ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR NEW SPECIALIST WORKTOP
YOUR NEW SPECIALIST WORKTOP
Thank you for choosing a specialist worktop as the perfect finish for your Wren kitchen.

We know that ordering a Granite, Gemini Quartz® or Corian® worktop is an extra investment on your part and we want to ensure that you are completely satisfied.

With that in mind we’ve put this booklet together for you. It explains in detail how your worktop will be measured, made to order and installed, and what part you play in the process.

This booklet will also explain the unique features of a specialist worktop, what you can expect the finished product to look like and how to care for it so it will continue to look as beautiful as the day it was installed.

We recommend that you read this booklet very carefully and if you have any issues at all, please get in touch with your Wren Kitchen Designer to discuss them.

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When it comes to our Granite, Gemini Quartz® and Corian® worktops, Wren Kitchens is proud to have an exclusive relationship with master craftsmen - J. Rotherham Group. This partnership gives Wren customers access to 90 years of masonry expertise and an extensive range of the finest luxury worktop materials - both natural and man-made.
When we decided to offer our customers a range of specialist worktops to provide the finishing touch to your dream kitchen, we knew that only the best would do. So we set out to find the most knowledgeable and experienced team of worktop specialists in the UK and build an exclusive relationship with them.

The team we found was J. Rotherham, a family-owned company which shares Wren’s values and commitment to quality, design and excellent service. The company has been carving and shaping stone worktops in Yorkshire for more than four generations. During those 90 years it has developed a reputation for uncompromising quality standards and stunning worktops made from the best materials that nature has to offer, as well as the most technologically advanced man-made worktops.

When it comes to Granite, rather than buying and shaping pre-cut pieces of stone - like some small suppliers do - the specialists at J. Rotherham source large blocks themselves. The team visits quarries around the world selecting the most unique pieces of stone. Years of experience mean the team can spot the best quality material which will go on to make the strongest worktops, creating a beautiful focal point in your kitchen for years to come.

J. Rotherham uses its master skills and specialist cutting tools and water jets to shape the Granite to exactly fit the template made for your kitchen. This cutting is done at the factory for a high quality finish. And the company applies exactly the same skill, precision and care to the manufacture and finishing of a Gemini Quartz® or Corian® specialist worktop.

When you buy a specialist worktop, you’ll be guided through the whole process by the team at J. Rotherham. They will be available for any questions you have and to oversee the manufacturing and installation of your own unique worktop.

Specialist Worktop Team
01430 862806
Email them at customerservice@jrotherham.co.uk

Wren Kitchens and J. Rotherham. The perfect partnership for the perfect fit.
GRANITE
There’s no more luxurious way to finish your Wren kitchen than with the dramatic beauty of a Granite worktop.

A natural stone, Granite is made from volcanic magma. Its endless variety of colours and patterns is created by the mineral content and the movement of the lava as it cooled over millions of years. Colours are unique to the mountainside where a block is quarried and every worktop cut from it will have a different pattern. Your worktop will be one of a kind.

Our range of Granites has been carefully selected to offer you a choice of finishes and effects. There’s bold Da Vinci with a striking pattern that can be used to add drama to the popular palettes of white, cream and grey units. For a quieter statement, there’s Vermeer with subtle tones that complement all kitchen styles - from traditional Shaker to modern Milano - and all 52 colours.

As an organic material, Granite is less consistent in colour and pattern than man-made worktops and that is part of its charm. But to make sure you get a harmonious tone across every worktop in your kitchen, we use our expertise to limit the contrasts. We source from quarries around the world that have the most consistent colours and patterns and we buy in blocks only. That means we can cut your worktops from the same block and minimise differences.

Because every Granite worktop is unique, Showroom samples will only give an indication of pattern and colour so talk to your Kitchen Designer to help you choose the right Granite for your home. If you prefer a more consistent look, consider a man-made specialist worktop such as Gemini Quartz® - see page 10.

As well as making a strong statement in your home, Granite is practically perfect for working kitchens. The way it crystallises while forming makes it a very hard material that can take a hard polish. It’s tough, harder to scratch or damage than Corian® and has good heat resistance, though using a trivet is advised. With a naturally cool surface, it’s also ideal for making pastry and dough.

Although Granite is easy to clean and maintain, for extra protection we finish each worktop with a unique Granite Stain Shield to make sure it stays looking as beautiful as the day it’s installed.
As a natural stone, every slab of Granite is unique and colour, pattern and tonality will vary. This is what gives it its beauty. Some Granites vary more than others and your Kitchen Designer can help you choose the right one for you and your kitchen. Remember, what you see in the Showroom is only a sample to provide an indication of colour, not an exact match. The three samples of Donatello Granite (above right) show the pattern and colour variation that can be expected with a Granite worktop.

