

FOSSIL BLU

Farmhouse Sink Installation Guide

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Please read installation and care instructions thoroughly. Inspect your sink for any noticeable damage before installation. Check all local applicable plumbing and building codes.

These instructions are included as general guidelines. Because Fossil Blu Farmhouse sinks are individually handmade, and because each installation will have variances, we suggest using experienced and professional installers only. For custom cutting of countertop and installation of the actual sink, on-site installation is recommended. Acceptable manufacturing variances are approximately 1/8 of an inch. Alignment to the cut-out and precise application and trimming of any adhesive sealant are critical to a superior fit and finished look. Please take extra care in this regard.

Due to the apron height, Fossil Blu Farmhouse sinks require “apron-sink” or “farmhouse sink” base cabinets with a minimum 10” cutout. Please consult your cabinet dealer.

Fossil Blu does not accept any liability for damage to countertop, sink fixture, faucets or personal injury during installation. Warranty is void if installation is not completed properly.

CAUTION: Undermounted farmhouse sinks require that your countertop is fabricated to precise measurements and the sink be installed using meticulous procedures. For these reasons, we suggest you leave the installation to a seasoned professional.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

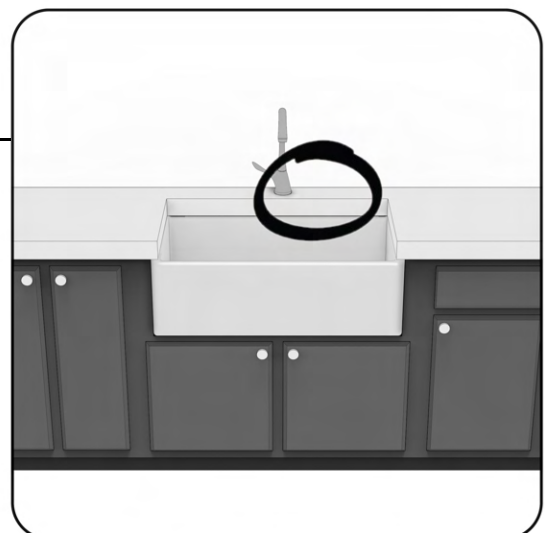
- Tape Measure
- Hacksaw / Jigsaw
- Rags
- Pencil and Marker
- Cardboard
- Scissors/Shears
- Framing Square
- Ear and Eye Protection
- Shims
- Denatured Alcohol
- Silicone Adhesive Sealant
- Wood Braces
- Plywood

Be sure to use proper tools and always wear personal safety devices for your protection.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

Fossil Blu farmhouse sinks offer installation options depending on your design tastes and/or space limitations.

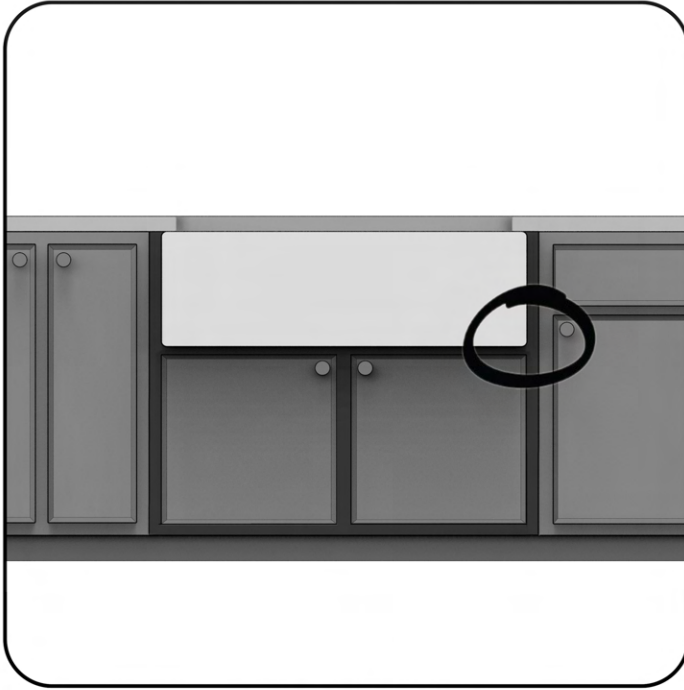
CAUTION: All installation types need to allow room for faucet installation. Ensure adequate clearance behind the sink for any faucet and backsplash, as well as full range of motion for faucet spouts and handles. [Illustration 1.1]



