

## Installation Instructions for Wood Tops

### 1. Acclimate your butcher block:

Upon receipt, bring your butcher block countertop into the area where it will be installed. It's important to give the butcher block time to acclimate to the conditions in your house. 5 days is adequate for the wood's acclimation process.

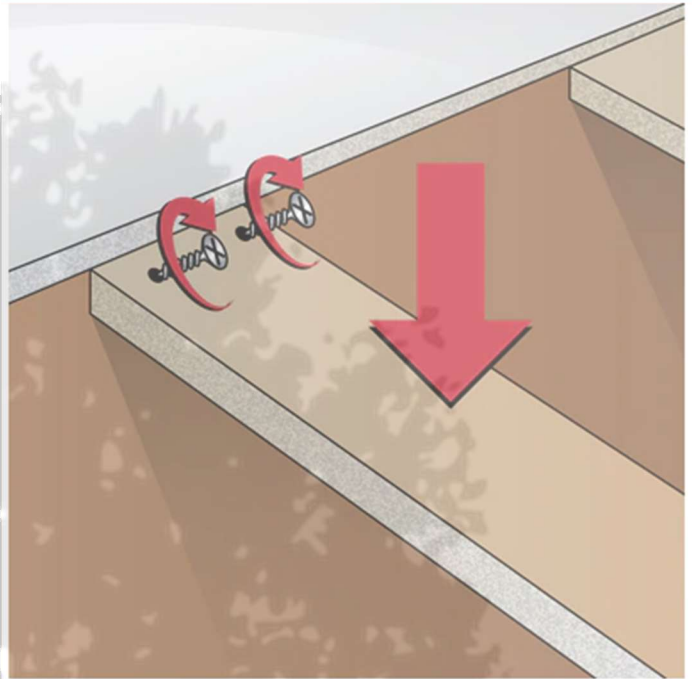
**Your countertop should not be left uninstalled or unfinished for more than 10 days.**

If it remains untouched for longer than the recommended period, then you are risking any cupping or bowing by leaving it unsecured and allowing it to move freely.

### 2. Prep your cabinets:

A. If your cabinets have open tops: Install blocking if your cabinets have open tops. This is to create a surface that you can attach your butcher block countertop to. Use a quality grade of 3/4" plywood or 1x stock boards to do this. Install the blocking flush with your cabinet tops by first drilling pilot holes at an angle through the blocking and then screwing the blocking to your cabinets. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure to use properly sized screws so that you don't screw all the way through to the outside of your cabinet.

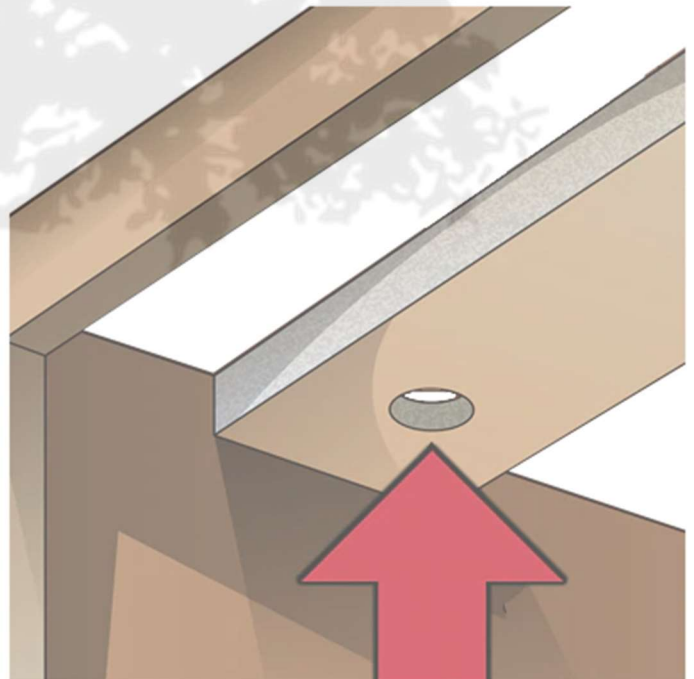
B. If your cabinets have closed tops: Install furring strips. Use 1/4" plywood and cut these strips 2" shorter than the cabinet depth. Repeat every 12"-16". You can install these strips with kitchen and bath sealant. This provides a little air space and prevents cupping over time in humid environments or in environments with varied climates.



