

Karran[®]
STAINLESS STEEL SINKS



In this guide we will demonstrate effective techniques and methods for installing **EDGE** stainless steel sinks seamlessly in both **laminate** and **solid surface**. These techniques are in most cases identical to the installation of a Karran acrylic sink in laminate and solid surface. Variations do occur in the final trim stages and we will review these differences and alternative methods in detail.

Regarding installing Edge sinks in postform laminate countertops, we only review the installation in a custom/square edge countertop here. For a postform installation of Edge sinks, please request a copy of the Karran Acrylic Sinks Undermount to Laminate Installation Guide. Follow the procedures outlined therein until the final laminate trim process, then revert to the instructions shown here on pages 6-8.

SECTION 1: Installing **EDGE** Sinks in Laminate Countertops



After removing the sink from its box, inspect it for damage. Check the integrity of the rim as well as the bowls for any signs of shipping damage. If sink is damaged, call your distributor or Karran USA immediately.



Measure and mark the back side of the countertop indicating where the sink needs to be installed. A set back from the front edge of 2" to 2-1/2" is recommended but always take into consideration the specific circumstances of each installation relating to cabinet and plumbing placement.



Place the sink upside down on the substrate in the marked position, then use a pencil to trace the outline of the sink onto the substrate. Hold your pencil vertically as this will offset your cutout line by the required 1/8".



Using a jig saw make the cutout. When doing more than one sink of the same design, save time by making a wood template and using a router. Remember to reduce the size of the template by the thickness of the router bit to be used.



Place the laminate that has been cut to size (oversized by your shops standard amount) over the substrate. Trace the sink cutout in the substrate onto the back of the laminate.



Flip the countertop over. Place sink in cutout to check for fit. Approximately 1/8" gap should be visible. Either screw or glue & staple wood support strips to the underside of the opening. Make sure they overlap the edge of the cutout by about 1/2"



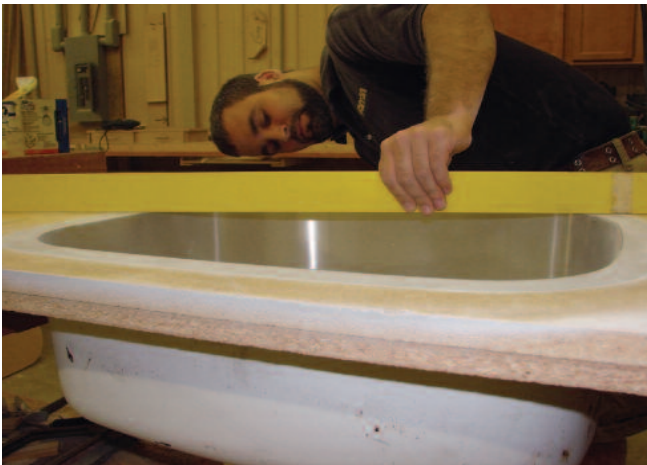
Flip the countertop and sink over. The sink rim must sit minimally higher than the top of the substrate. We recommend no more than 1/32". Adjust height as needed using either strips of laminate or screws. Regarding screws, simply position several screws around circumference of sink, screwed through the wood support strips until they touch the underside of rim. Then adjust screws to raise or lower rim height. Remember to make sure the sink remains centered in the hole.



Mix up Bondo or similar body filler product. Smear Bondo into the gap around the sink. Fill the gap between sink rim and substrate completely. Leave to harden for about 10 minutes.



Once hard, use a belt sander with a coarse grit sandpaper to sand the rim of the sink and the Bondo. Make sure to keep the sander level so as not to sand the substrate or sink rim unevenly. Marking pencil lines on the rim and substrate is a useful guide to show high spots. Sand until lines have been removed.



Check for level (low or high spots) after sanding is complete. Make sure inside stainless steel wall of sink is not raised. Ensuring a flat and level substrate and sink is important for a quality installation.



Place your sink cutout over the marked area on the back of laminate. This is done to protect this area of the laminate where the sink rim will bond from contact adhesive.

Spray back of laminate with contact adhesive.



Lay the sink cutout over the sink and spray contact adhesive over the substrate.



Clean the rim of the sink with denatured alcohol and a clean rag. Also clean the back of the laminate where the sink will attach with denatured alcohol.



