

# BLASIUS

- C O U N T E R T O P S -

## What to Expect: COUNTERTOP TEMPLATE

*Every countertop we build is different and each project has its own unique challenges. Our templators use a high-tech laser template system to measure the cabinets and walls and create the drawing on site so we can verify everything before leaving. This helps to reduce the time needed on install and ensure what we are building is what our customer wants. Helping our customers understand the process helps us do our job better. Please take some time to review the items below as you prepare for your template.*

### The Preparation

**Cabinets:** In order to ensure an accurate template, all the cabinets must be screwed in place and all end panels installed. This includes decorative end panels and refrigerator panels. The cabinets should be level within 1/8" to eliminate stress on the corners, cut-outs and seams. Cabinets that will rest on top of the countertop (i.e. appliance garage, etc.) should be installed after the installation of the countertop when possible or more seams may be required in the countertop.

**Existing countertops:** We can make a template over your existing countertops provided there are no changes happening to the cabinets below. We only ask that you have the tops completely cleaned off and free of toasters and coffee pots and such so we have clear access the walls for the laser template system.

**Adequate Support:** The surface type and material thickness dictate the amount of overhang permitted on a countertop. Without additional brackets or corbels, the countertop can support an overhang of:  
- 6" (acrylic countertop) or 12" maximum overhang using full 1" plywood or MDF substructure  
- 15" (3CM Cambria countertop)

However, at least 70% of the total countertop must be supported by cabinets, an island, knee wall, etc. All overhangs in excess of those previously mentioned will require corbels or brackets. New or existing cabinets must be structurally sound and able to withstand the weight of the countertop. Your templator will assess any requirements needed to support the countertops while there.

**Sinks:** Undermount sinks not provided by Blasius Inc. MUST be on the job site prior to the date of field template so we can verify the fit in the cabinets and the cutout. At times it is necessary to take the sink back to the shop with us to digitize and check the cutout before cutting into the top. Apron-front farm sinks must be installed prior to the template so we can measure around them and make sure the margins are correct. Top mount sinks, while helpful at template, are not required to be present; however, the make and model being used must be determined prior to template.

**Faucets:** Faucets should be on site if possible at time of template if you have a large sink, windowsill behind sink, or vessel vanity bowl to ensure it will fit with the bowl. Soap dispensers, hot and cold water dispenser, or any other item requiring a hole must be on site at the time of installation so we can drill the hole and ensure they fit properly. If a return trip is necessary to drill holes, a trip charge may be assessed.

**Appliances:** Final stove/cooktop selections MUST be made prior to the time of field template so we build the tops properly. If items are not on site, the make and model numbers must be indicated on order form. Dishwashers and refrigerators are not required to be on site, however, they are helpful to ensure proper fit.

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## **The Process**

*For most projects, we will need to set up a tripod and laser template system to measure for your countertops. Once set, we will shoot the back walls and cabinet faces with the laser and using a drawing system create a digital template of the tops from the data collected from the laser. It is important that the laser not get bumped during this time so if you have pets or kids running around it is best to keep them out of the area if possible.*

**Confirming Details:** Sometimes we notice things on site that affect how the top is needs to be built and we like to confirm all details while on site so it is helpful to have a decision maker present at time of template. If there are changes that are made or we notice a difference between what is requested or needed on site with what is in our paperwork we will ask for a signature on the template documents from the decision maker on site.

**Site Assessment:** Cambria countertops are heavy and often awkward to handle. Our templator will assess how we will get the tops in and any challenges the installers may face. They will determine if additional seams are **needed to get tops in place safely.**

**Duration:** A template can take anywhere from 30 minutes to 4 hours depending on the size of the project but an average kitchen takes an hour and a half to complete.

Once back at the office, our staff reviews the template with the quote request to make sure there were no changes. If we notice a change we will reach out to your salesperson and revise pricing accordingly. Once everything is confirmed and accurate we will schedule the project for production. Because each top is custom built it can take 2-4 weeks for production and scheduling. Typically we will contact your salesperson within 2-4 days from template to schedule the installation.

**Changes after template are the leading cause of mistakes and problems with countertops so it is important to avoid making changes after we have been there to measure. If a change is absolutely necessary the sooner we know the better.**