

The Encore Undermount Sink Solution – contemporary styling affordably priced

Now you can complete the look with our innovative undermount sink solution.

With our clever fitting system you're in control, installation is simple, fast and very cost effective. There's no need to buy special sink modules or rely on costly bespoke fabrication; Encore's system relies on the installer's existing hand routing skills to machine the sink directly into the worktops on site.

Encore's flexibility is in its sink range, from contemporary stainless steel and granite to seamless moulded acrylic sinks; the choice is as wide as it is simple to install. Simply order our clever sink clips and adhesives along with your worksurfaces and accessories.

This leaflet is designed to be used in conjunction with the main Encore Installation Instructions and Encore Undermount Sink Instruction leaflet, both of which are packed with your Encore worktops. This leaflet expands the processes to cover installation of Encore acrylic seamless moulded sinks.

Please reread the documents above packed with your Encore worktops.

IMPORTANT: Whilst boiling water will not damage your Encore worktops or moulded acrylic sinks, we recommend that the cold water tap is running when boiling water is poured into your sink.

Encore Acrylic Seamless Moulded Sinks

Additional tools and materials

Special Encore undermount reusable jig set for seamless moulded acrylic sinks: Available packed with both single and bowl and a half models and including a cutter to form the seamless edge on up to six installations. The cutter is also available as a replacement item, whilst the jigs are reusable. The jigs cut face and back cuts outs and can be flipped over to allow for left or right hand versions.

Drainer Groove Reusable Jig: use to form horizontal drainer grooves in the Encore surface. Each jig has one slot for straight grooves and two dog leg slots, enabling drainer design to suit the home owners requirements.

Special angled trim and profile Cutter: Special all in one cutter to blend the sink into the worktop seamlessly whilst forming a 3mm radius to the top edge. The cutter is included in the jig set and is also available as a replacement tool. One cutter should install up to six sinks.

Overflow cutter (if required): Use a standard 25mm or 1" hole saw cutter. Do not use spade drill bits.

Router guide bushes: Standard 30mm and 40mm guide bushes are usually required to enable sufficient material to be removed from the rebate. Non original guide bushes may need reducing in height to suit the jig thickness.

Edge profile cutter 3mm radius: to form the radius edge over the sink. We recommend Titman ROCB3 or Trend C074.

Drainer groove cutter: Use a ½ inch diameter bottom radius cutter such as Trend CO54. Do not use a flat base cutter, a radius is vital to ensure easy hand sanding.

Encore undermount sink clips: Always use sink clips with every installation and only use for Encore.

Sink adhesive for Encore seamless moulded acrylic sinks: only use Encore colour coded seaming adhesive in the same colour as the worksurface. Use one cartridge per single bowl sink and one & a half cartridges per one & a half bowl sink. Do not use any other adhesive. **Important** - Bushboard Encore sink clips, adhesives and jigs are not suitable for use with any other solid surface materials. This will void manufacturer's guarantees and product support agreements.

The installation sequence differs from that used for stainless steel and granite sinks; you will cut the drainer grooves after the sink installation is complete.

Calculating centres

We recommend that you calculate and work from the actual sink centre as opposed to the bowl centre. Sink centres will always line up with cut-out jig centres.

Forming the face cut-out

We recommend working on trestles near the final position of the sink installation. Use a rigid board to provide support as you work through each process; the worktop will become weakened as the cut-out is formed.

Start by making the full depth cut-out in the face of the worktop using the 'FACE' jig. Work with the worktop face up.

Using a pencil, mark out the sink centre onto the Encore worksurface.

Ensuring the jig handing corresponds with the desired sink handing centralise the 'FACE' jig and clamp in place using four G-clamps, one at each corner.

Using a 30mm guide bush and 1/2 inch router cutter, form a full depth cut-out, ensuring the waste section is supported to prevent damage as it falls away. Router cut in three stages of 15mm depth each.

Forming the back clearance cut-out

Using a rigid support board to strengthen the worktop and cut-out, carefully turn the worktop face down.

Accurately centralise the 'BACK' jig to the cut-out on the back of the worksurface, clamp in place using four G-clamps one at each corner of the jig. Ensure the jig handing corresponds with the cut-out. Take care to protect the face material from the clamps using a soft packer.

This next stage removes waste chipboard, leaving a solid surface sink overhang. Accurate setting of the router depth stop to the exact depth is vital.

Accurately measure the total thickness of the worksurface and the jig. Accurately set the router cutter depth to the total thickness as measured less 4.5mm. Set and lock the depth stop.

Waste removal has two stages using two different guide bushes:

Stage one - use a 40mm guide bush and standard 1/2 inch router cutter to cut back the chipboard.

Stage two - use a 30mm guide bush and standard 1/2 inch router cutter to further cut back the chipboard to the final finish. If necessary carefully scrape or chisel away any uncut ridges of chipboard.

Best results are achieved cutting in three depth stages, taking care to keep the router cut vertical during each cut.

Thoroughly remove all loose dust or debris.

Test fit the sink and sink clips

Before commencing work ensure that the mating face of the sink is flat and not damaged. Installing a damaged sink may not produce the expected neat joint between the sink and the surface.

To check the sink fit, a test assembly is necessary. Place the inverted sink into the cut-out to confirm it centres when viewed from the face and clears the surrounding chipboard from the back.

Assemble the sink clips. Sink fixing clips should be centralised on all corners and straight edges. Use at least eight clips for each sink. Assemble the sink clips and drill 3mm diameter x 10mm deep pilot holes in the worktop back face for the screws. Consider the position of any tap hole when positioning sink clips.

It may also be necessary to recess the clips into the back face of the worktop to clear carcass tie-rails or gables. Hack-sawing bolt heads off after the lock nuts are tightened will provide further clearance if required.