Prepare Karran Seaming Adhesive. Remember to purge tube to ensure adhesive is mixing with catalyst. Apply a continuous bead about 1/8" back from the inner front edge of the sink. Bead should be between 1/4" and 3/8" wide. Be cautious not to exceed recommended amount.

Using Karran Seaming Adhesive ensures the seam bond is warranted for 3 years from date of install.



Adhere laminate to the substrate.



Roll laminate with a j-roller. Roll gently on rim of sink



Place one or two sheets of particleboard over the sink area to provide even pressure while seam adhesive cures for approximately 30 minutes. The countertop should not be moved while adhesive is curing.



Use a router with an overhang bit or straight trim bit with oversized nylon bearing to remove laminate from the interior of the bowl. This is a commonly used bit to rough cut out acrylic sinks in solid surface.

When doing postform tops where the integrated backsplash prevents the use of a standard router, use a smaller laminate trim router. For recommended bits, call Karran USA.



Trimming of the laminate back to the bowl wall should be done with a 10° bevel bit with an oversized bearing (bearing 1/8" oversized). Both Amana and Velepec stock Edge sink bowl bits.

Adjust the height of the bevel bit in the router until it is cutting as much of the laminate away as possible without touching the sink. Pay close attention during this stage as setting the bit too low and touching the sink with the router bit may irreparably damage the sink.



Removing the last remaining overhang of laminate and seaming adhesive may be accomplished by hand filing. Use an assortment of files included flat and round files to hand file the edge of the laminate until it is flush with the bowl wall.



A 1" x 4" drum sander available from Karran along with an air drill is a good alternative to hand filing. Hold the drum sander at as much of a vertical angle as possible and run it backwards and forwards along the edge of the laminate. As soon as a slight glint of steel can be seen through the seam adhesive, stop sanding and remove remaining adhesive with a chisel as shown below.



A chisel slid gently along the bowl wall just under the laminate helps to remove adhesive from the sink wall.



Final touch up of laminate edge if needed can be accomplished with a fine grit sandpaper. This also assists in removing scuffs and scratches that may have occurred during the sanding stage.

Remember when using abrasives on the sink to always sand with the grain lines, never against the grain lines.



A scuff ball or non-woven flap wheel (available from Karran) works well for final buffing and finishing.



Polishing paste (available from Karran) along with a maroon Scotch-Brite pad will polish and finish sink wall if needed.



After drilling 1-1/2" holes for faucets, place a bead of silicone around wall of FHSR and slide into faucet hole. This will ensure your particleboard is completely sealed from possible water penetration.

Recommended Router Bits



For Laminate and 1/2" Solid Surface
10° bevel bit with 1/8" oversized bearing.

Amana Tools
Part #57169

Fred M. Velepec Co.
Part #30-174



For 3cm Solid Surface
12° bevel bit with 1/8" oversized bearing.

Fred M. Velepec Co.
Part #30-184



For 1/2" and 3cm Solid Surface
Overhang trim bit.

Amana Tools
Part #57155

Fred M. Velepec Co.
Part #30-280

SECTION 2: *Installing EDGE Sinks in Solid Surface*



After removing the sink from its box, inspect it for damage. Check the integrity of the rim as well as the bowls for any signs of shipping damage. If sink is damaged, call your distributor or Karran USA immediately.



Measure and mark the back side of the solid surface countertop indicating where the sink needs to be installed. A set back from the front edge of 2" to 2-1/2" is recommended but always take into consideration the specific circumstances of each installation relating to cabinet and plumbing placement.



Place the sink upside down on the back of the solid surface in the marked position. Use hot melt glue to adhere blocks of wood to locate sink easily. Placing the corner of the block in line with the sink registration marks is simple and effective.



Place a strip of tape around the rim of the sink. Place strip 1/4" above rim then remove excess with a sharp blade. Ensure that no tape remains above rim of sink.

