



# LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS RESOURCE GUIDE

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# POSTFORM v. CUSTOM

## POSTFORM

A pre-manufactured countertop with attached backsplash (optional) and preformed edges. The laminate is heated and formed over the substrate.



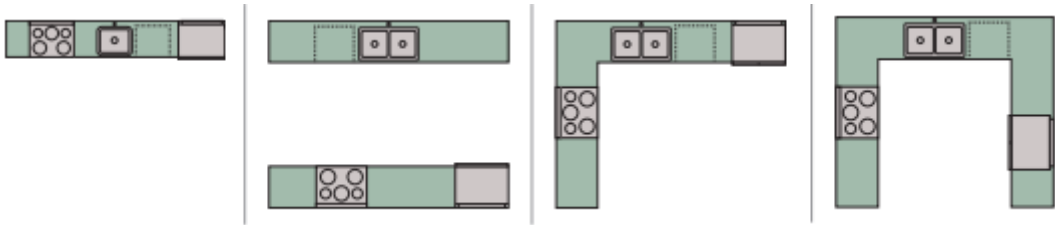
## CUSTOM

A custom made top, also known as Self-Edge, with optional backsplash and custom end pieces. A custom top can be made to fit any unique configuration. Curves, notches, angles, etc. are possible using self-edge tops.

# POSTFORM DETAILS

## ATTRIBUTES

- Works best for simple layouts with 45 ° and 90 ° angles (straight run, “L”, or “U”).



- Can have a seamless backsplash, flat deck, or set-on splash. (Only postform can have an integral backsplash.)
- Top of backsplash can match the edge profile.
- Abundance of edge profile options.
- Lower cost laminate option.

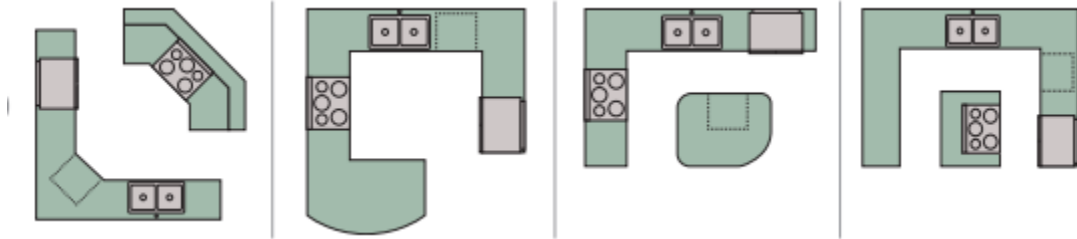
## CONSIDER CUSTOM IF YOUR CUSTOMER HAS:

- An elaborate or multi-angled layout.
- Inconsistent cabinet depths.
- Seams in locations that are at risk for moisture intrusion (locations where an appliance or sink may be placed).

# CUSTOM DETAILS

## ATTRIBUTES

- Good for elaborate and multi-angled layouts.



- Generally there are no seams on a custom top.
- Custom edging available.
- Exposed ends can match edge profile.
- Edge profile can wrap along all sides of an island.
- Backsplash can form to walls that bow or are out of square.

## CONSIDER POSTFORM IF YOUR CUSTOMER DESIRES:

- Additional edge options.
- Edges that are seamless on the front and sides.
- A budget friendly option.
- A backsplash that is integral.

# FINISH GROUPS



## PRICE GROUP A (\$)

43	Artisan	Reminiscent of the hand-rubbed, oiled finish used by craftsmen to produce fine wood surfaces.
46	Etchings	A softly polished and etched surface dappled with highlights from tiny fractures and fissures reminiscent to those found in natural granite and stone.
58	Matte	A finish that imparts a warm, pleasing effect.
90	Gloss	A high gloss finish.

19	Leno Weave	Random intersecting horizontal and vertical lines create a geometric weave with a matte-gloss finish.
28	Gloss Line	A linear woodgrain texture with varied widths of narrow grain structures in an alternating mix of matte and gloss surface areas.
38	Fine Velvet Texture	A smooth textured finish with moderate reflective value.
60	Matte	Textured finish with a moderate reflective quality.

## PRICE GROUP B (\$\$)

34	Scovato	A lightly textured finish with a low gloss visual.
46	Etchings	A softly polished and etched surface dappled with highlights from tiny fractures and fissures reminiscent to those found in natural granite and stone.
NG	Natural Grain	An even textured woodgrain structure featuring a low luster, medium pore design.
PG	Pure Grain	A highly usable woodgrain finish that adds dimension and depth to wood patterns.
RD	Radiance	A shimmering brilliant smooth gloss finish.

