

# PRE-ORDERING GUIDE

Installing a new benchtop can be a great way to give your kitchen or laundry a fresh new look. However, before you place your order for a DIY benchtop, there are several factors you need to consider to ensure a successful installation. From join position to appliance installation, taking the time to plan ahead can save you time and money in the long run.

## Things to consider before you order your benchtop

### 1. Check all your measurement twice

Measure the area of benchtop you require ensuring that each measurement is checked twice.

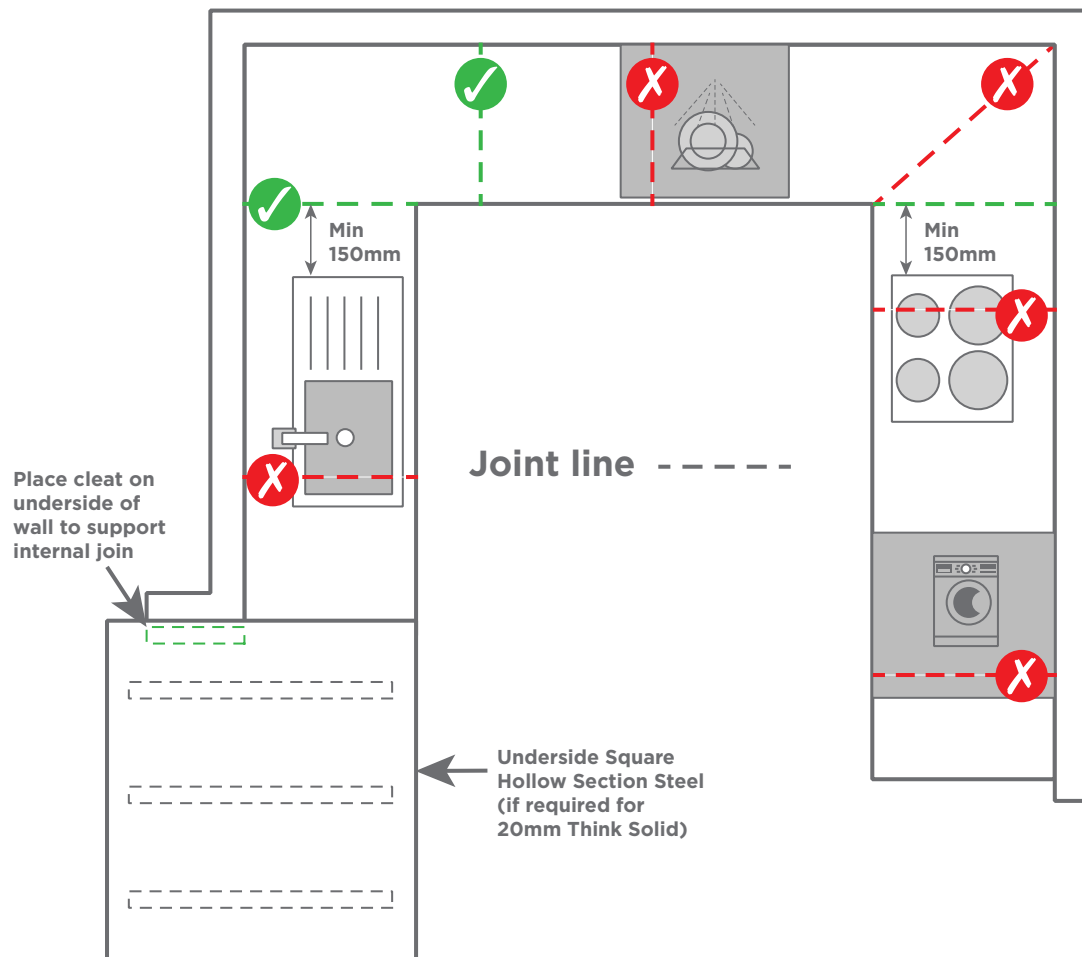
Below are some handy tips to remember when measuring & supporting your new Sentio Solid Surface Benchtop.

If you want to replace your existing benchtop only with a new Sentio Solid Surface Benchtop (and keep your existing cabinets) all plumbing and electrical must be disconnected and the existing benchtop removed before our installation date, ready for your new Sentio Solid Surface Benchtop installation.

### 2. Check the position of Joins

**Expansion gap:** When installing your benchtop, allow for a minimum of 2mm clearance between your Sentio Solid Surface benchtop and walls or cabinets for expansion if required.