Our craftsmen aim for a harmonious effect and cut worktops to maximise pattern flow within the external dimensions of each slab. However it is not always possible to match pattern direction across all worktops in your kitchen - this variation is part of the material’s natural charm.

Granite can take a hard polish and all of our Granite worktops are delivered with a high shine finish except for Christus, Tintoretto, Poussin and Francesca which have a duller vintage finish. As an organic material, the surface and the edges of the worktop cannot be consistently smooth - and this texture is an important feature that adds impact. All 30mm Granite worktops come with a smooth but not polished underside margin of 50mm. For large overhangs, this option can be extended to the whole underside surface for an additional charge. Solid Granite worktops are available in a single 30mm thickness. For an even more luxurious look, there’s 30+30mm special thickness which is two layers, with the top layer bonded onto a subframe to reduce the weight. At these sizes, worktops are not solid but hollowed out because they would be too heavy. This process takes time and expertise and increases the cost.

Granite is cut into slabs of 2700 x 1400mm and this is the maximum size a Granite worktop can be without joining two or more slabs together. The maximum size you can have however depends on access to your kitchen and unit support - so it could be smaller. To make a longer run or a wider worktop, slabs are joined together and filled with colour matching glues; joints are approximately 2-4mm wide. See page 30 for more details on expansion joints.

Your Granite worktops come with structural reinforcing bars to the undersides of cut-outs - such as hobs and sinks - to support your worktop and give your new kitchen structural integrity.
How to care for your Granite worktop

It takes a surprisingly small amount of effort to maintain the stunning appearance of a Granite worktop. If you look after it properly, it can last a lifetime.

• Clean up any spills of household items such as tea, coffee, wine, vinegar, fruit juice and cooking sauces quickly. It's easier to clean them when they happen than when they dry. Use a damp cloth and, if necessary, a small amount of non-bleach, non-abrasive liquid cleaner.

• For more stubborn items use a household vinegar-based cleaner with a non-abrasive cleaning pad. Then rinse the area thoroughly with water and dry with paper or cloth towels. For best results, wipe and dry in smooth circular motions with a lint-free cloth.

• If a stain has become dry and more difficult to remove, start by removing any excess with a blunt plastic scraper, then clean the surface with a damp cloth and if necessary a small amount of non-bleach, non-abrasive vinegar-based cream cleaner. Rinse thoroughly and dry with paper or cloth towels.

• Stripping agents, grease removers, caustic soda or products that have a pH value above 10 shouldn’t be used on your Granite worktop. Also avoid solvents which contain dichloromethane, chloromethane or methylene chloride.

• Oils, chemicals, dyes and solvents can permanently damage your worktop. If you spill any of them on your Granite worktop, blot them up immediately and rinse with plenty of clean water. Dry with paper or cloth towels and wipe and dry in smooth circular motions with a lint-free cloth.

• Takeaways such as curries can contain oils and dyes which can stain a Granite worktop - it’s best to clean up any spills as soon as possible.

• Chopping boards are recommended and avoid dropping, knocking or rubbing objects on the edge of your worktop.

• Granite can withstand a moderate amount of heat but trivets should be used for hot items where possible.

• You’ll get a Granite Care Kit with your worktop for regular maintenance.
GEMINI QUARTZ®
Beautiful and built to last, a sleek Gemini Quartz® worktop gives your Wren kitchen a unique finishing touch.

A Gemini Quartz® worktop is an investment in style and substance. Made from one of nature's strongest minerals - quartz - mixed with resin, this advanced engineering process combines the natural beauty of stone with all of the benefits of technology. That means you enjoy the look and feel of real stone in a wide variety of colours and patterns that are more consistent in tone than any raw organic material.

The Gemini Quartz® range is a sophisticated choice that works with every style of home and kitchen. For more traditional kitchens, there are natural tones and classic veining patterns that perfectly mimic marble and granite. For modern and handleless kitchens, dramatic colours and effects such as reflecting mirror particles make bold statements.

Just like natural stone, the particle structure of the crystals varies so every worktop is unique with an individual pattern and tone that has no twin. As a result, what you see in the Showroom gives you a good indication of what to expect but is not an exact match. Though Gemini Quartz® is more uniform in appearance than Granite, we use our skill to further limit contrasts. We also make all of the worktops for one kitchen from the same batch.

Before making your choice, we recommend you consider your personal taste and talk to your Kitchen Designer as the marble veining, natural effects and certain colours of some Gemini Quartz® worktops vary more than others in intensity.

As a man-made material, Gemini Quartz® has incredible flexibility. It can be made to fit almost any design idea or kitchen layout - as well as take a wide variety of finished edges from the ornate Table Edge design to the striking Concorde.