07	Textured Gloss	A textured finish which reproduces the high sheen of waxed wood furniture.
12	Softgrain	A dense, woodgrain structure that is low gloss and soft to the touch.
22	Antique	A mixture of varying low gloss features combined with organic movement, indicative of the surface of an aged stone or an antique metal.
52	Quarry	A premium finish emulating the "pitted" look of polished natural stone.

## PRICE GROUP C (\$\$\$)

11	SatinTouch	A smooth-to-the touch finish with a silky feel and sheen.
34	Scovato	A lightly textured finish with a low gloss visual.
43	Artisan	Reminiscent of the hand-rubbed, oiled finish used by craftsmen to produce fine wood surfaces.
46	Etchings	A softly polished and etched surface dappled with highlights from tiny fractures and fissures reminiscent to those found in natural granite and stone.
RD	Radiance	A shimmering brilliant smooth gloss finish.

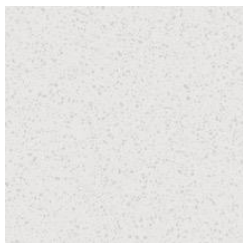
35	HD Mirage	Subtle variations in matte and gloss finish connect to nature's own finishes: rough and weathered, smooth and polished.
55	Glaze	A layering of matte features over a glaze of semi-gloss, creates this time worn effect.

# QUICK INSTALL PROGRAM



If your customer has a need for a quick countertop install, they can select from 9 beautiful colors and 3 edge options. Look for this flag on the wallboard to identify colors available in the program.

## PRICE GROUP A (\$)



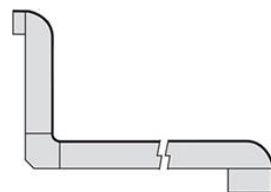
**Paloma Polar**  
(6698-58)



**White Ice Granite**  
(9476-58)



**Elemental Concrete**  
(8830-58)



**WATERFALL**

## PRICE GROUP B (\$\$)



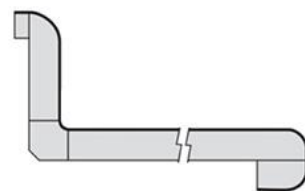
**Argento Romano**  
(6697-46)



**Star Dune**  
(9309-46)



**Mineral Jet**  
(3450-RD)



**DOUBLE RADIUS**

## PRICE GROUP C (\$\$\$)



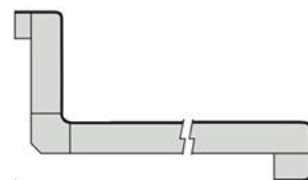
**Calacatta Marble**  
(3460-11)



**River Gold**  
(3546-46)



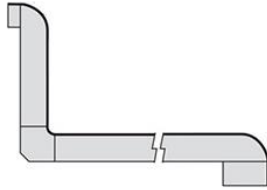
**Fantasy Marble**  
(9302-34)



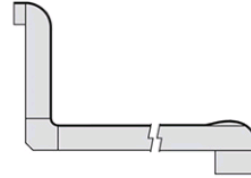
**FULL WRAP TIGHT RADIUS**

# COUNTERTOP EDGES – POSTFORM

## INCLUDED (\$)

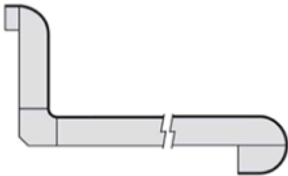


**WATERFALL**

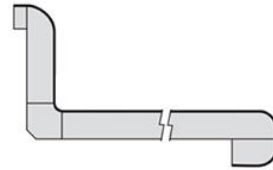


**NO-DRIP**

## UPGRADE 1 (\$\$)

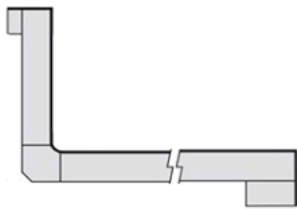


**BULLNOSE**

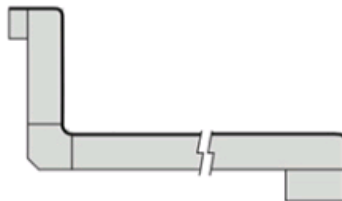


**DOUBLE RADIUS**

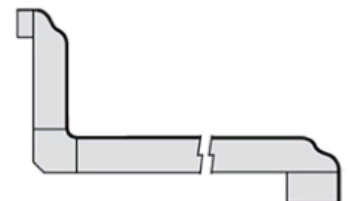
## UPGRADE 2 (\$\$\$)