At this stage we recommend overflows are trial fitted to assure clearance from the surrounding worktop. It may be necessary to cut clearance around the overflow. Once satisfied with the final fit and clip location, remove all clips and the sink in readiness for final installation.

Final Sink installation:

Installation of seamless moulded acrylic sinks has to be carried out with worksurface face down on a clean and perfectly flat backboard. Care is needed to ensure the sink is centralised in the cut-out.

Using Imanol and clean white wipes from the main installation kit thoroughly clean both mating faces of the sink and encore solid surface. Any dirt or dust trapped in the joint will compromise both mechanical and aesthetic quality of the seamless edge.

Adhesive will need to be applied to both worksurface cut-out and the mating flange of the sink. Due to limited workable time of adhesive, adhesive application and assembly should be carried out speedily. Use adhesive that matches the worktop colour.

Apply two unbroken 4mm beads of Encore colour coded seaming adhesive to the inner corner of the cut-out and approx. 4mm in from the cut-out edge. Also apply two unbroken beads of adhesive, one to the middle of the sink mating flange and the second to edge nearer to the bowl.

Gently place the sink in position pressing firmly down and rocking sideways to ensure the adhesive squeezes out, however do not scrape the adhesive away.

Refix the sink fix clips using the supplied screws. Evenly hand-tighten the bolts by hand. Tighten the lock nuts with a spanner.

Allow the sink adhesive to cure for at least 45 minutes.

Trim cut-out overhang/finish:

Gently turn the worksurface and sink over with the back board in place supporting the cut-out to prevent stress, placing on trestles before removing the back board.

The next process trims the worktop and the sink itself to create a blended seamless finish. The special cutter takes care of these operations and is a vital tool designed for the job.

Using a hand router with a 1/4" collet and the special angled trim and profile cutter from the jig set, set and trim back the overhang so that the cutter skims the face of the worksurface, the bearing takes care of the sink side wall placement.

A slight feather cut into surface or the bowl is normal, these can be easily sanded out later.

Try to trim back in several light passes to minimise cutter/bearing wear. We recommend dust extraction to reduce cutter wear and reduce dust entering the bearing.

All inner sink corners will need to be completely sanded by hand; it's best to sand these first.

The straight edges you machined can now be sanded using a random orbital palm sander and combination of 240, 320 grit papers and fine scotchbrite.

Cutting overflow hole for 1.5 bowl sink:

The 1.5 bowl sink does not include a predrilled overflow. One can be fitted simply in the larger of the two bowls if required.

We recommend that the position of an overflow be central to the back facing wall of the large bowl and 40mm down from the top of the Encore worksurface.

Using a standard 25mm cutter make an overflow hole. Refer to the diagram provided within the waste kit to install the overflow.

Drainer grooves for Encore seamless moulded acrylic sinks

Always cut drainer grooves for seamless moulded acrylic sinks after the sink is complete.

Forming drainer grooves

Encore solid surface is compression moulded, reinforced at 5mm thick and following our instructions and depths will produce an excellent finish. Use good quality cutters and work smoothly for an excellent finish. Sharp cutters will reduce final finishing time. For Encore brand seamless acrylic sinks the drainer grooves are machined as the last process. Do not attempt to machine a fall in grooves.

Marking out drainer groove centre lines

The jig allows the installer to design layouts with more or less grooves, full length or shorter grooves, with or without dog-legs. To aid design flexibility the universal drainer groove jig is designed to form one groove at a time and includes left and right hand dog-leg slots and one straight slot.

Using a pencil, mark out groove centre lines ensuring they are parallel to the front edge of the worktop. Laying masking tape on the surface prior to marking out centres may aid visibility.

Cutting drainer grooves

Centralise the required slot in the jig over the previously marked out centre line and firmly clamp in place using four G-clamps.

Use a hand router fitted with a 30mm guide bush and a Trend CO54 radius cutter. Accurately set the plunge depth to 2mm (+/- 0.2mm). Never cut deeper than 2.2mm.

Starting from the farthest point from the sink cut-out, plunge the router and run smoothly along the jig and back to produce the groove. Smooth use of the router will minimise hand sanding after completion.

Repeat the steps above to complete other grooves.

Finishing drainer grooves

Sand the drainer grooves by hand using 240grit, 320grit and finally grey Scotchbrite. Be careful not to over sand the edges, whilst taking care to maintain the routed groove shape.

Next follow the surface sanding process for Encore worktops around the entire sink and drainer area to eliminate the need to sand and possibly damage the final installed sink later. However do not apply Professional Worktop Polish until the entire installation is complete.

Tap holes

Cut tap holes through the intact Encore worktop ensuring that the full chipboard substrate is in place to support the tap.

Position the tap as necessary, ensuring any sink clips have previously been positioned to clear the desired tap plumbing or hole.

Cut the tap hole using a suitable hole-saw of the correct dimension to suit the chosen tap.

Fully seal the exposed chipboard within the tap hole with high modulus silicone or waterproof PVA. Ensure the tap is installed using its seal, grommet or O-ring to prevent moisture entering the tap hole. We recommend the application of additional high modulus silicone to further seal the tap body to the worksurface face to prevent water penetrating the tap hole.

We recommend the installer take time to seal the tap hole well. With the heavy use a tap can undergo, it is best practice for the installer to ensure extra sealing to prevent future problems from leaks or condensation on the cold water feed. Adequate prevention from moisture entering the tap hole is the responsibility of the installer.

Final worktop installation

You can now move onto install and finish your worktops, taking care to protect the heavier sink worktop from potential cracking due to flexing during installation. Please follow the instructions in the main Installation Instructions