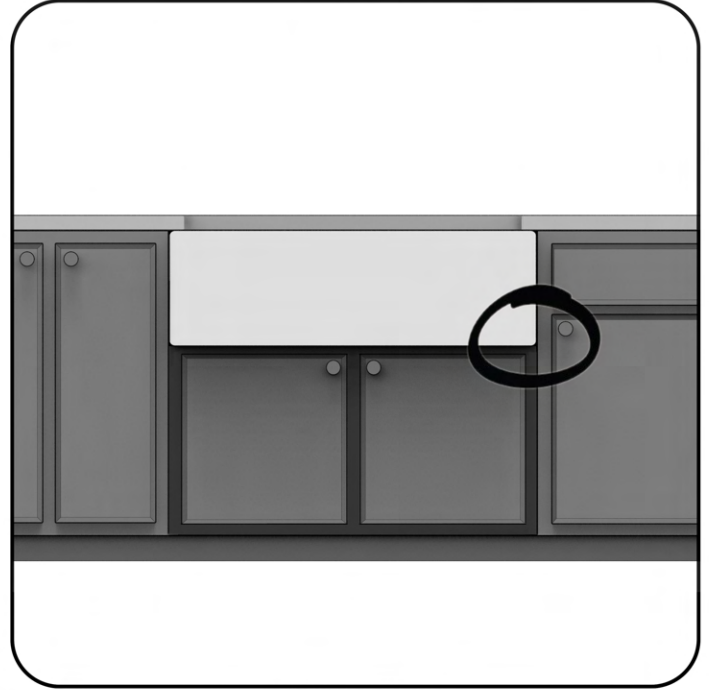
1.1: ENSURE CLEARANCE

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: SINK WIDTH

It is recommended, however not required, that your sink base cabinet be 3" (or more) wider than the sink to allow for cutout trim on the left and right sides of the sink [Illustration 1.2]. This is especially important if an appliance, such as a dishwasher, will be positioned directly left or right of the sink base cabinet. Without this cutout trim, the cabinet/appliance to the left and right of the sink must act as the trim, butted against the exterior sink walls. [Illustration 1.3].