Gemini Quartz® is also resistant to shock, scratching and staining. The natural hardness and density of quartz stone protects it from heat - although the use of trivets is advised - and gives it a highly polished finish. Tough yet silky to the touch, this is a sumptuous surface to work with yet so easy to clean and maintain. A touch of unique glamour that with care will never fade.
What to expect
from your Gemini Quartz® worktop

As an organic material made from natural crystals, your Gemini Quartz® worktop is unique. Colour, pattern and tonality are not totally uniform, however there is a high degree of consistency compared to other natural materials and colour variation is low. Remember, what you see in the Showroom is only a sample and provides an indication of colour only, not an exact match.

The patterns in a Gemini Quartz® worktop also vary slightly as the particle structure can differ. This can affect veining and marbling consistency but only to a small degree. Small spots and faint patches can also occur naturally - and this is part of the unique charm of organic materials.

Some colours are less consistent in intensity than others, particularly if there is marble veining. The following colours - Elysian Grey/Timberwolf/Snowstorm/Dune/Centaur Brown/Highland White/Michelangelo White/Black Magic - show slightly more variation than others in the range and can also highlight joints, especially if there is a directional change in graining. If you are having several worktops or very long runs, talk to your Kitchen Designer for advice on what colour will best suit your needs.

The glittering Mirror fleck - or Starburst - colours have a mirror particle mixed with the quartz stone. For a naturally sparkling look, this particle is distributed randomly and does not always face the surface. Resin is used to fill tiny holes where mirror particles have detached during manufacturing along with very small naturally-occurring air holes.

Gemini Quartz® worktops come with a highly polished finish and this can make the cut edges of drainer grooves and edge profiles look slightly duller in comparison.

Solid worktops are available in two thicknesses - 15mm and 30mm - to match your personal style and your choice of units. For an even more luxurious look, there’s 30+30mm special thickness which is two layers, with the top layer bonded onto a subframe to reduce the weight. Thicknesses from 50mm up to 165mm are also available but these are produced as a 15mm Gemini Quartz® surface over a Quartz subframe interior because a solid worktop would be too heavy.

Gemini Quartz® worktops are finished underneath to a margin of 50mm to give a smooth finishing touch. This is not polished to the same degree as the surface. For large overhangs, this smoothing option can be extended to the whole underside of the surface for an additional charge.

Gemini Quartz® is very heavy. It comes in slabs of 3000 x 1400mm. This is the maximum size your worktop can be without joining two or more slabs together. But the maximum size you can have does depend on access to your kitchen and unit support - so it could be smaller. To make a longer run or a wider worktop, slabs are joined together and filled with colour matching glues; joints are approximately 2-4mm wide. See page 30 for more details on expansion joints.
How to care for your Gemini Quartz® worktop

Gemini Quartz® is one of the easiest surfaces to look after - it doesn’t need treating with any sealants or wax and if you look after it carefully, it can last a lifetime.

- Clean up any spills of household items such as tea, coffee, wine, vinegar, fruit juice and cooking sauces quickly. It’s easier to clean them when they happen rather than when they dry. Use a damp cloth and, if necessary, a small amount of non-bleach, non-abrasive liquid cleaner.

- For more stubborn items use a household cream cleaner with a non-abrasive cleaning pad. Then rinse the area thoroughly with water and dry with paper or cloth towels. For best results, wipe and dry in smooth circular motions with a lint-free cloth.

- If a stain has become dry and more difficult to remove, start by removing any excess with a blunt plastic scraper, then clean the surface with a damp cloth and if necessary a small amount of non-bleach, non-abrasive household cream cleaner. Rinse thoroughly and dry with paper or cloth towels.

- Stripping agents, grease removers, caustic soda or products that have a pH value above 10 shouldn’t be used on your worktop. Also avoid solvents which contain dichloromethane, chloromethane or methylene chloride.

- Oils, chemicals, dyes and solvents can permanently damage your worktop. If you spill any of them on your Gemini Quartz® worktop, blot them up immediately and rinse with plenty of clean water. Dry with paper or cloth towels and for best results wipe and dry in smooth circular motions with a lint-free cloth.

- Takeaways such as curries can contain oils and dyes which can stain a Gemini Quartz® worktop - it’s best to clean up spills as soon as possible.

- Gemini Quartz® can withstand a certain amount of heat but trivets should always be used.

- Chopping boards are recommended and avoid dropping, knocking or rubbing objects on the edge of your worktop.

- Your Gemini Quartz® worktops come with a care and maintenance kit.
Smooth, even and virtually seamless, Corian® worktops complete an ultra contemporary luxury kitchen design like nothing else can.

