# Spectra collection Square-Edge Contemporary laminate surfaces

Care and Maintenance Guide

**IMPORTANT:** Please follow these instructions carefully



# Care and Maintenance Guide

Warning: The following treatments are not advised for gloss laminate surfaces. Persistent marks on gloss surfaces should be treated carefully with alcohol or methylated spirits on a soft, dry lint-free cloth followed by a solution of warm water and a little non-abrasive mild detergent.

#### Cleaning

Spectra Square-Edge worksurfaces are easily maintained, they simply require a regular wipe down with a damp cloth & a mild detergent or non-abrasive cleaner diluted in warm water.

Some examples of harsh materials that, if left in contact with your worksurface, can damage your Spectra Square-Edge surface are:

X Chlorine bleach	X Hydrogen Peroxide
X Drain cleaner	X Metal cleaners / polish
X Fruit / berry juice	X Oven cleaner
X Hard water stain remover	× Toilet bowl cleaner

In the event of a spillage, always wipe up, rinse and dry the area thoroughly. Do not leave liquids lying on the surface.

**Note:** Abrasive scouring powders, creams and even polishes should be avoided. Prolonged contact with some PVC aprons may promote early wear of the worksurface.

#### Wear Resistance

Spectra Square-Edge worksurfaces provide a hard wearing surface. However, the surface will be damaged by scratching of sharp knives or other sharp utensils. Darker colours will show excessive marking, scratching and wear and tear more noticeably than lighter colours. Never cut anything directly on the worktop, it is recommended that a cutting board or protective mat is used when using sharp utensils.

#### **Resistance to Heat**

**Please note:** Never place any hot items directly from the heat source directly on to the worktop.

Spectra Square-Edge worksurfaces can become damaged if hot pans, earthenware or dishes are placed directly from the over or hob. To prevent damage from hot objects, use heat resistant mats on the surface of the worktop. Please do not install Spectra Square-Edge surfaces directly against an oven. Either have a minimum 10mm open gap or use a heat diffuser.

If this product has a dishwasher appliance installed in close proximity, the user must refrain from opening the appliance before it has cooled down. The heat and steam arising from the appliance can cause damage to this product.

#### **Product Guarantee**

This product has been manufactured to demanding high quality standards and should last many years provided that Square-Edge 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 Spectra Square-Edge 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 Square-Edge 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.

**CAUTION HEAVY:** Please use the appropriate safety clothing and lifting equipment. Protective gloves must be worn whilst handling worktops.



# Square-Edge Worktop Fitting and Installation Guide

#### Thank you for choosing Spectra Square-Edge

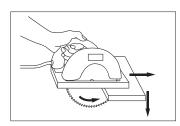
This worksurface should be checked thoroughly and any complaints should be made immediately. If any work is carried out on the worksurface or if it is installed, the top will be seen as having been accepted, and no liability will be accepted for its removal and / or replacement.

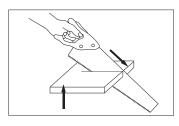
## 1. Storage

If not required for immediate use, this worksurface should be stored flat, on bearers away from any possible damage and excesses of temperature, humidity and standing water.

## 2. Cutting

As a general rule for Spectra Square-Edge, the best results are achieved when the worktop is cut 5mm





oversize, using either a portable power saw (decorative side face down) or with a hand saw (decorative side face up). For power saws, jig saws and circular saws which cut from an upward angle, cut from the underside. In regards to cut outs for sinks and appliances, ensure that sink and appliances are inset into

the work surface and are overlapped by at least 15mm.

To prevent stress cracking ensure that all corners are cut with a minimum radius of 6mm. If you are using a hand saw then cut on the laminate side, you can mark with a soft pencil on the laminate face. Apply pressure on the downward stroke to avoid chipping, holding the saw almost vertically up.

The worktop should always be supported during all cutting, drilling and sawing. All tools used should be sharp and safety goggles and gloves should be used.

## 3. Jointing and Cut Outs

It is essential that all cut outs, joints and exposed areas are sealed correctly, with our colour matched Spectra sealant. When installing worktops in proximity to an appliance, a diffuser strip must be used. Failure to properly seal the vulnerable area shall lead to moisture ingress to the core and no claims for damages may be upheld if proper sealing is not in place.

When joining one worksurface to another be that in a straight line or turning a corner the edging needs to be removed at the precise location that the two boards are to be fitting together. Use Spectra colour matched adhesive / sealant at the joint of the two boards.

## 4. Upstands and Splashbacks

Once cut to size, the upstands / splashbacks can then be fixed. Upstands / splashbacks must be fixed to the wall which your worktop backs on to. Fix with wall panel adhesive, following the adhesive manufacturer's instructions to ensure a good bond. They can be sealed using silicone sealer. Seal the area in which the upstand / splashback meets the worktop and where the upstand / splashback meets the wall.

Please note when fitting upstands / splashbacks behind a gas hob, the recommendation is to follow the hob manufacturers guide lines. In the absence of any guidelines, the upstand / splashback must be no less than 50mm away from the back of the hob or 100mm away from a naked flame, whichever is greater.

#### 5. Free standing Worksurface / Overhang

Freestanding worksurfaces or overhangs over 250mm must be supported by a frame or the insertion of T-bars to avoid bowing.



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