools. We recommend the Festool range of tools, for best possible finish.

NOTICE

The guidelines refer to **Festool** tools and dust extraction, but any high quality and equivalent brand of tools and dust extraction will suffice. You may wish to use a Vuplex solid surface cleaner/ polish for polishing the finished tops.

CONDITIONING

All materials should ideally be given 24 hours to meet room temperature prior to installation. Ensure cabinets have been installed correctly and are level as the Mirostone will follow the cabinet profile.

AFTER INSTALLATION

Each Mirostone element is supplied with a clear protective plastic film. On completion of the installation, remove the protective film in one movement (i.e. do not stop and start the removal of the film as the film adhesive could leave marks on the surface).

The use of Turpentine and/or Methylated Spirits on a clean soft cloth should be used to 'wash' the surface and exposed edges.

FINISHED END EDGES

Clamp a straight edge guide to the surface. Using a **Festool OF1400 Router** with a tungsten carbide or spiral router bit, rout out using four progressive passes. Each pass should be 6mm deeper than the previous cut.

Always cut into the front edge profile. Do not force the cutting process. Apply a slow even pressure to the cutting tool, letting the cutter lead the cut.

RESURFACING MIROSTONE

Using a **Festool RO150 Rotex /random orbital sander** set the machine to Rotex mode and starting with a 120 grit work in a left/ right and front / back pattern four times, then repeat using 240 grit, and then 400 grit, then 600 grit discs, wiping the surface clean between grades to remove any grit.

Apply Vuplex Cleaner/Polish to the solid surface polish and buff with a microfibre cloth.

BOWL/SINK, TAP CUT OUTS AND INSET SINKS:

Do Not remove the protective film. It is designed to protect the surface from scratching during fitting process.

Position the sink, bowl or tap cut out at least 150mm from any joint or benchtop end and 55mm from front or back work surface edges. Place the sink upside down on the Mirostone benchtop and mark its final installation position. Remove sink and mark out centre of cutout and set back from front edge.

Using a template, mark the centre of the template, and align and clamp to the benchtop. Using a large hand router carefully machine out the hole for the sink in the Mirostone benchtop. This may need to be done in two cuts. Be careful to keep router flat and square to the edge.

NB: *Always support the off cut to prevent it breaking away as you near the completion of the cut.*

Carefully sand the internal edge of the cutout to its finish level. Recommend sanding to the following grits, 120, 240, 320. After sanding the edge, machine a 5mm radius to the top edge of the sink cutout and also sand the radius. From the underside of the top, carefully mark and glue in place the sink clips. Use acrylic glue for fixing the sink clips.

Clean the edge of the stainless steel sink with Acetone to remove all grease before fitting. Apply a large bead of silicone adhesive to the underside of the benchtop prior to positioning the sink. Place the sink on the underside of the Mirostone benchtop where marked. Clamp in place with sink clips. Tighten clips to hold sink in place. Tip; once tightened, apply silicone on the thread to lock wing-nuts in place.

Turn the Mirostone benchtop over. Spray a fine mist of Water and Detergent around the sink/Mirostone top edge and remove the excess silicone. Turpentine and/or Methylated Spirits can be used to clean off any silicone residue however we recommend you refer to the Silicone product guidelines.

NB: *All brands and styles of undermount and inset sinks can be used with Mirostone.*

TAP HOLES:

Drill out using drill bit, speed bit or hole saw.

DRAINER GROOVES:

Because Mirostone is a solid surface you can create a 'waterfall' effect by having your drainer groove design moving from a depth of 2mm to 5mm.

HOB/COOKTOP CUT OUTS:

Do Not remove the protective film. It is designed to protect the surface from scratching during fitting process.

Mark the centre of the hob cutout onto the Mirostone benchtop and set back from the front edge. Position the hob cut out at least 150mm from any joint or benchtop end and 55mm from front or back work surface edges. Using a template, mark the centre of the template, and align and clamp to the benchtop. Using a large hand router carefully machine out the hole for the hob in the Mirostone benchtop. This may need to be done in two cuts. Be careful to keep router flat and square to the edge.

NB: *Always support the off cut to prevent it breaking away as you near the completion of the cut.*

Machine a 5mm radius to the top and bottom edges of the cutout. Carefully sand the internal edge and radius of the cutout to a smooth finish. Recommend sanding to the following grits, 120, 240. Carefully peel back the protective film from edge of the cutout. Apply the foil strip. It is important that the foil strip sits at least 10mm onto the top of the Mirostone benchtop. The foil strip must form a barrier between the Mirostone benchtop and the appliance. Apply the felt strip to the foil tape. It is important the felt strip is sitting flush with the top of the Mirostone benchtop and hangs down into the cabinet. Place hob in cutout and carefully trim with a sharp knife any surplus foil that may be out beyond the edge of the hob.

NOTE:

It is important that the felt strip fit comfortably around the edge of the cutout and flush to the top edge of the Mirostone benchtop. To achieve this you may need to make cutout 3-5mm larger then specified. However please check thoroughly to ensure the cutout does not become too large for the appliance.

ALL CUT OUTS: STRESS CRACKING AVOIDANCE:

Sinks/bowls, taps, hot plates, waste disposal access points, plumbing pipes: whatever type of cut outs you form, it is vital you take the following steps to avoid the risk of stress cracking. Position all cut outs at least 150mm from any joint or benchtop end and 55mm from front or back work surface edges. All cook top cutouts must be routered and have the thermal barrier foil and felt fitted.

THE CUT OUT EDGES MUST BE SANDED:

Smooth to remove any jagged areas and all internal corners of cut outs must have a minimum 18mm radius to prevent stress cracking. In addition, the top and bottom edges of the cut out should be end rounded to an approximate 5mm radius.
Clean the cutout area with methylated spirit.

PROFILED EDGES:

Mirostone elements are supplied with a 1mm arras. Alternatively, using a Festool OF 1400 Router with a tungsten carbide 2-flute router blade, you can create a unique look by routing a different profile edge.

Using the 900 element as a waterfall end

The Mirostone elements are finished on one side only, when using a 900mm element as a waterfall end you will need to sand the inside face of the Mirostone as this is not pre-finished.

BEFORE FIRST USE

Be sure to give your worktops a once over with 'Selleys Sugar Soap' which will assist in eliminating any residue left by the protective sheet which is removed during the installation of your worktops. This can be purchased from all leading hardware stores.

EVERYDAY CLEANING AND GENERAL CARE

Mirostone® is a non-porous surface meaning that it is water and stain resistant. If you do spill something on your surface we recommend wiping the worktops with warm soapy water and a damp cloth.

In addition, Selleys Sugar Soap Everyday Wall & Surface Cleaning Wipes are specially formulated to remove the most stubborn stains on your tops. Whilst Mirostone® is tough, it is not indestructible. Use of the product outside of the guidelines referred to in the installation guide can cause unnecessary damage. We always recommend using a cutting board when preparing food and never cutting directly on the Mirostone® surface to avoid blunting kitchen knives or damaging the surface of your benchtop.

HEAT RESISTANCE

Mirostone® is heat resistant, however like most solid surface worktop materials Mirostone® can be damaged by sudden and rapid surface temperature changes. We always recommend placing hot pots, oven trays and fry pans onto a wooden chopping board or similar object to absorb the heat. We also recommend that electric fry pans and slow cookers are also used on a similar object and not directly on the worktop as these can also produce extremely high levels of heat.