

# caribou

## INSTALL GUIDELINES

### PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

All Caribou surfaces come prefinished and are manufactured within the following parameters:

**Thickness:** 1 3/4". Only available option.

**Edge:** One edge option. 1/4" round top and bottom with a flat-edge

**Radius:** Outside: Standard corner radius is 1/4" round. Anything greater incurs a charge.

Inside: No smaller than a 3/8" inside radius

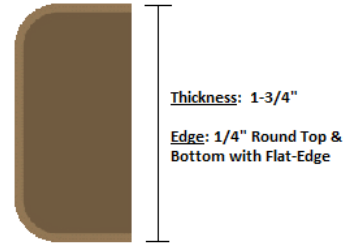
**Size:** Largest top without a seam is 50" X 120"

**Override:** Seamed at the manufacturing facility. MAXIMUM SIZE: 72" X 144". Additional charge incurred. Finished size approved by client ensuring access allows.

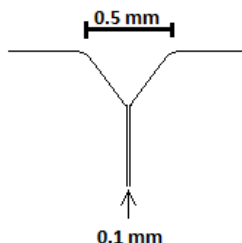
**Waterfall/** Dimensions requiring no additional support:

**Gables:** Depth: Minimum 16" & Maximum 50" Length: Maximum 72" Height: Maximum 42"  
\*\*\*Inside of gables finished with E+ET to create matte finish.

**Seams:** The seam is visible however resembles a micro-bevel and can be felt to touch. The edges are slightly broken to connect at a 45-degree miter. Aligned with biscuits and fastened with countertop bolts from the underside. All dry fitted at the factory.



**Seam Tolerance:** 0.5mm, equivalent to the thickness of two business cards.



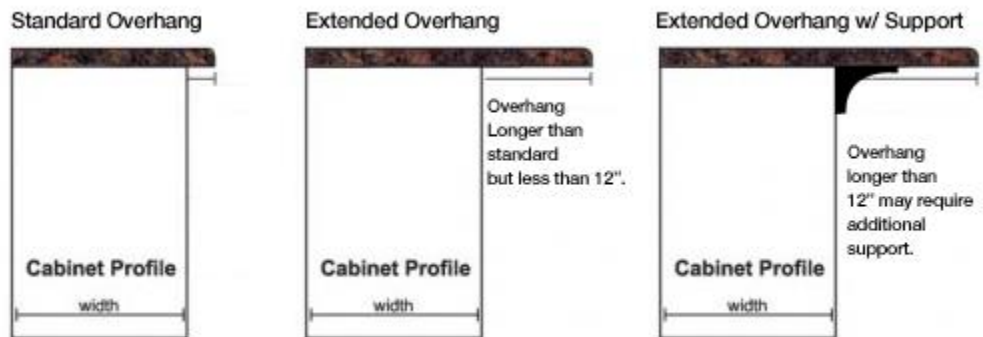
\*\*\*0.1 mm tolerance between the edges can be eliminated with Weldbond Universal Adhesive.

**Sink Reveals:** Negative Reveal/Wood over flange. The countertop extends over the edge of the sink on all sides by approximately 1/4". Clear Silicone at joint. *Flush Mount and Positive Reveal not available.*



### PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS (continued)

**Overhang:** Countertop overhangs up to 12" can be installed without additional supports. Countertops with an overhang of 12" or greater require additional support.



Overhang is the distance the countertop extends beyond the front edge of the cabinets.

**Finish:** Matte **end+edge** technology

The product used to finish the surface, End+Edge Technology, is applied only in the factory due to the time and intensive nature of the process. End+Edge Technology is UV Resistant therefore remains transparent and does not turn yellow over time. Due to the robust nature of the 7mil thick matte finish, at certain times of the day depending on the angle of the sun, the countertop may appear opaque as the light refracts through it.

The underside of the top will have a semi-gloss appearance, as per the sample, and a standard 4" back polish (smooth) around the perimeter. Back Polish available for overhangs if noted on the drawing.

If all six sides require a complete E+ET Matte Finish an additional charge is incurred.

**Please see Standard Operating Procedures for further manufacturing details.**

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### INSTALL PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES

Below you will find the manufacture recommended install practices and guidelines for the product. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will void any manufacture provided warranty.

**Templating Caribou** – Caribou should be measured wall to wall with appropriate room left to install top without damaging walls. No shrink/grow allowance is required for this product, Caribou will arrive as measured and remain that dimension within a tolerance of 1/8".

**Templating for Sinks** – All sinks installed with a **negative reveal of ¼"** therefore this must be calculated into the drawing. No flush mount or positive reveal available. Sinks will be cut out in the factory as per the template submitted with the order. **Minimum inside radius available is 3/8"**.