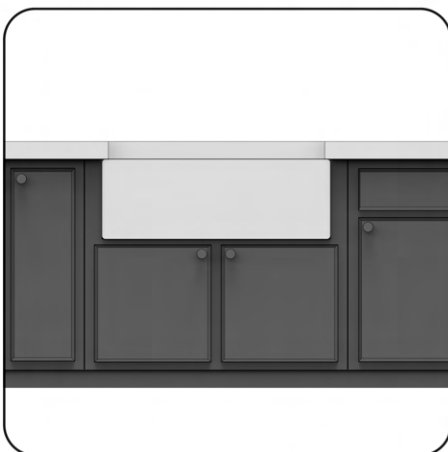
1.2: CUTOUT TRIM



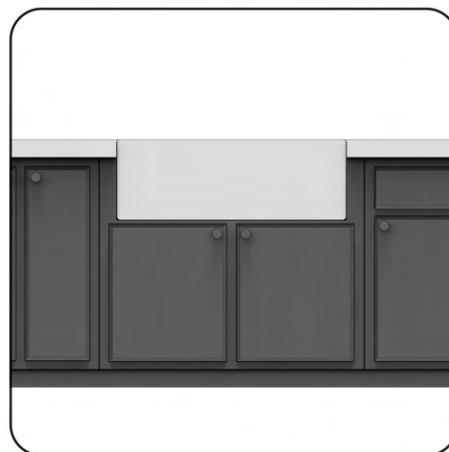
1.3: NO TRIM

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: INSTALLED HEIGHT

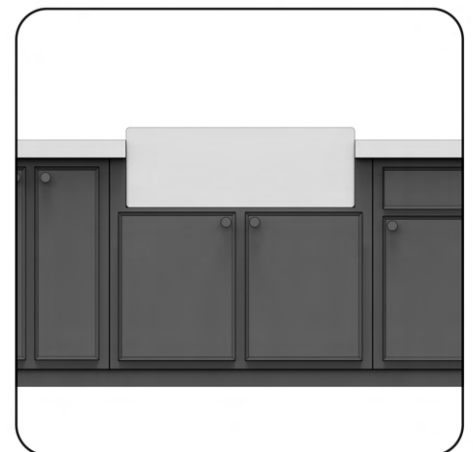
Your sink can be installed at various heights within your cabinet and countertop. Undermount [Illustration 1.4] is the most common, as it leaves no transitions, making countertop cleaning a breeze. Flush mounting ([Illustration 1.5]) is ideal for those working with laminate countertops. Built-up [Illustration 1.6] is used for retrofitting existing cabinets which have standard-height doors. Because built up installs require the sink to have finished exterior sidewalls, it is only an option for fireclay sinks.



1.4: UNDERMOUNT



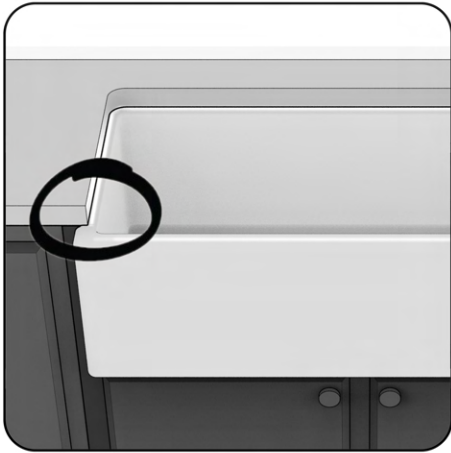
1.5: FLUSH MOUNT



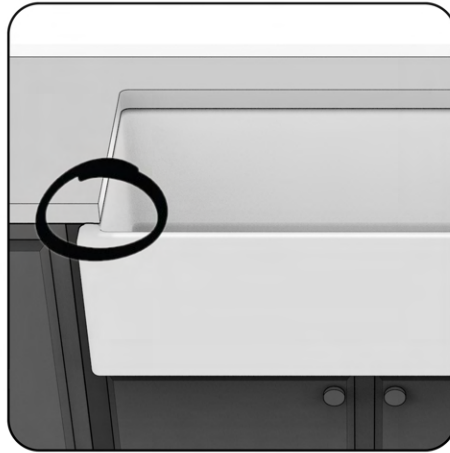
1.6: BUILT-UP (FIRECLAY ONLY)

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: COUNTERTOP REVEAL

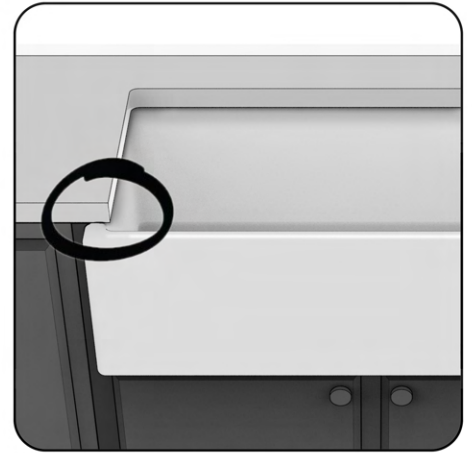
When undermounting a sink, “reveal” refers to the amount of the sink rim that is exposed after the countertop cut. Choose a positive reveal [Illustration 1.7] if you intend to have a custom butcher block or similar surface made to span the sink. A zero reveal [Illustration 1.8] provides for a very professional appearance to the install as the sink and counters appear to merge together. A negative reveal [Illustration 1.9] is the most common as it ensures no potential transition ledges or indentations that can catch food.