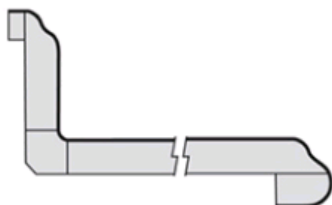
**SQUARE**



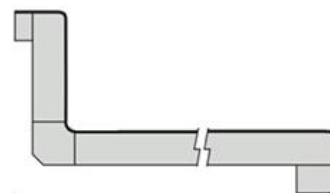
**TIGHT RADIUS**



**OGEE**



**FULL WRAP OGEE**



**FULL WRAP TIGHT  
RADIUS**

# COUNTERTOP EDGES – CUSTOM

## INCLUDED (\$)



**SELF-EDGE/SQUARE**

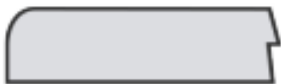
## UPGRADE 1 (\$\$)



**BEVEL**  
(Wilsonart)



**DOUBLE RADIUS (Formica)/  
CRESCENT (Wilsonart)**



**WATERFALL**  
(Formica)



**BULLNOSE**  
(Formica)



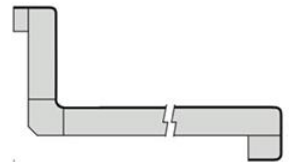
**OGEE**  
(Formica)

# BACKSPLASH OPTIONS

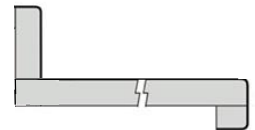
## FLAT DECK (NO BACKSPLASH)



## INTEGRATED/COVED BACKSPLASH



## SET ON/LOOSE SPLASH



*Check with the customer to make sure the new countertop backsplash completely covers previous backsplash area.*

# END SPLASHES

## END SPLASHES

A separate piece of laminated wood that sits on the edge of the countertop and creates a backsplash effect on the sides where a countertop meets a wall.

### STANDARD/ CONTOURED END SPLASH

Standard end splashes look slightly different depending on the countertop profile. The pictures to the right are illustrative.

Waterfall, No-Drip, Self-Edge,  
Tight Radius, Full-Wrap Tight  
Radius



Bullnose, Double Radius,  
Full-Wrap Ogee



### OVEN/UNIVERSAL END SPLASH

The same back as the standard splash (depending on profile), but generally stops short of the front of the countertop to accommodate cabinets.



# WALL LAMINATE



## WALL LAMINATE

When a customer wants to have a cohesive look between their countertop and the wall. This is available in custom only and is generally used with a flat deck (no backsplash). If the customer wants this option, the wall laminate will meet the laminate countertop forming a visible seam.



***Strong directional patterns, such as stripes and long-patterned woodgrains do not work well with wall laminate. Please advise your customers to consider the pattern when choosing wall laminate.***

# END CAPS

## END CAP

A strip of laminate which covers an exposed end. End caps should be added to all exposed ends, especially those where heat and moisture protection is needed.

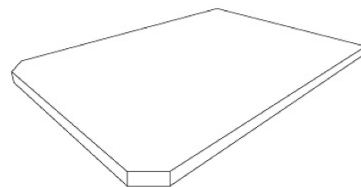


# RADIUS OPTIONS

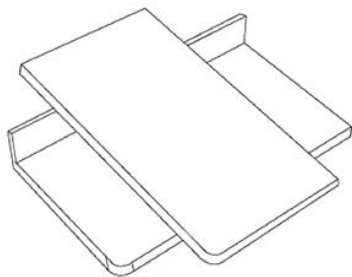
## CUSTOM AND POSTFORM

### CLIP CORNER

A diagonal cut to the corner of a top.  
Minimum is a 2" face clip.



## CUSTOM ONLY

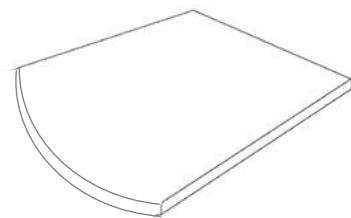


### STANDARD RADIUS

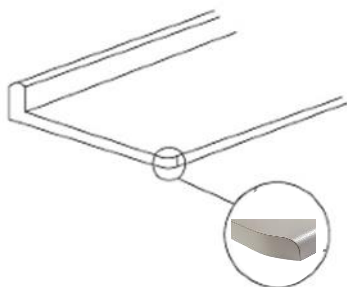
Radius corners can be specified from 3" through 12", depending on what the customer desires.

