



# TANDEM

Great value worktops and breakfast bars

Worksurface and breakfast bar  
installation and after care instructions

**IMPORTANT:** Please follow these instructions carefully

# Laminate worktop and breakfast bar installation and after care instructions

## CURVED EDGE

- These products have a PUR underedge seal and meet FIRA Gold product certification requirement inc.: workmanship, finish, adhesion, environmental, substrate, laminate performance and resistance to immersion in water.
- Darker, smoother laminates although manufactured to the same standards [EN438] tend to show visible scratches and abrasions more than lighter laminates.
- Majority of curved edge worktops and breakfast bars are supplied with a 50mm excess (material trim allowance on length).
- All exposed edges of chipboard should be sealed with a waterproof sealant (i.e. silicone).

## SQUARE EDGE

- All our worktops are manufactured to exacting criteria using materials sourced and conforming to EN (or equivalent) standards, square edged products differ only by design. Edging is machine applied with a water resistant adhesive and meets with the underside resin impregnated balance paper. This is not a water proof barrier. We confirm the importance of best practice on installation and after care.
- Edged products have no underside PUR seal (unlike the curved edge design) and therefore more susceptible to water / moisture penetration.
- **Spillages, excess and standing water or fluids can and will deteriorate edges if left for any period of time (wipe up / away immediately).**

## CLEANING

For general cleaning gently wipe the surface using either a damp cloth or sponge with a mild detergent or non-abrasive cleaner diluted in warm water. It is important to avoid using abrasive scouring powders, creams or polishes. It is always advisable to wipe off any spillages immediately. Persistent stains should be treated with white spirit. Whilst the surface will resist most household foodstuffs, including coffee and red wine, certain items such as shoe polish, dyes and nail varnish will stain. Gloss worktops need extra care to maintain the surface finish, wiping any inclusions will cause scratching of the surface [see table for full cleaning guidance].

## HEAT RESISTANCE

Never place hot pans, dishes or objects from the oven or hob directly in contact with the laminate surface, this may lead to blistering or cracking. Care should also be taken with hot irons and cigarettes.

## IMPACT RESISTANCE

The laminate surface is resistant to impact and has been tested to EN 438 part 2. Any objects with sharp edges may cause surface damage.

## CLEANING STAINS

	Dry Cloth / Duster	Damp Cloth	Warm water & Detergents	Non-abrasive cleaner	White Spirit	Nail Polish Remover
<b>GENERAL HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS</b>						
Dust/Light Dirt	✓					
Soap Residue		✓	✓	✓		
Shoe Polish					✓	
Biro or Pen			✓	✓		
Wax Crayon					✓	
Bleach		✓	✓	✓		
Lipstick			✓	✓		
Nail Varnish						✓
Dyes - washable			✓	✓		
Dyes - permanent					✓	✓
<b>FOOD STUFFS</b>						
Tea		✓	✓	✓		
Milk		✓	✓	✓		
Fruit Juice		✓	✓	✓		
Red Wine		✓	✓	✓		
Vinegar		✓	✓	✓		
Lemon Juice		✓	✓	✓		
Vegetable Oil		✓	✓	✓		
Beetroot		✓	✓	✓		
Curry		✓	✓	✓		
<b>OTHERS</b>						
Nicotine			✓	✓		
Paint - water based			✓	✓		
Paint - solvent based					✓	
Blood			✓	✓		
Fingermarks		✓	✓	✓		

## Thoroughly inspect your new worktop, breakfast bar and other components for colour matching, damage and imperfections - before installation

### GENERAL

It is important to inspect your new Tandem surface for any damage or defects before any work commences, as installed worktops, breakfast bars, upstands and splashbacks will be seen as having been accepted and no liability will be accepted for its removal and / or replacement.

### PREPARATION

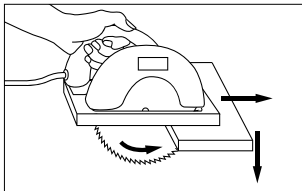
If not required for immediate installation your worksurface should be stored flat, on batons, away from excess temperature, humidity or standing water. Your Tandem surfaces should be sufficiently supported during the cutting, drilling and sawing stages of installation. It is essential that all kitchen cabinet products have been installed correctly using a spirit level before installing your worktop and breakfast bar.

Marking can be done with a soft pencil either on the face of the worktop if using a handsaw or on the underside if using a power saw.

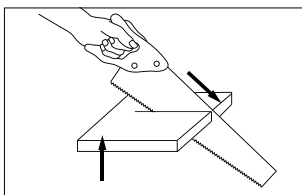
For your safety please ensure all cutting/drilling tools are sharp and safety goggles are used at all times whenever cutting into your Tandem surfaces.

### INSTALLING YOUR TANDEM SURFACES

**CUTTING** - Remember, before cutting double-check your measurements.



For best results when using an electric circular or jig saw, cut the Tandem surfaces face down so that the saw teeth cut into the laminate surface starting from the profiled front edge.



If using a hand saw, (10 to 12 teeth per 25mm) cut the Tandem surfaces face up. Always start from the profiled front edge and keep the saw at a low angle.

Once your Tandem surfaces have been cut the edge can be trimmed and cleaned using a portable hand router to achieve a perfect chip-free cut. This is important particularly if a joint or edging is required.

### WORKTOP JOINTS

Ensure the two edges to be joined are clean and then apply a continuous bead of sealant down the entire length of the joint and down the front edge. Draw the worktops together with 3 tension bolts, tightening the bolts until the joint is tight allowing excess sealant to form over the joint.

Wipe off all excess sealant with a clean damp cloth. Please note: it is important to avoid positioning joints close to cut-outs.

### CUT-OUTS FOR HOBS AND SINKS

All cut-outs should be carefully measured and clearly marked. Working from the decorative face drill through all the corners using a 12mm drill bit. This allows access for the jig saw blade when cutting around the cut-out and eliminates sharp internal corners that can lead to cracks forming in the laminate surface. It is recommended to leave at least 250mm between cut-outs and from the cutout to the edge of your worktop. A minimum of 50mm is recommended from the edge of the cut-out to the front and back edges of the worktop. After the cut has been made check the hob or sink for size.

Best Practice Advice: To ensure longevity of your purchase it is advisable to further protect hob cut outs and areas above appliances with aluminium tape to prevent heat and moisture from affecting the higher risk areas after installation.

We also recommend to apply 2 coats of varnish to the underside of your worktop, 50mm wide around all underside edges.

NOTE: Adhesives, sealants, cleaning fluids etc, always follow the instructions on the label.

### PRODUCT GUARANTEE

This product has been manufactured to demanding high quality standards and should last many years provided that the Tandem surfaces are installed and used in accordance with these instructions.

Typically manufacturing defects are visible on inspection or manifest during / soon after installation. Where a Tandem surface can be shown to have failed by reason of manufacturing defect (subject to wear and tear), we will always consider each claim within its own merit in conjunction with your statutory rights.

High gloss and quartz finish surfaces are not included in this guarantee due to their surface performance characteristics.

Laminates are produced to a predetermined colour tolerance, however slight variations may occur. All surfaces should be thoroughly checked for colour match prior to cutting or installation. High gloss and quartz laminates are more prone to scratching than textures and therefore require extra care and attention during fabrication, installation and use.

Manufacturer reserves the right to determine what remedy is required - repair and/ or replacement of worktops.

Manufacturer reserves the right to request proof of date and place of purchase to support any submitted claim.



# TANDEM

Great value worktops and breakfast bars

Worksurface and breakfast bar  
installation and after care instructions

**IMPORTANT:** Please follow these instructions carefully