1.7: POSITIVE REVEAL



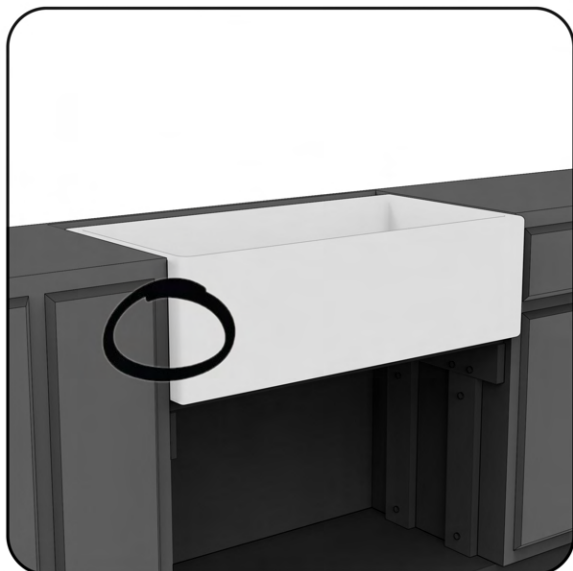
1.8: ZERO REVEAL



1.9: NEGATIVE REVEAL

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: APRON DEPTH

One of the many advantages of farmhouse sinks is that you are not constrained to leaving counter space at front of the sink. Instead, farmhouse sinks carry past the front of your cabinets and countertops, allowing for significantly more front-to-back sink space. The question of apron depth is therefore how far would you like the sink to continue past your cabinets and counters? When speaking with your installers, keep in mind that counters typically overhang cabinets by 1/2-inch, so a 2-inch depth from the cabinet fronts would be a 1.5-inch depth from the end of your counters. The most common apron depths measure from 1-inch [Illustration 1.10] to 2-inch [Illustration 1.11]. Fossil Blu copper sinks have a maximum depth of 2.5-inches.



1.10: 1-INCH APRON DEPTH



1.11: 2-INCH APRON DEPTH

PREPARE THE SINK BASE CABINET

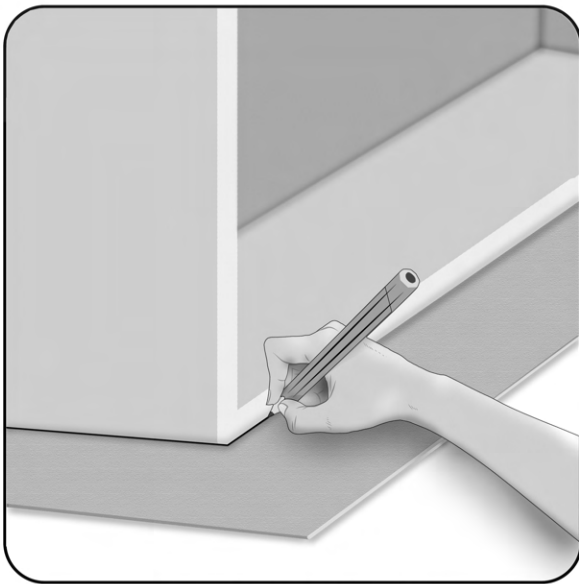
BASE CABINET

Fossil Blu farmhouse sinks require sink base cabinets with a front cutout to accommodate a 10" deep sink. Cutout panels may be full panels [Illustration 2.1] or partially cut at the factory, requiring further cutting as per your Fossil Blu sink



2.1: BASE CABINET CUTOUT PANEL

MAKE A TEMPLATE OF THE APRON



2.2: APRON TEMPLATE

We recommend creating a template of your sink apron by placing the sink with the apron face-down onto a piece of cardboard and carefully tracing the contour of the apron with a pencil [Illustration 2.2]. Remove the sink and finalize your line with a permanent marker.



2.3: PLACE TEMPLATE, CUT BASE CABINET

USE THE TEMPLATE

Cut the cardboard per your final line with sheers, then use this template as your guide for your cabinet front cutout [Illustration 2.3], following proper cutting procedures per your material and cabinet maker.