Man-made using a complex patented process, Corian® offers almost limitless options for your home with a dazzling range of colours, patterns and tones. Amazingly versatile, slabs can be joined to create super long or extra wide worktops with barely visible joints for stunning interior designs. Combine these with matching Corian® sink bowls and coved upstands for the ultimate minimalistic look.

Corian® is the most consistent in appearance of all of our specialist worktops. It has an almost completely uniform look with a very low variation in colour and pattern. Slight variations are only noticeable with some veined colours and we use our expertise to minimise these contrasts by cutting to maximise the pattern flow. Showroom samples do give you a good indication of what to expect from a Corian® worktop but always talk to your Kitchen Designer about what colours and patterns will work best with your unique design.

All colours have a matt silk finish which takes on the ambient room temperature. This makes it a warm and welcoming material for the home and one that complements traditional style units, especially in a standard thickness of 38mm. Corian® is the perfect choice for a modern designer look with the widest range of thicknesses available. For a high-tech look, choose the super slimline 24mm or for a touch of urban industrial chic, go large and make a dramatic statement with worktops up to 165mm thick.

As a man-made specialist worktop, Corian® has been engineered for maximum looks and performance. It is non-porous and that makes it more stain resistant and hygienic than either Granite or Gemini Quartz®. It's easy to look after and can be renewed with special treatments - done by you or by specialists - to keep it looking as good as new.
As a man-made specialist worktop, Corian® is very consistent in appearance compared to Granite and Gemini Quartz® - although slight variations can occur in colour and tonality. This depends on colour chosen but it’s worth noting that veined Corian® colours vary in intensity and highlight joints more than other colours. There is a Corian® colour rating - with grades given for markability, usage and change of colour over time. Your Kitchen Designer can talk you through the ratings of the colours to make sure that you’ve chosen the most suitable one for your home and kitchen design.

Pattern variation such as veining and marbling is generally low in all Corian® colours except for Sagebrush, Grey Onyx and Neutral Concrete which can show slightly wider differences. We use our expertise to minimise the effect but if this is a concern for you, please discuss your options with your Kitchen Designer.

Veined Corian® colours are cut out to maximise the pattern flow within the external dimensions of the sheet. Although it is not always possible to match pattern direction across all worktops, we use our skills to give you the most harmonious effect overall.

Corian® is made to have a smooth surface and an even texture and finish. All colours have a matt silk finish which takes on the ambient room temperature. Your Corian® worktops have an MDF return on the underside of 50mm as standard. This can be changed to Corian® for an additional charge. For large overhangs, a ‘solid underside’ can be added to cover the subframe underneath for an additional charge. For Corian® end panels, all visible undersides and returns have a smooth or solid underside included.

Corian® worktops are made with a 12mm Corian® veneer and a moisture-resistant MDF subframe to build up the thickness of the worktop. The standard thickness of a Corian® worktop is 38mm although other thicknesses include 12/24mm MDF subframe, and 12/50 to 165mm with MDF subframe.

The maximum sheet size for a Corian® worktop is 3000 x 760mm but the maximum size you can have depends on access to your kitchen and unit support. For worktops that are larger than this, you’ll need two or more slabs that will be joined together. One of Corian’s® advantages is that generally joints between sheets are barely visible creating the appearance of a seamless worktop - no matter how large you go. Some colours and patterns highlight joints more than others - so please check with your Kitchen Designer before you make your choice. All joints are filled using the relevant colour matching glues. See page 30 for more details on expansion joints.
How to care for your Corian® worktop

As Corian® is a man-made material, it has been engineered to be easy to look after so it will remain fresh and smart for years to come.

- It has a non-porous surface which means it doesn’t absorb liquids so it is resistant to stains from coffee, wine, lemon juice, olive oil and vinegar and other common products. It doesn’t support the growth of bacteria or fungi, making it a hygienic choice.

- Corian® is renewable which means your worktop can be renewed with ordinary and mild household cleaners and a scouring pad - or through a professional restoration service.

- In most instances, all you need to clean your Corian® worktop is warm soapy water, an ammonia-based household cleaner or a dedicated worktop cleaner. Avoid using window cleaning solutions.

- Make sure the surface is always kept dry to prevent film building up - dry any spills or cleaning products straight away.

- Some colours of Corian® will need more frequent cleaning to keep the finish looking uniform - darker colours tend to need more attention than lighter colours.

- Over time, even with proper care, a Corian® worktop will develop a sheen. Dark colours may also show light scratches more easily. However, it’s a simple process to restore your worktop to its original glory.

- Although Corian® is tough and heat resistant, always protect your worktop by using trivets and chopping boards. Avoid direct heat exposure and never place hot pans directly on the worktop. We recommend keeping a trivet under portable heat-generating appliances such as a toaster oven.

- Avoid getting any strong chemicals such as paint remover or oven cleaner on your Corian® surface. If you do spill one of these chemicals, flush the surface with cold water immediately to fully rinse off the chemical.