### 3. Prep Your Installation Points:

**IMPORTANT:** Butcher Blocks need room to breathe. Although you won't see it happening, the top will expand and contract based on climate, humidity, and temperature. It is important to follow this step exactly. Do this before you place your countertop on the cabinet. **DO NOT** apply this step to the butcher block itself, only apply this step to the bracing you've installed in the previous step. Use a 1/2" boring bit to drill holes through your cabinet bracing. Drill these holes at all planned installation points.

If your piece has either a butt joint or a miter joint, you should have received the draw bolts needed to complete this step in the process. Add a generous amount of glue to the inside of the joint and insert the and bring them together. Once the pieces are together slide the draw bolts into the channels milled into the bottom of the pieces and tighten them slowly adjusting the surface alignment until the pieces are snug. Remove any excess glue and clean thoroughly.



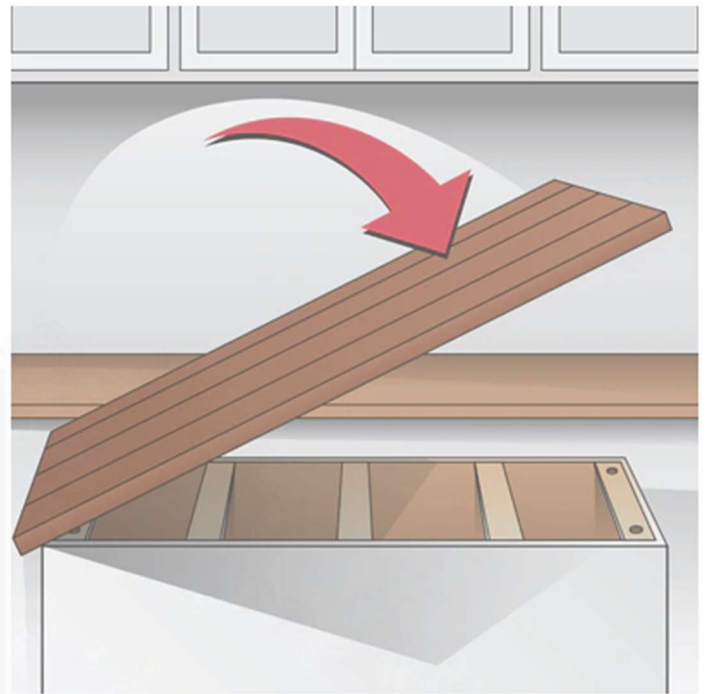
#### 4. Position for Installation:

Position your butcher block as it will be installed. From underneath, find the center of each hole you drilled with the boring bit. Pre-drill into the butcher block using a drill bit adequately sized for your screws, making sure to mark your depth so as not to drill all the way through your butcher block.

**Finish:** It is important for the top to be sealed on all sides prior to installation. Please refer to our “Osmo-TopOil” information sheet for proper surface preparation and direction for use.

#### Cutouts:

If you have an under-mount sink it is essential to caulk around the perimeter of the sink where it meets the bottom of your top. Not only will this prevent any water damage to the bottom of your piece, but it will prevent any mold or mildew buildup.



#### 5. Install Your Butcher Block:

From underneath, fit each of your installation screws with a large fender washer. Tighten screws only to the point where they pull the butcher block snug with the cabinet. **DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.** You should still be able to move the fender washer if you use a little force. If you cannot move the fender washer, your screw is too tight and it needs to be loosened until the point where you can wiggle the fender washer slightly. This process is what allows the butcher block to expand and contract with environmental factors, and is critical to proper installation of your butcher block.

#### Supports:

For overhangs on the depth that extend past 8”, supports should start no more than 12” from each edge and be spaced 24” or less apart. For overhangs on the length that extend past 14”, supports should follow the same format described above for depth.