PREPARE THE SINK BASE CABINET



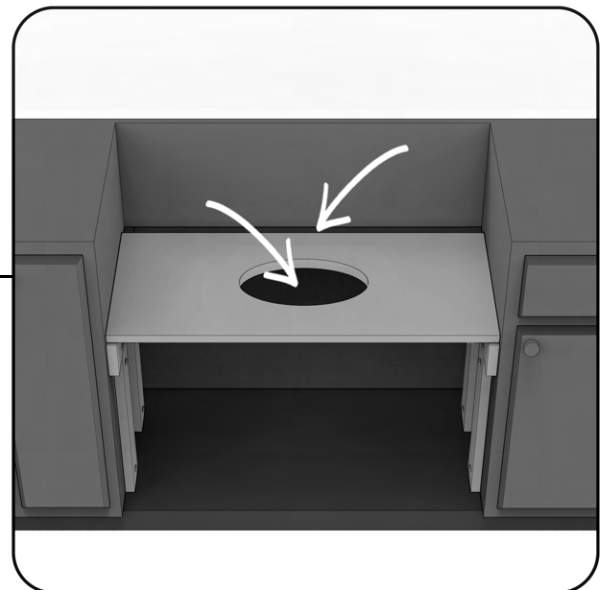
2.4: PLATFORM STRUCTURE

BUILD A PLYWOOD PLATFORM

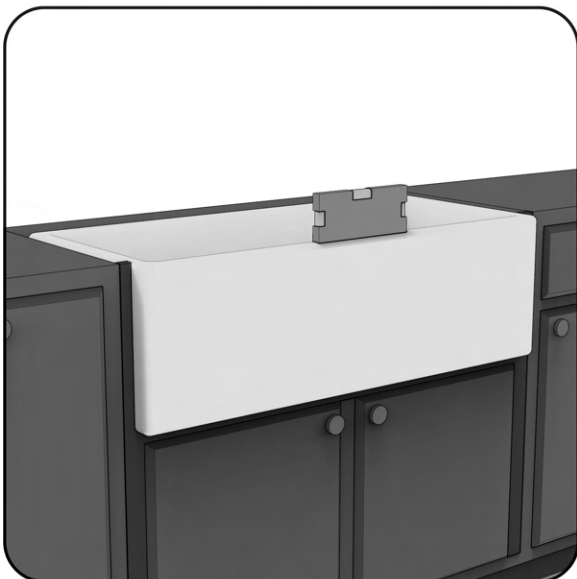
Build a plywood platform on a support frame inside of the sink base cabinet. Platform must have proper structural support [Illustration 2.4] to carry the weight of the sink, plus water, and any attachments such as garbage disposals.

ADEQUATE CLEARANCES

Allow clearance behind the platform for faucet supply lines and at its middle for the drain(s) or garbage disposal, as necessary [Illustration 2.5].



2.5: ADEQUATE CLEARANCES



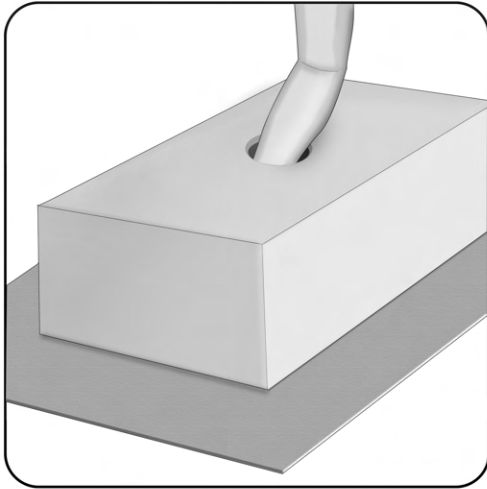
2.6: PLACED SINK, LEVEL

DRY-FIT SINK INTO CABINET

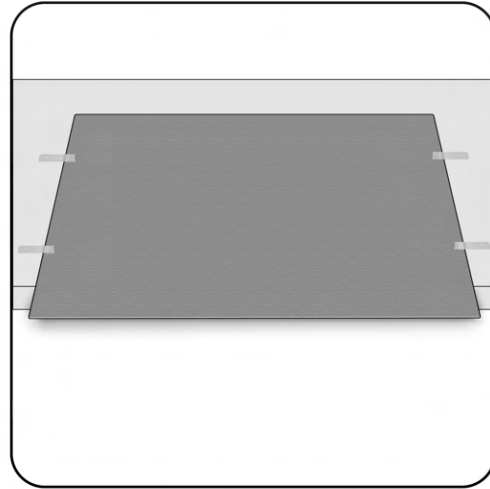
Place sink into your cutout and onto your platform. Make sure the top of the sink is level and flush with the top of your cabinets (undermount installs) [Illustration 2.6], or that it will be level and flush with the top of your counters (flush-mount installs). Some shimming is to be expected to achieve a perfect fit. Confirm apron depth with your client and record measurements as this will be needed for counter cutting. Remove the sink.