- Your Corian® worktops come with a care and maintenance kit.
A Wren Stealth or Mirage island is a modern masterpiece that will make an unforgettable statement in your home - a specialist worktop that’s unlike any other.

Completely customised to your specifications and made from crystal cool Gemini Quartz® or silky smooth Corian®, these two island designs are the perfect centrepiece for an ultra-contemporary home. Whatever your choice of material, these islands are as practical as they are beautiful - and are tailor made to suit the way you work. They can be fitted with hobs, sinks and a range of appliances to create an elegant workstation that will be the heart of your home. To complete your look, angular cantilevered mantles can also be made for you to match your island.

Gemini Quartz®, made using one of nature’s strongest minerals - quartz - mixed with resin in an advanced engineering process, will give your island the natural beauty of stone with all of the benefits of technology, including more consistent tones and patterns. Just like stone, it will be totally unique.

Smooth and virtually seamless, Corian® is man-made using a complex patented process and a wide range of colours, patterns and tones with a consistent appearance that’s almost completely uniform.
A Stealth island in Gemini Quartz® has a 15mm exterior Gemini Quartz® frame over a timber interior and comes with a polished finish. Since it is made from natural stone, the colour, tonality and particle structure of Gemini Quartz® does vary so there will be a difference between your island and the sample seen in the Showroom. Mantles are made with a painted exterior over a steel frame. Some colours vary in intensity more than others so please discuss your options with your Kitchen Designer especially if you are having several worktops or a mantle to match your Stealth island. We will make your worktops from slabs that most closely match each other for a harmonious effect. However, there may be slight differences between them. For more details about Gemini Quartz® appearance and structure, please see page 12. All Gemini Quartz® colours are available except Super White.

Installing a Stealth or Mirage island is a complex and skilled process with most of the work taking place on site because of the size and customisation involved. Installation can take up to two days and a certain amount of gluing and sanding will take place on site.

What to expect from your Stealth and Mirage islands and mantle

A Stealth island in Gemini Quartz® has a 15mm exterior Gemini Quartz® frame over a timber interior and comes with a polished finish. Since it is made from natural stone, the colour, tonality and particle structure of Gemini Quartz® does vary so there will be a difference between your island and the sample seen in the Showroom. Mantles are made with a painted exterior over a steel frame.

Some colours vary in intensity more than others so please discuss your options with your Kitchen Designer especially if you are having several worktops or a mantle to match your Stealth island. We will make your worktops from slabs that most closely match each other for a harmonious effect. However, there may be slight differences between them. For more details about Gemini Quartz® appearance and structure, please see page 12. All Gemini Quartz® colours are available except Super White.

There are left-hand and right-hand versions of the Stealth island available. It can be tailored to suit you and fitted with hobs/sinks/fridges/dishwashers and wine coolers - depending on appliance size and island size chosen. It’s not possible to fit either ovens or tumble driers because of ventilation issues. Drainer grooves and drainer recesses are not available on Gemini Quartz® sinks - but stainless steel undermounted sinks with drainer grooves can be fitted.

How to look after your Stealth and Mirage islands

Wren Stealth and Mirage islands come with a care and maintenance kit. Please follow the instructions to make sure your island and mantle are kept in pristine condition.

Instructions on how to care for a Gemini Quartz® island and page 17 for the Corian® care guide.
Our worktops come in a variety of thicknesses and slab sizes, some of which are solid and some have a subframe. Depending on the material you have chosen and the thickness, there are different edging options available.

**Thickneses, slab size & edging options**

**Thickneses & slab sizes available:**

**Gemini Quartz®**

- 15mm: Solid
- 30mm: Solid

15/50mm: mitred with Gemini Quartz® subframe
15/60mm: mitred with Gemini Quartz® subframe
15/80mm: mitred with Gemini Quartz® subframe
15/165mm: mitred with Gemini Quartz® subframe

30+30mm: Special is 2 pieces

**Granite**

- 30mm: Solid
- 30+30mm: Special is 2 pieces

**Maximum slab sizes before a joint is required:**

Max slab size: 2700 x 1400mm
Max length upstands: 1800mm

**Corian®**

- 12/24mm with MDF subframe
- 12/38mm with MDF subframe
- 12/50-165mm with MDF subframe
(100mm+ downturns available by special request)

