

# FOSSIL BLU

Drop-In / Undermount 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 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.

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:**

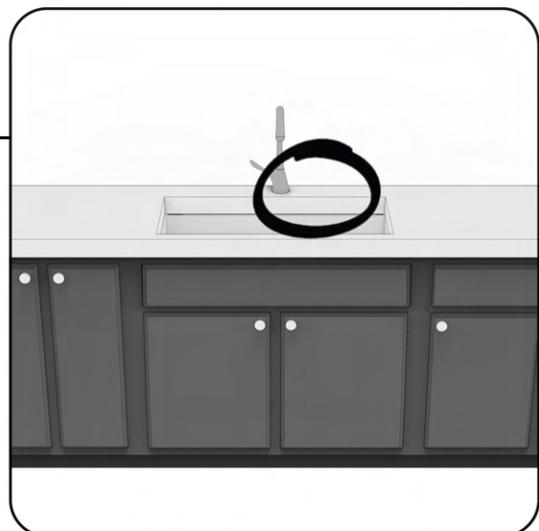
- Tape Measure
- Hacksaw / Jigsaw
- Rags
- Pencil and Marker
- Cardboard
- Scissors/Sheers
- Framing Square
- Ear and Eye Protection
- Shims
- Denatured Alcohol
- Silicone Adhesive Sealant
- Wood Braces

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

**DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:**

Fossil Blu drop-in / undermount 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 the 1” sink flange 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

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Ideally, your sink cabinet base width has been determined before sink purchase, but certainly before beginning with any cutting and fabrication, ensure that your Fossil Blu sink will fit in your cabinet. For drop-in installations, your sink basin should fit within the cabinet without any contact points with cabinet walls. For undermount installations, the exterior measurements (including sink rim) should be no less than 3" narrower than your base cabinet (IE The maximum sink size for a 33" sink base cabinet would be 30"). This is to allow room for undermount clips and/or support brackets.

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: INSTALLED HEIGHT

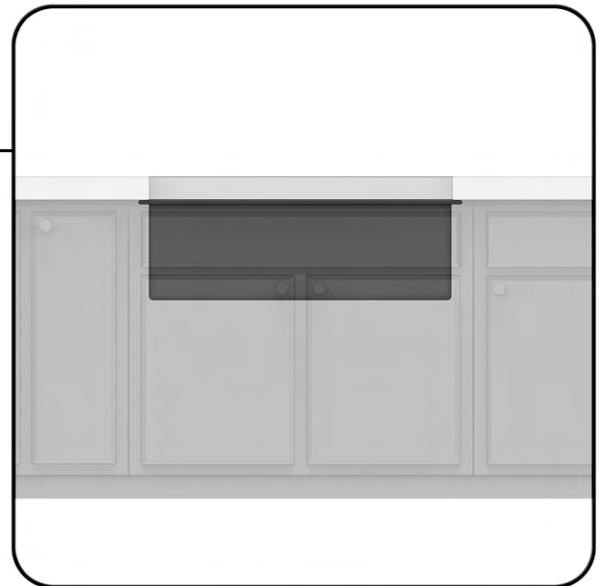
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Your sink can be installed as either an undermount or a drop-in sink. Let's explore these.

### UNDERMOUNT INSTALLATIONS

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Undermount [Illustration 1.2] is the most common choice when designing new kitchens with new countertops being installed. It leaves no transitions, lending to a "professional" appearance and making countertop cleaning a breeze. With that said, the installation requires much more precise countertop cuts along with under-counter anchoring. This is why we recommend leaving undermount installs to the professionals.

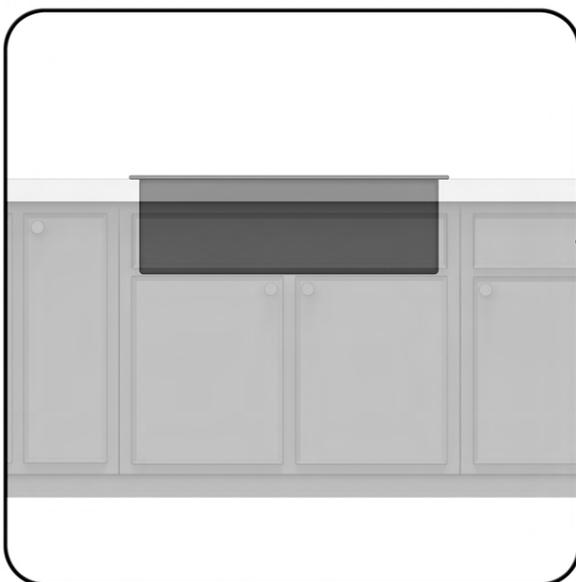


1.2: UNDERMOUNT

### DROP-IN INSTALLATIONS

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Drop-in installations [Illustration 1.3] are considerably more DIY-friendly, as the countertop cut is covered by the flange of the sink, and the sink requires no under-counter anchoring; it is simply supported by the flange.