MAKE A TEMPLATE AND CUT COUNTERTOP

Due to the custom nature of each application and installation, a cutout template is not provided with Fossil Blu sinks. Instead, the actual sink will be used to create a template. Assuming an undermount install, to begin, place the sink upside-down on a large piece of cardboard. With a pencil in hand, reach through the 3.5" drain hole and carefully follow the contour of the sink opening, making several passes with the pencil [Illustration 3.1]. Remove the sink from the cardboard. If you will be doing a +/- reveal, be sure to add or subtract ¼" from the line before finalizing with a permanent marker. Cut the cardboard per your final line with shears. Use this template for your cut, keeping in mind faucet clearance and apron depth [Illustration 3.2].



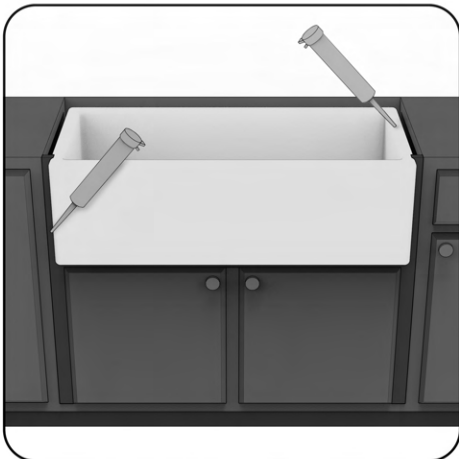
3.1: MAKE A TEMPLATE



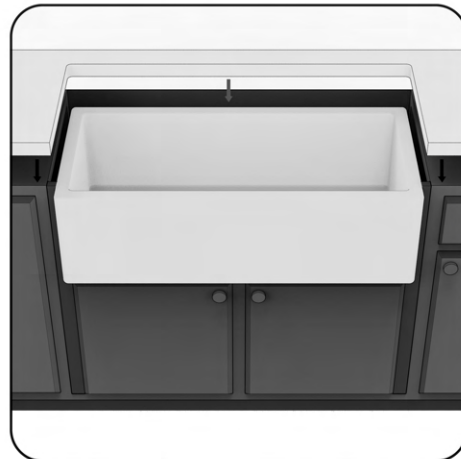
3.2: USE TEMPLATE FOR YOUR CUT

SET THE SINK, INSTALL COUNTERTOP, INSTALL PLUMBING

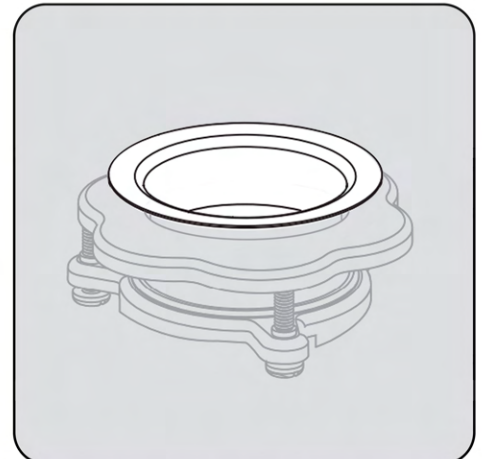
Set the sink on top of the cabinet and into the cabinet front cutout. Ensure again that the sink is level and shimmed properly. Apply sealant, if necessary, between the sink and the cutout trim [Illustration 4.1]. Apply a bead of neutral-cure silicone sealant around the top rim/flange of the sink where it will make contact with the countertop [Illustration 4.1]. Place countertop onto the sink [Illustration 4.2]. Remove excess sealant with denatured alcohol. Next, if you will be installing a garbage disposal, use the included flange [Illustration 4.3], following the disposal's install instructions. If not installing a disposal, you will instead use the included drain (fireclay sinks) or you may contact us to receive a drain at no charge (copper sinks). We recommend that a licensed plumber complete these waste hookups at the time your faucet is installed.