**Maximum slab sizes before a joint is required:**

Max slab size: 3000 x 760mm
Max length upstand: 3000mm
**EDGE PROFILES**

- **SQUARE**
- **CONCORDE**
- **SINGLE BEVEL**
- **SHARKS NOSE**
- **DOUBLE BEVEL**
- **TABLE EDGE** - *Not available in Corian®*
- **SINGLE PENCIL**
- **WATERFALL EDGE** - *Only available in Corian®*
- **DOUBLE PENCIL**
- **OGEE SCOTIA** - *Not available in Corian®*
- **HALF BULLNOSE** - *Not available in Corian®*
- **TABLE EDGE SCOTIA** - *Not available in Corian®*
- **FULL BULLNOSE** - *Not available in Corian®*
- **OGEE FULL BULLNOSE** - *Not available in Corian®*
Cut-Outs, Finishes & Options

Using your chosen worktop material in another part of your kitchen creates a seamless finish. Matching window sills, upstands, splashbacks and end panels will complete your look and special shaping, cut-outs and options make these additions functional as well as beautiful. Optional finishes ensure that your kitchen worktop looks just as good underneath as it does on top.

Upstands

Gemini Quartz®, Corian® and Granite can all be used on your kitchen wall as an upstand.

An upstand can be any height above 50mm in Gemini Quartz® or Corian®, or 100mm in Granite. Anything above 200mm in height is classed as cladding. The maximum length of an upstand is 3000mm.

Cladding

When an upstand, which could be Gemini Quartz®, Granite or Corian®, is taller than 200mm, it becomes cladding. Cladding can be used to complement your worktop, whether you want to co-ordinate or contrast the colours and materials you choose.
**Coved upstands**

Customers who choose Corian® worktops have the additional option of a coved upstand. Please note if it is fitted against an uneven wall, decorator’s caulk or a decorative bead may be needed to fill the gap. We don’t recommend this on colours with a veining pattern.

**Window sills**

Window sill shapes and overhangs can vary according to how you would like them to look. Sills are usually the same thickness as your upstands or cladding although there is an option to have them the same thickness as your worktop.

**Splashback**

A splashback can be any size within the parameters of the material being used. If the splashback is butting up against an extractor, please take into account any shaping that might be needed. If the extractor is to be fitted over the splashback, there may need to be small cut-outs or holes for fixings.

Please note the minimum distance allowed between the centre of a burner on a hob and an upstand/splashback is 50mm for an electric hob and 150mm for a gas hob.

**Drainer grooves and recesses**

Drainer recesses and grooves are useful to help collect water around the sink area. Any water that collects on a recessed drainer or in grooves should be wiped down. Drainer recesses can be flat (4mm deep) or sloped (from 2mm to 4mm deep at the sink cut-out edge). Drainer recesses are not available in a 15mm Gemini Quartz® worktop.

**Hob bar and groove**

None of the materials used in our specialist worktops are completely heat proof so we don’t recommend putting hot pans directly onto the worktops. You can choose to add any number of metal hob bars into your worktop as a solution. The bars, which can be vertical or horizontal, sit in grooves in the worktop so they can be removed and cleaned.

Sizes available: 200mm, 300mm and 400mm.
**End panels**

Gemini Quartz®, Corian® and Granite can be used as vertical panels at the end of a run of units or as the ends of an island or peninsula. These panels are not designed to be a form of support to the worktop.

Please note for 15mm Gemini Quartz®, the end panel must back onto a decor panel.

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**Radius corners**

**Options:**
- Softened corner 0-10mm radius
- Small curve 10-100mm radius
- Large curve 100-600mm radius
- Double curve 600mm radius or above
- Internal curve

Not available on mitred Gemini Quartz® worktops.
Special finishing options

For worktops that are on point from every angle, undersides are available that complete the look.

Smooth underside
If your worktop has an overhang that is larger than 50mm, you can choose to have a smooth underside. The underside of worktops with an overhang less than this are smoothed back as standard. Please note that the underside of your worktop will not have the same degree of polish as the surface.

Solid underside
Corian® worktops have a 50mm MDF section visible on the underside as standard. This can be changed to Corian® by request, at an additional cost. For any larger overhangs, a solid underside can be added to cover the subframe underneath.

Sundries
• Pop up socket
• Electrical socket cut-out
• Leg support preparation

Breakfront shaping
• Half breakfront
• Full breakfront
HOW WE’LL INSTALL YOUR SPECIALIST WORKTOP

Your specialist worktop is made to order for your kitchen by expert craftsmen. For it to be the beautifully perfect fit and finish you expect, you’ll play a very important part in the planning and decision-making process. Granite, Gemini Quartz® and Corian® worktops are produced to a template that can only be made when your kitchen is complete. To help you understand what’s involved and why we need your input, here’s a guide to how we make and install a specialist worktop.

ORDER CONFIRMATION

Order confirmation

When you order your specialist worktop, your Wren Kitchen Designer will help you choose the right material and colour for your kitchen design. You’ll also be shown options such as thicknesses, special kinds of worktop edging, integrated sinks, cut-outs and shaping. For more details, please see pages 20 to 25.