1.3: DROP-IN

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS: COUNTERTOP REVEAL

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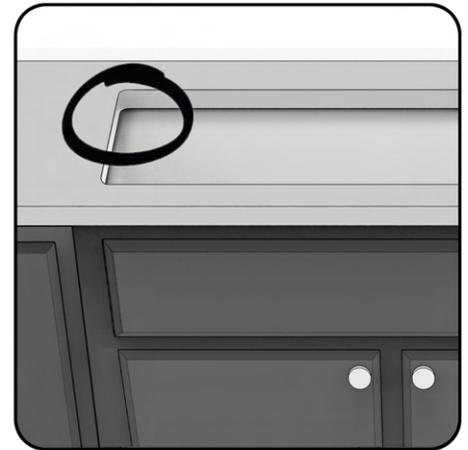
When undermounting a sink, “reveal” refers to the amount of the sink rim that is exposed after the countertop cut. Choose a positive reveal [Illustration 1.4] if you intend to have a custom butcher block or similar surface made to span the sink. A zero reveal [Illustration 1.5] provides for a very professional appearance to the install as the sink and counters appear to merge together. A negative reveal [Illustration 1.6] is the most common as it ensures no potential transition ledges or indentations that can catch food.



1.5: POSITIVE REVEAL



1.6: ZERO REVEAL



1.7: NEGATIVE REVEAL

## MAKE A CUT TEMPLATE, CUT COUNTERS

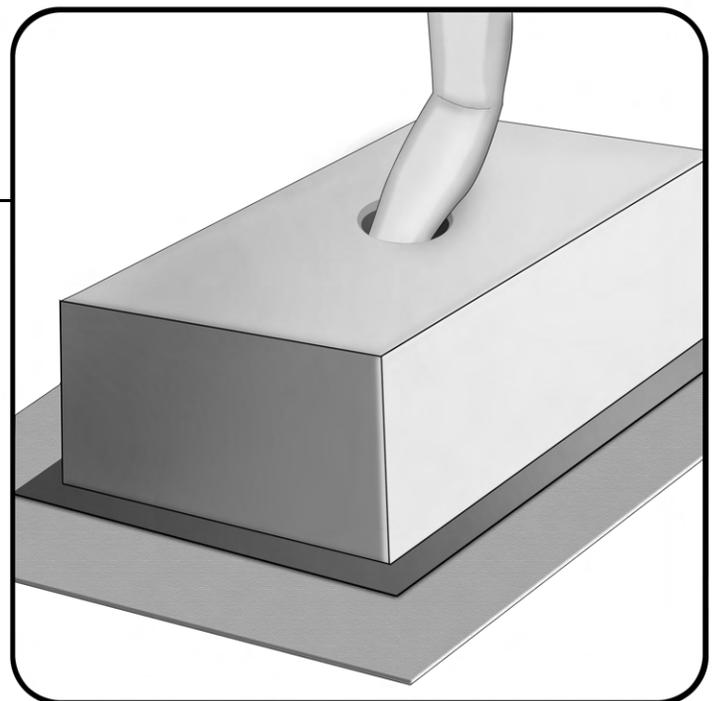
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Due to the custom nature of each application and installation, a cutout template is not provided with Fossil Blu sinks. Instead, the actual sink will be used to create a countertop cut template.