4.1: APPLY SEALANT



4.2: PLACE COUNTERTOPS



4.3: INSTALL DRAIN

FIRECLAY CARE AND CLEANING TIPS

Much of the beauty of fireclay lies in its long-lasting wear and enduring good looks. Follow these simple sink care and cleaning tips, and your Fossil Blu fireclay sink will retain its original beauty for years to come.

- Wipe down the sink with a dry cloth as often as possible to prevent hard water spots.
- Apply a thin layer of liquid wax to sink's basin about once a month, using a soft cloth or the applicator that comes with the wax. Apply the wax when the sink is dry and allow the wax to dry thoroughly before using the sink. Wax will encourage liquids to flow down the drain. We recommend Mothers brand "Step 3 Pure Brazilian Carnauba Wax" in the liquid form. Carnauba wax is a natural product harvested from palm fronds, and is safe to use in the kitchen.
- Our silica-based glaze is incredibly durable and easy-to-clean. For daily cleaning, we recommend dish soap and a sponge. For heavier soils or hard water stains, the finish is strong enough to withstand chlorine-based mild abrasives such as Comet, or acid-based mild abrasives such as Bar Keepers Friend. Just be sure to thoroughly rinse the sink after use.
- Steer clear of steel wool pads. The iron particles that are left behind can lead to tiny rust deposits. For hard-to-clean projects, use a ScotchBrite or similar scouring pad instead.
- If you happen to drop a heavy pan and get a chip in the finish, it is important to get it repaired immediately. Repair kits are available at most home improvement stores, and will repair and seal several small chips. Look for white "porcelain" chip fix products.
- Add some shine with a few drops of baby oil. Wipe off with a paper towel and repeat for added shine.
- Avoid leaving cast-iron cookware in your sink for extended periods of time. Do not set hot pans directly into the sink, and be sure to run cold water when pouring in boiling water.
- Rubber dish mats, wet sponges and pads are not recommended for a lengthy stay in your sink. Mold can result.

COPPER CARE AND CLEANING TIPS

As a "living" finish, copper sinks naturally contain irregularities which are both beautiful and helpful towards masking little messes. In fact, some people choose to simply let their sinks "do their thing", embracing variation and the occasional bright-spotting that may occur. But for those wishing to retain the original beauty of the finish, it won't be difficult if you follow these care and maintenance steps.

- Wipe down the sink with a dry cloth as often as possible.
- Apply a thin layer of Carnauba wax to sink's basin and apron-front about once a month, using a soft cloth. Apply the wax when the sink is dry and allow the wax to cure before using the sink (about 1-hour). Wax will seal the patina (preventing any color change) and encourage water and debris to flow down the drain (preventing mineralization). We recommend Mothers brand "Step 3 Pure Brazilian Carnauba Wax" in the solid form. Carnauba wax is a natural product harvested from palm fronds, and is safe to use in the kitchen.
- Should you forget to apply wax for several months and a particularly acidic food sits on the surface overnight, you may notice a lightening of the finish (ie removal of patina). This is completely normal, and there are two solutions:
 - Option 1: Relax and let the copper re-form its patina naturally. This process can take some time, but it always works. Wait to apply wax again until the finish is where you want it to be.
 - Option 2: For quick re-patina results, consider "Liver of Sulphur". Liver of sulphur is used in the jewelry-making business to quickly oxidize metals, and it works great on copper sinks. It is available on Amazon. Just follow the directions on the bottle, paying particular notice to dilute with water.
- Foods to avoid sitting on the surface for extended periods include: Citrus, ketchup (or any other tomato-based food product), pure salt, toothpaste, certain sodas, and other highly acidic or chlorine-based products.
- Steer clear of steel wool pads. They can scratch the patina and the iron particles that are left behind can lead to tiny rust deposits. For hard-to-clean projects, try a ScotchBrite scouring pad. We recommend scouring in a gentle, circular motion. Some light scratching of the patina may be noticed, however it is not an undesirable look (similar to oil rubbed metal finishes) and will re-patina rather quickly.
- Copper cannot rust unless it is in direct contact with rusting steel or iron for an extended period of time. Be especially vigilant not to leave heirloom cast iron pans in the sink for more than just a few hours.
- Rubber dish mats, wet sponges and cleaning pads are not recommended for a lengthy stay in your sink. Since they trap potentially acidic liquids, changes in the patina can result.