Please highlight any issues that will affect access to your home and kitchen. Narrow stairs and corridors will limit what size worktop you can order as a single slab as we won’t be able to manoeuvre it into position.

Booking a template date

As soon as your kitchen order is placed, you’ll receive a welcome email from the team at J. Rotherham. Once you have signed your contract our Worktop Specialist will email you to book a date for the templating part of the process. If no template booking has been made when your kitchen is delivered we will contact you every 24 hours until a date is confirmed.

Confirm or change

Two days before the appointment, we’ll text to make sure your kitchen is on track for completion. The day before your appointment, we’ll contact you to confirm and let you know our arrival time. To avoid cancellation charges, please notify us the day before your templating date if you need to change the date.
**TEMPLATING**

**Double checking your order**

Templating will include confirmation of your order details and you’ll be shown samples of the materials, thicknesses, edges and finishes you’ve chosen. Please check that the colour and finish is correct and you are happy with what is included such as sills, upstands, splashbacks, drainer grooves and others details. You can change or amend your order at this time if you wish. Any additional costs or items resulting from changes in your order need to be paid in full immediately to Wren so that your worktops can go into production. These changes cannot be added to your finance agreement at this stage. Always check with your Kitchen Designer if you are unsure.

**Positioning joints**

Our Templating Team will discuss with you where best to position joints, your choice of edges and finishes, the precise positioning of appliances and any additional items requested to ensure a perfect fit and finish. Make sure you understand and are happy with the final decisions made. The team will also check access to your home.

We’ll take laser measurements of your kitchen and advise on any work that needs to be carried out before installation. Once you are happy with the template, you will be asked to sign a digital completion form and photograph.

The team will book and confirm the delivery and installation date with you before leaving. Because we produce every worktop to order, you may be without a worktop - and water - in your kitchen for several days before your worktop can be fitted. Templating usually takes from one to two hours but can be up to four hours depending on your kitchen size.

**We need you... and your fitter**

*You or your appointed representative must be present during templating to make vital decisions - we’ll text you an hour before arrival.* If no one can attend, your order will be put on hold until the team can reschedule. This could delay the installation of your worktop and you may be charged a cancellation fee.

**Be prepared**

To accurately measure your kitchen, we need a clear level floor to put the laser templating machine on. Please remove all tools, small appliances and crockery as well as any temporary worktops so the kitchen is clear of everything except units and appliances. Pets and children need to be kept safely out of the way.

**Power and parking**

Our Templating Team will need to be able to park onsite - so please remember to get a permit if one is needed. They’ll also need access to power and adequate lighting to make the template.
Appliances and pop-up sockets

To help make the templating process run smoothly and prevent delays, our Templating Team needs all appliances - freestanding, side-by-side and integrated appliances, and hobs - to be fitted but unplugged. This does not include tower appliances. Anything that is attached to the worktop such as leg brackets and pop-up sockets will be put on in the factory. Please keep all boxes and template cut-outs that all new appliances/fittings came in so we can get accurate measurements - we will measure old appliances. This will help you get the final look you want. We cannot complete a template without every appliance being present.

With a rebated hob, one that sits flush with the worktop, there will always be an expansion gap. This can vary depending on the appliance.

If you have appliances next to each other - such as washer and dryer - then you must have a decor panel in between to support the weight of the worktop.

Sinks and taps

All sinks including Belfast sinks and taps need to be in their final positions for templating but not connected. Integrated Corian® sinks will be supplied with Corian® worktops at the point of installation and are not needed at the templating stage.

Kitchen units

All base units need to be fitted, secured to the wall and each other and with end panels fitted. Units should be level to a maximum tolerance of 3mm. Unsupported areas need battens fixed to the wall and wall battens need to be fitted where there is no front or back rail over a span of 600mm. Battening into corners is also needed.

Pelmets and lights on wall units need to be removed - or be fitted only after worktop installation.

Walls and floors

Walls should be finished - in good condition, cladded and or plastered - and not be subject to change between the templating and the installation of the worktop. Sometimes, because of material intolerances, we do need to cut or chisel into walls during installation. Because of this, we recommend that tiling and decorating is left until after installation and you are completely happy with your kitchen and worktop. Floors need to be clear and level - for special designs such as Stealth islands, the floor needs to be as level as possible.
PRODUCTION AND LEAD TIMES

Once your template is complete, and approved by you or your representative, and any alterations and additional requests paid for, we will start to produce your worktop.

Lead times

Production can take from five to 15 working days, depending on the material chosen and the complexity of finish, thickness, edging, cut-outs and special additions such as drainer grooves.

Gemini Quartz® and Granite can take from five to 10 working days for a standard order; for non standard orders such as mitred Gemini Quartz® 30+30mm thicknesses, colour technology Granites and recessed drainers, the lead time can be seven to 10 working days.