### 180° SWEEP/ARC RADIUS

A soft sweep to the end of a bar top. The arc is 3" on 26" bars and 6" on 36" bars.



## POSTFORM ONLY



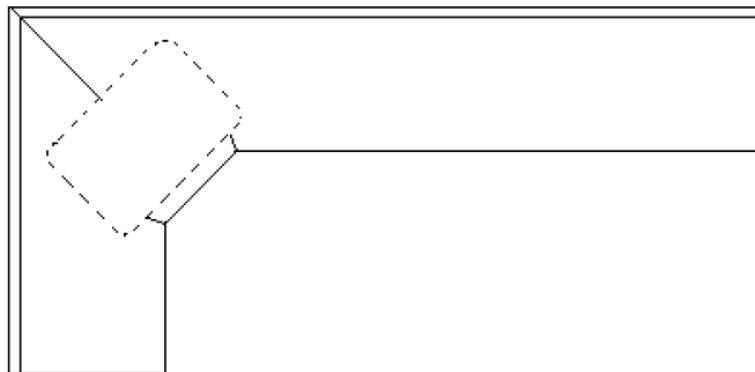
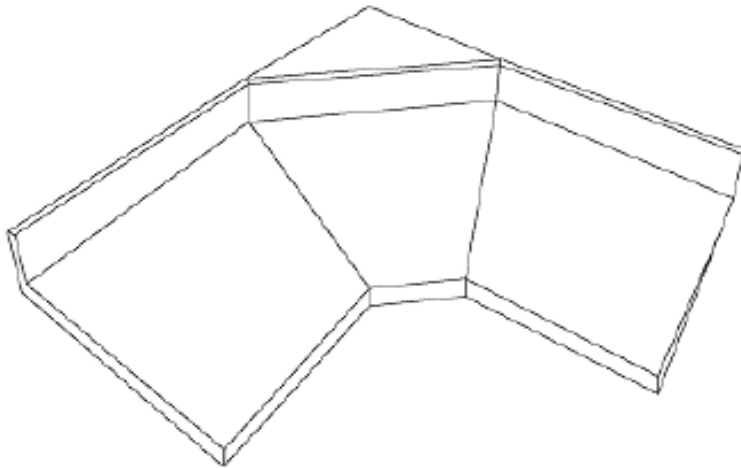
### CLIP RADIUS

The rounding of the corner of a countertop.

# INSIDE CORNER

## INSIDE CORNER

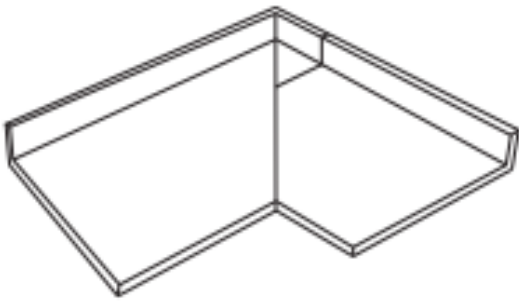
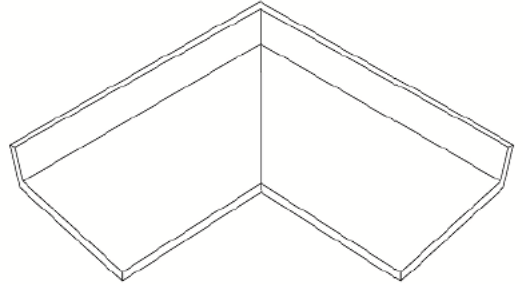
Angled corners are used with angled corner cabinets. In some cases, a sink may be placed in this corner. if you have a sink in the corner, consider a Custom laminate countertop.



# MITERS

## STANDARD MITER

A 45° cut (also referred to as a 90° L-shape) that connects two sections of a countertop. If the corner is out-of-square, the miter will be at a different angle. Where a miter seam is not desired, a customer can have a custom countertop.

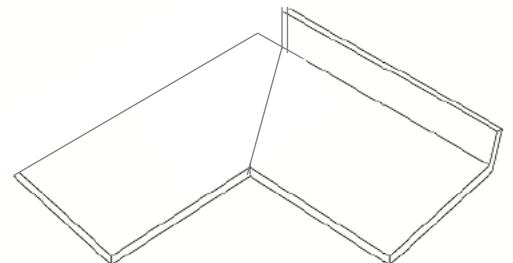


## Y-MITER/PIE MITER

A pre-manufactured countertop with attached backsplash (optional). The laminate is heated and formed over the wood substrate.