## UNDERMOUNT INSTALLATIONS

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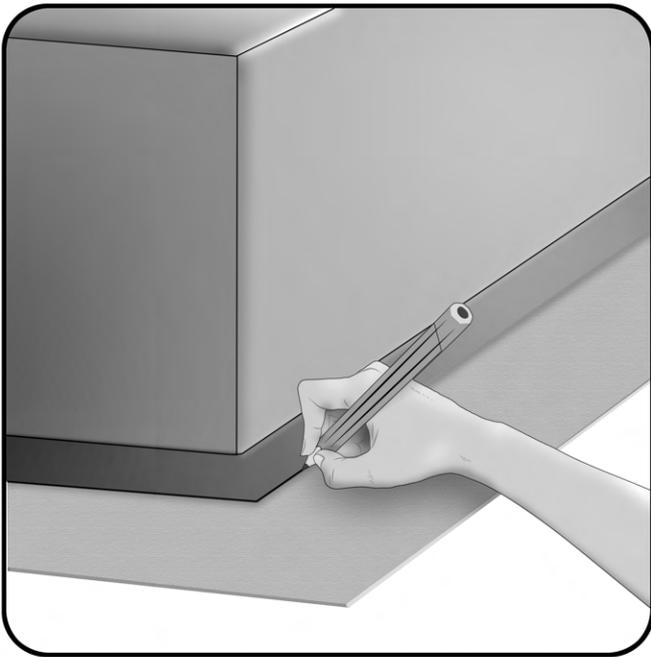
Place the sink upside-down on a large piece of cardboard. With a pencil in hand, reach through the 3.5” drain hole and carefully follow the contour of the sink opening, making several passes with the pencil [Illustration 2.1]. Remove the sink from the cardboard. If you will be doing a +/- reveal, be sure to add or subtract  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” from the line before finalizing with a permanent marker. Cut the cardboard per your final line with shears.



2.1: UNDERMOUNT

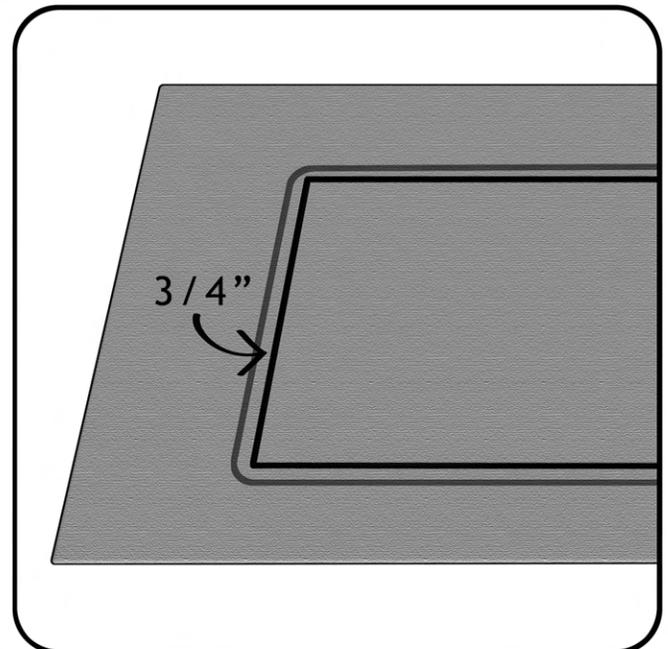
## DROP-IN INSTALLATIONS

Place the sink upside-down on a large piece of cardboard. With a pencil, trace around the exterior of the sink, carefully following the contour of the sink rim. [Illustration 2.2]. Remove the sink from the cardboard.

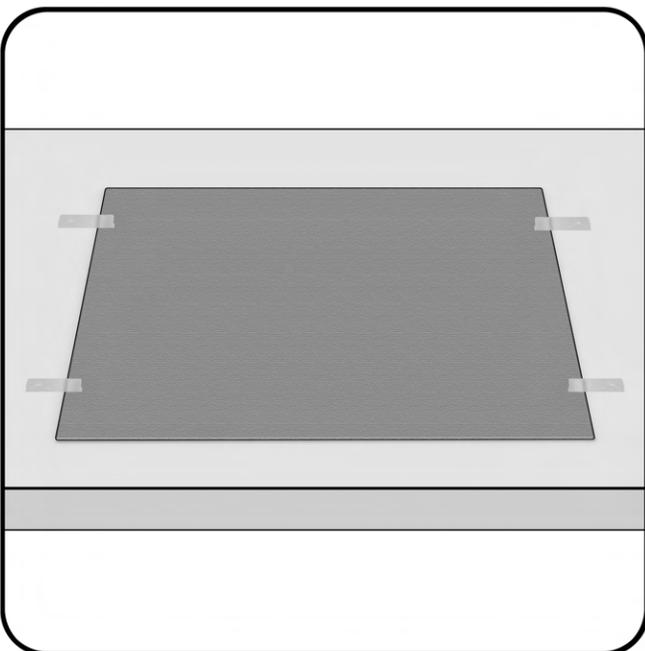


2.2: DROP-IN TEMPLATE

With a ruler, measure 3/4" in (towards the center) and draw a new line with marker [Illustration 2.3]. Cut the cardboard per your final line with shears.