Corian® is labour intensive to manufacture and standard orders take from seven to 10 working days; non standard, coved upstands and integrated Corian® sinks take from 11 to 15 days.

All worktops arrive ready cut with top surfaces polished and ready to install - apart from downturns which are trimmed to fit onsite.

DELIVERY

Check your order

Please make sure that your order - including colours, special options and finishes - is correct and matches the order documentation before installation. Please note that if it is not on the order it isn’t included in the delivery or the price.

Confirmation calls

Your Specialist Worktop Installer will contact you the day before your agreed delivery and installation date to confirm arrival times - and double check that your kitchen is ready for the worktop installation. On installation day, the team will call you to confirm delivery one hour before they are due to arrive. Please ensure that you or your representative is present for delivery and installation.

Parking space and permits

Our Installation Team will need to be able to park as close as possible to the entrance to your home - so please make a space on your drive, reserve a place on the street or get a permit if one is needed.
Health and safety

Specialist worktops are large, inflexible and heavy objects that need careful handling. Health and safety is a priority and to ensure that our teams can do the best job, the access route from our delivery vehicle to your kitchen must be clear. We recommend that you keep children and pets somewhere safe and out of the way. Please protect your flooring and remove all breakables and valuables from all access routes and the kitchen.

INSTALLATION

We’ll need you again

You or your representative must be present throughout delivery and installation. During this period, and for safety’s sake, we suggest you make the kitchen a no-go area for everyone except for yourself and our team. Since the water supply will be switched off, bottling some water for later use is a good idea. An installation typically takes two to three hours but with larger kitchens it could take up to five hours.

Light and power

Our Installation Team will need access to power and adequate lighting. Power tools will be used to complete final cut-outs for some materials and also make any final adjustments that we think will give a better finish. Upstands are always cut to fit precisely once the worktops are in place - where possible this cutting will be done outside with dust cleaned up as far as possible.

Position of joints and appliances

All site joints will be prepared before worktops are brought into the kitchen. The team will position worktops, according to the agreed template. Worktops will be siliconed to the units below - and silicone beading will be applied to the underside of the worktop where it meets the unit front. All joints will be resin glued together. Undermounted sinks will be fitted to the underside of worktops - however your own installer or plumber will need to install top mounted appliances. Your Installation Team will always check to make sure that the appliance fits within the cut-out. Due to the weight, we recommend that all porcelain/ceramic sinks are supported with a cradle and you should speak to your Kitchen Installer about this.

Although templating and cutting of Granite, Gemini Quartz® and Corian® is done with precision technology, there will always be slight gaps if a wall is uneven. Specialist worktops cannot be trimmed on site and so tolerances are built into measurements to allow for this. Material tolerances are +/- 2mm on all dimensions and expansion joints between materials and fixed objects is 3-5mm.
**Filling the gaps**

Walls, especially in older properties, can be bowed or uneven even after plastering. In these cases, we may need to cut or chisel into the wall for a perfect fit. This will be done as carefully and cleanly as possible - and we will leave a big enough gap to make room for tiling if that is how you plan to finish the wall. Upstands will be bonded to walls using silicone and joined together with a resin glue. A silicone bead finish will be used where the base of the upstand meets the worktop. For gaps where the back of the upstand meets a wall that is bowed for example, Installers will use decorator’s caulk as a filler to a maximum of 5mm. Any gaps greater than this will be your responsibility.

**Replacement service**

Although we take the maximum care, slabs of Granite and Gemini Quartz® can break during delivery and installation. This is a rare event and if this happens we will replace the slab as soon as possible with no cost to you.

**Dust and noise**

We make every effort to keep noise and dust to a minimum but since adjustments on site are necessary this is unavoidable. Once the installation is finished, our teams will clean up all dust in your kitchen and outside created by the cutting process. They will give your worktops a final clean. If dust is a problem please let us know before installation so we can discuss alternatives.

**SIGN-OFF AND AFTERCARE**

**Template check**

Your Specialist Installer will walk you through the installation and ask you to check work done against the agreed template to ensure you are happy with the final product. If you are not happy with something, this is the time to let us know. Please do not tile or finish off your kitchen until all issues have been resolved.

**Final paperwork**

The Specialist Installer will take photographs of the worktops in place and will ask you to sign the completion paperwork. This forms part of your warranty. We will also ask you to complete our customer satisfaction questionnaire.

**Caring for your worktop**

We know you’ll love your specialist worktop and we want you to be able to enjoy its beautiful finish for many years. Your Installation Team will explain to you how to best care for your worktop and leave you with our comprehensive after-care kit. You’ll also find more information about caring for your worktop in each material section.