## BAR MITER

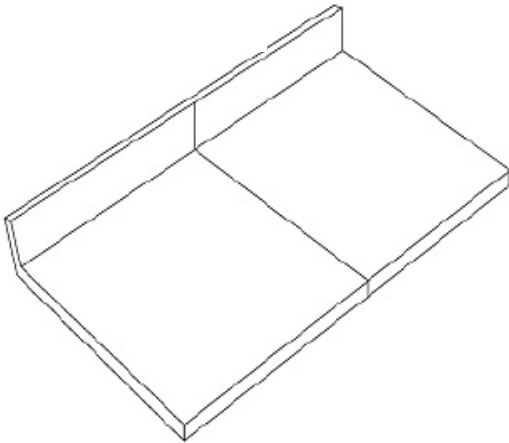
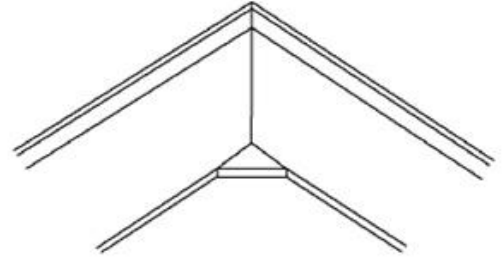
When a bar top is added to the end of a postform run, the postform backsplash will stop short of the bar portion leaving some of the countertop without a backsplash. If the customer would like their splash to run the length of the bar top, consider a custom countertop or a postform countertop with a set on backsplash.



# MITERS

## 45° CORNER PIE

A triangular corner insert used when the kitchen design has a diagonal corner sink or has a Lazy Susan corner cabinet. State the size of diagonal cabinet when ordering the countertop.



## BUTT JOINT

A seam perpendicular to the countertop edge where two postform countertops are connected on a straight run. This is used to extend the length of the countertop when a standard countertop length is not sufficient.



***Strong directional patterns, such as stripes and long-patterned woodgrains do not work well with miters. Please advise your customers to consider the pattern when using a miter.***

# OVERHANG

## STANDARD OVERHANG

The overhang space on a countertop provides a small lip or surface that extends past the front of your cabinets. The standard overhang is 1 ¼”.



## BAR OVERHANG

Extra space to allow for leg room.



***Build-up is generally recommended for any bar overhang areas. 2/3 of the top must be supported.***

# CUTOUTS

## COOKTOP/RANGE CUTOUT



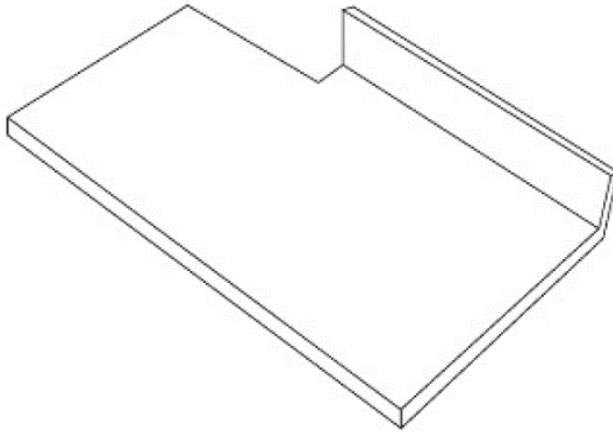
## SINK CUTOUT



# NOTCHES

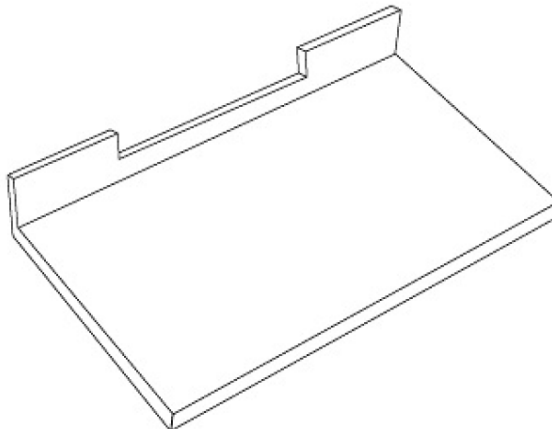
## STANDARD NOTCH

Notches are used to allow the countertop to wrap around a wall or cabinet that may intrude on the countertop run.