2.3: ACCOUNTING FOR RIM



2.4: DROP-IN TEMPLATE

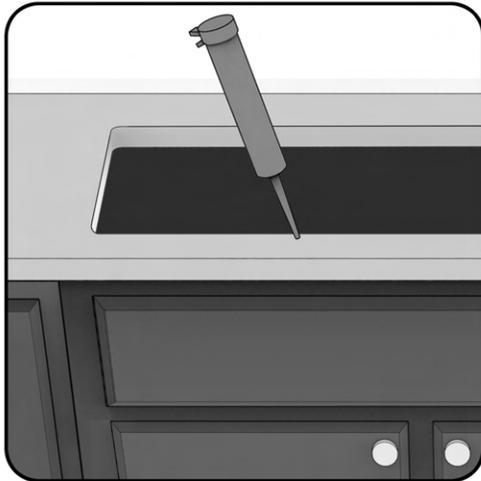
## ALL INSTALLATIONS

With your template complete, position and use this template to mark your counter for the cut [Illustration 2.4], keeping in mind faucet clearance, both to the sink rim, and to the wall behind the sink. Follow the cutting techniques appropriate for your countertop material and complete the cut.

## INSTALL YOUR SINK: DROP-IN

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With your countertop now cut, first, dry-fit the sink to be sure that there are no pinch points and that at least 1/2" of the sink rim is making contact with your countertop on all sides. Remove the sink. Apply a 1/4" bead of neutral-cure silicone at the edge of your countertop [Illustration 3.1]. Place your sink, ensuring again that at least 1/2" of the rim is making contact with your counters on all sides [Illustration 3.2]. If necessary, you may use a rubber mallet to flatten any areas of the rim which are not making clean contact with your counters. Remove excess silicone with denatured alcohol.



3.1: APPLY SILICONE



3.2: ENSURE PROPER CONTACT

## INSTALL YOUR SINK: UNDERMOUNT

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We will repeat that undermount installations are best left to the professionals. Each countertop material has its own best methods for anchoring an undermount sink, and each installer has their own preferences. If you haven't already, consult with your countertop fabricator and/or contractor about undermounting your sink. There are many methods to anchoring an undermount sink including contact pinching, cable suspensions, and clip-anchors [Illustration 3.3]. Each of these has their own intricacies and best use-cases, which is why we recommend consulting with your fabricator and/or contractor as early as possible. Due to the custom nature of each install, Fossil Blu sinks are not provided with installation hardware.

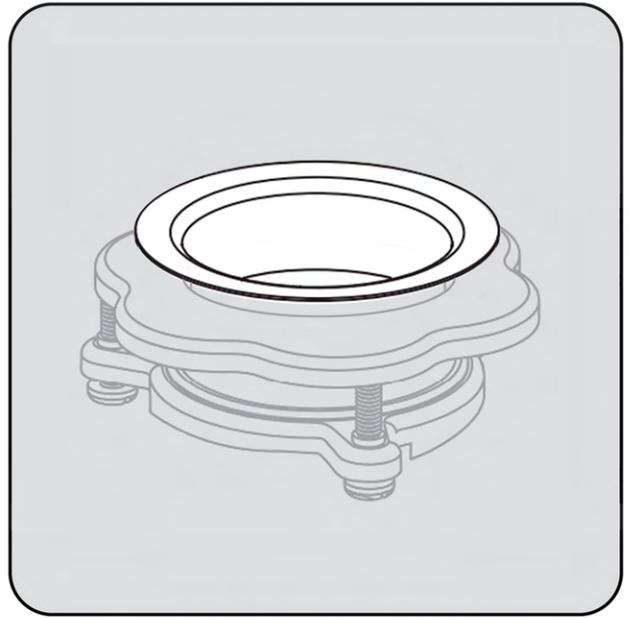


3.3: ANCHOR-CLIP

## INSTALL THE DISPOSAL FLANGE OR DRAIN

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Included with each Fossil Blu undermount sink is a copper-plated topside flange for waste disposal hookups. This flange is provided for a coordinated look and is to be used in lieu of the silver or chrome topside flange included with your garbage disposal. Follow the instructions included with your disposal unit for installation of the appliance. If you will not be installing a disposal, Fossil Blu has strainer drains available at no charge for our customers. Please contact us at [info@fossilblu.com](mailto:info@fossilblu.com) should you wish to be sent a strainer drain.



4.1: DISPOSAL FLANGE

## COPPER CARE AND CLEANING TIPS

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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 the 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.

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## COPPER CARE AND CLEANING TIPS

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- 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.