**Backsplash** – 4" H x 10' L x 7/8" thick backsplash is available in prefinished lengths to be cut on site. No other sizes are offered in wood backsplash.

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## INSTALL GUIDELINES

### INSTALL PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES (continued)

**Transporting Caribou** – Caribou tops will be individually flat packed at factory and shipped via A-Frame. Maximum size for an individual piece is 72" X 144", the approved oversize top.

**Installing Caribou** – Caribou is a 1.75" thick hardwood surface. Depending on cabinet rail thickness, typical #8 wood screws can be used. We recommend predrilling an appropriate guide hole to avoid any chance of splitting during install. Recommended screw size is dictated by rail size, see calculation below:

$$1" \text{ PENETRATION INTO SURFACE} + \text{THICKNESS OF CABINET RAIL} = \text{SCREW SIZE}$$

Adhesive is not required for this products installation onto cabinet rails

EXAMPLE: 1" + 5/8" STANDARD RAIL = 1-5/8" SCREW

**Cutting Caribou** – Caribou can be cut using traditional woodworking tools. Any cut outs for taps, sinks, stoves or otherwise must be resealed. Please see resealing instructions below.

**Tap cut outs** – We recommend using a sharp hole saw as opposed to a spade bit for cutting holes in a Caribou surface. We have found that all but the sharpest spade bits cause the surface to "check" or splinter. All tap holes must be resealed after cutting. Please see resealing instructions below.

**Top Mount Sink and Stove Cut Outs** – Cut outs will be precut and finished from factory if provided on template. If not provided, manufacturer recommends using a wood specific jig saw blade in a medium tooth count for sink and stove cut outs. All top mount sinks and stove cut outs must be resealed. Please see resealing instructions below.

**\*\* ALL CUTS AND PENETRATIONS MUST BE RE-SEALED TO MAINTIAN FACTORY WARRANTY \*\***

**Undermount Sink Install** – Undermount sink holes will come precut and finished from factory. Sinks are to have sink manufacturer provided flanges and brackets screwed into place with standard #8 wood screws. The seam separating the lip of the sink and the Caribou surface must be filled with silicone eliminating any visible gaps.

**Scribing Caribou to uneven walls** – Caribou can be scribed most successfully with a power planer and belt sander. We recommend a 30 to 60 grit paper for best removal vs. surface condition. Scribes over ¼" in depth should first be cut with a jig saw, then belt sanded to scribe line. See re-sealing instructions below.

**Countertop Mitre Installation** – Caribou surfaces are finished all 6 sides, mitre included. The edges are slightly broken to connect at a 45-degree miter. The seam is visible however resembles a micro-bevel and can be felt to touch.

#20 biscuits and countertop bolts, provided, and Weldbond Universal Adhesive will be required for the installation of all mitre joints.

Simply insert biscuits, apply a thin coat of Weldbond to the **bottom 2/3 of the edge** with a brush and push joint together. Do not squeeze Weldbond out onto the top as you don't want any residue on the finish. If residue touches the surface, clean affected area with a soft cloth and water immediately before it is dry.

Add countertop bolts to the underside slots. Tighten bolts with an appropriate sized wrench, make snug, but do not overtighten. If required, polish with recommended Pledge Extra Moisturizing Furniture Polish.

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## INSTALL GUIDELINES

**\*\* ALL CUTS AND PENETRATIONS MUST BE RE-SEALED TO MAINTAIN FACTORY WARRANTY \*\***

### RE-SEALING INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL CUTS/PENETRATIONS:

Cuts may be resealed with the Varathane product below, best to apply with either a brush or roller liberally on every cut edge or penetrations sealing the core from any potential future moisture. It is important for this product to maintain its integrity with “all 6 sides sealed”.

Both products are readily available at HOME DEPOT and manufacturer approved. Water based will need to be stored above 0 degrees to keep from freezing and carries little to no odor. This along with no harmful exposure and easy clean up makes it preferred. The oil based will not freeze in vans and trailers, but carries a strong smell and harmful effects of time to users. Please read cans carefully to determine best practice for your own install.

**Touch Ups** – End and Edge finish is unfortunately unable to be finished on site, any major site damage will require a return of the top. Smaller touch ups can be performed with Essie Matte Nail Polish, this is available at all your local pharmacy or box store and blends perfectly with our finish for smaller repairs.

### INSTALLATION PRODUCTS REQUIRED:



- Seam Adhesive – WELDBOND UNIVERSAL ADHESIVE
- Cut/Scribed – VARATHANE PROFESSIONAL CLEAR FINISH – OIL BASED
- Touch-ups – ESSIE MATTE NAIL POLISH
- Polish Surface – PLEDGE EXTRA MOISTURIZING POLISH

Any Further Installation Questions can be forwarded to [info@cariboublock.com](mailto:info@cariboublock.com) or:

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