## WINDOW NOTCH

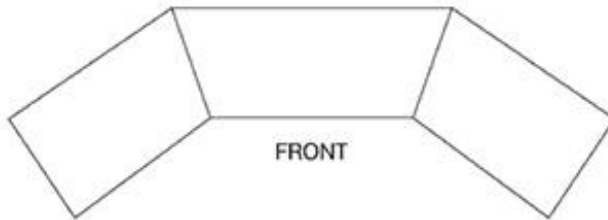
When a window will overlap with the backsplash, a portion of backsplash is removed to fit around the window creating a window notch.



# OTHER DESIGN OPTIONS

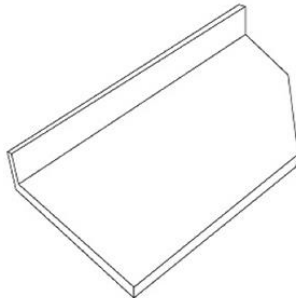
## BAT WING/ STANDARD 45° TURN

A 22 ½" cut on the matching ends of two countertops that, when assembled, will create a 45° corner turn. This will create an angled shape countertop layout.



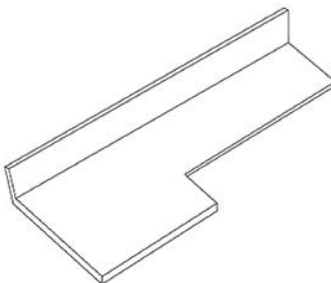
## ANGLED END BASE

A countertop that is cut to fit 24" x 24" x 24" angled base cabinets.



## BANJO

A special notch cut for vanities, which provides a ledge over the toilet.



# MOISTURE BARRIERS

## DISHWASHER BACKER

A tape placed underneath the countertop edge to prevent moisture from a dishwasher from penetrating the underlayment of the countertop. It is especially important for customers who are installing laminate countertops above a top vented dishwasher.



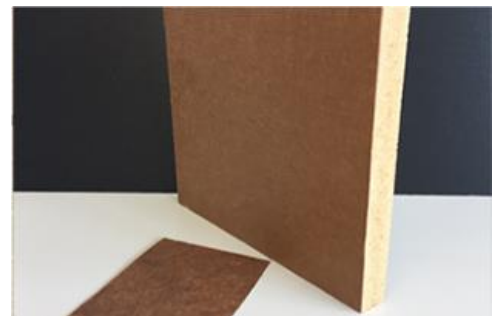
## UV FILL

A clear coating cured by UV light that prevents moisture from entering the wood. This is recommended in high-humidity applications, such as bathrooms or laundry rooms.



## BACKER SHEET

A backer sheet is a layer of laminate that is adhered to the underside of a laminate top. This prevents warping, adds dimensional stability, and gives a finished look to overhangs, bars, and peninsulas.



# STANDARD/NON-STANDARD DEPTH

## STANDARD and NON-STANDARD DEPTH

Refer to your local provider for other standard kitchen depths. If your customer has a non-standard depth, you will need to work with the installer for specific customization.



A minimum of 16 Sq. ft. is required for all countertop orders.

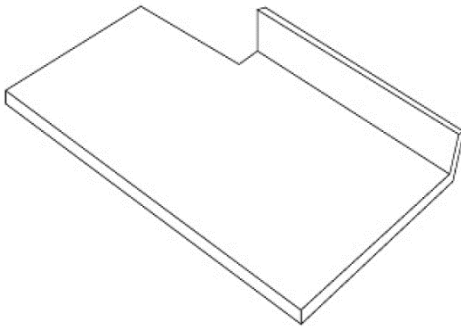
# ADDITIONAL WORK

## ADDITIONAL WORK

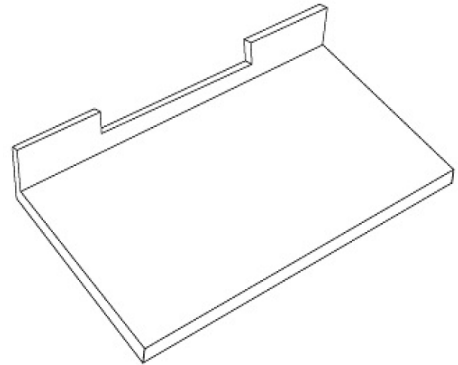
This is any unforeseen or custom work the installer identifies on site.

For example:

### STANDARD NOTCH



### WINDOW NOTCH



### WALL LAMINATE