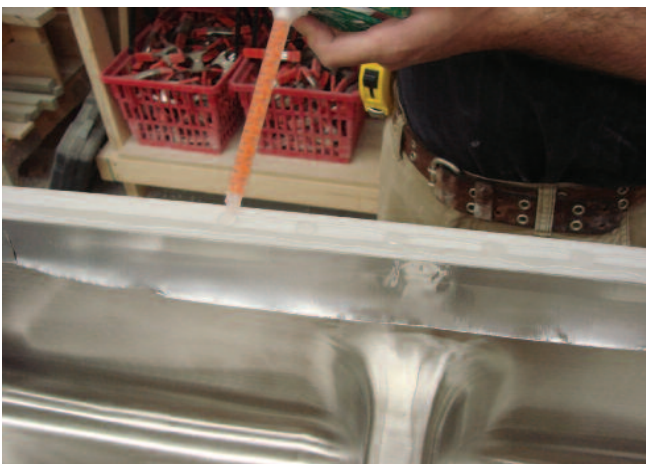
Heat conductive tape works well but many other types of tape will prove suitable.



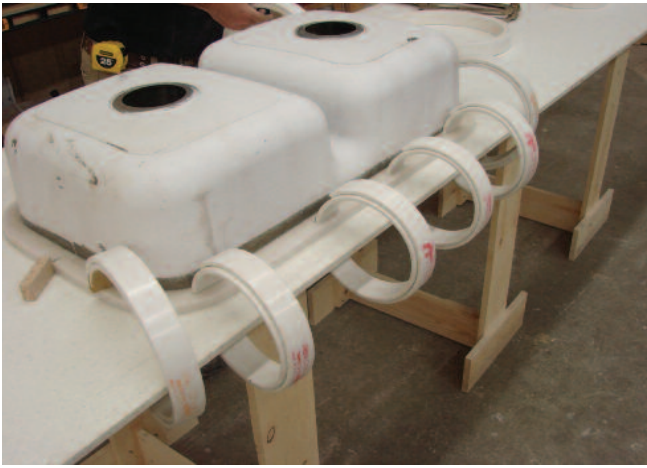
Clean the rim of the sink with a denatured alcohol and a clean rag.



Clean the back of the solid surface where sink will adhere with a denatured alcohol. Remove all pencil lines.



Prepare solid surface seaming adhesive. Remember to purge tube to ensure adhesive is mixing with catalyst. Apply a continuous bead about 1/8" back from the inner front edge of the sink. Bead should be between 1/4" and 3/8" wide. Then place small dots on outside of bead every 2" to 3". Use a color that is appropriate for the color of solid surface being used.



Place sink into marked position as indicated by the wood locator blocks. Use your preferred clamping method to clamp sink in place while adhesive cures for 30 to 45 minutes.

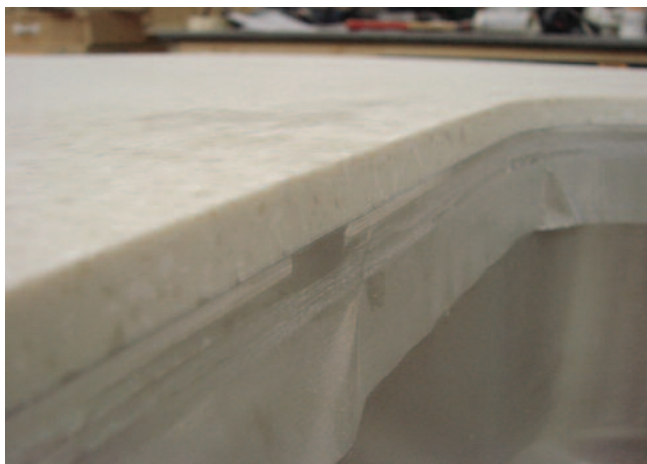


Use an overhang bit or trim bit with oversized nylon bearing to remove solid surface from inside of bowl.



Trimming of the solid surface should be done with a 10° bevel bit with a 1/8" oversized nylon bearing. Adjust the height of the bit in the router until it is cutting as much of the solid surface away as possible without touching the sink. Pay close attention during this stage as setting the bit too low and touching the sink with the router bit may irreparably damage the sink.

Note: Bits with a greater bevel angle can be used but always remember to use a nylon bearing that is 1/8" oversized.



Final trimming should leave a slight overhang of solid surface and adhesive remaining.



An orbital sander with a soft radius pad and 60 to 80 micron sandpaper should be used to sand the solid surface back to the bowl wall.

Sand the solid surface only, not the sink. Sand at the same angle as the router bit that was used.



Some hand sanding may be needed during the final sanding of the edge of the solid surface.



A non-woven flap wheel (available from Karran) works well for final buffing and finishing.



Polishing paste (available from Karran) along with a maroon Scotch-Brite pad will polish and finish sink wall if needed.