Avoid positioning joins directly above dishwashers and through sink or cooktop cut outs. Ideally joins should be positioned a minimum 150mm away from all cooktop cut-outs and dishwasher installations.



## 5. Cabinet fixing and Support for 20mm & 38mm benchtops

Prior to commencing your installation, please ensure the following:

### A. Check Cabinets are Square

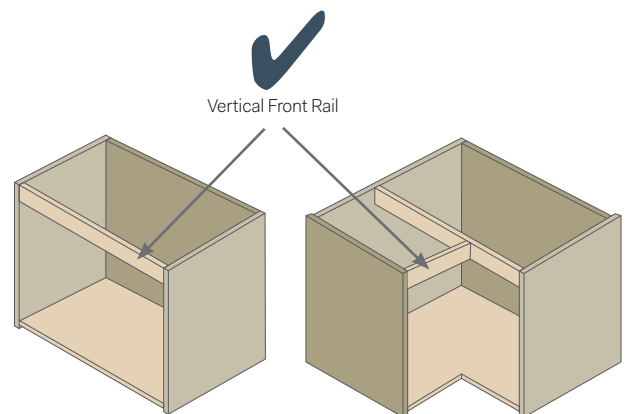
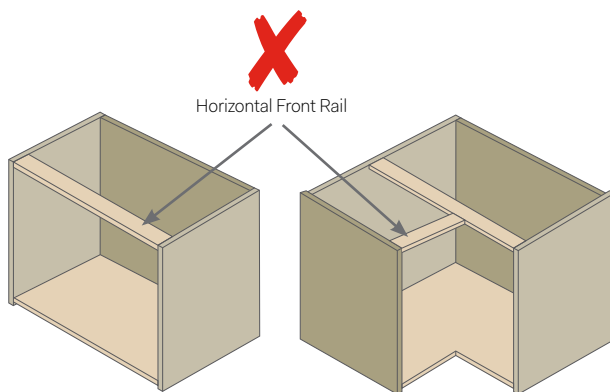
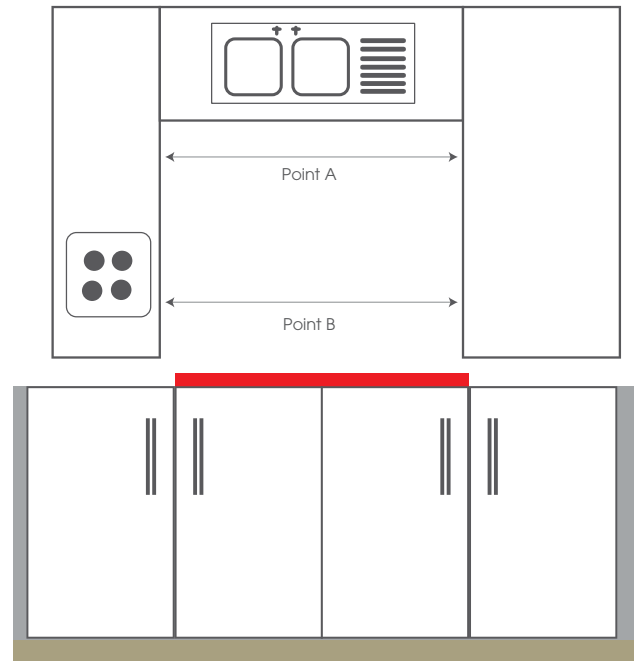
- All base cabinets are square, perfectly level and securely fixed into rear wall and to adjacent cabinets.
- Both Point A and Point B should be the same distance between the cabinets. If this distance is not the same, it is suggested that cabinets be adjusted to ensure that benchtops have a perfect join.

### B. Check Cabinets are Level

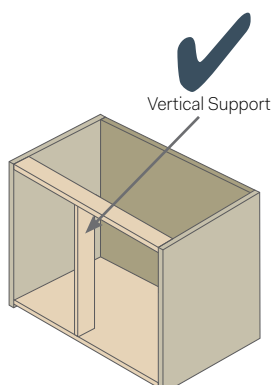
- All cabinet legs are in full contact with the floor to prevent any level change in cabinets after heavy benchtops are placed into position. Important: Check leg contact before & after installation to ensure no movement has occurred during benchtop install process.

### C. Consider Vertical Support Rails

- Providing adequate structural support for the benchtop along the front and the back is essential for long term performance. All cabinets / drawer box with spans greater than  $\geq 800\text{mm}$  wide (including corner cabinets) will require front rails to be installed vertically. Front & rear (wall cleat) support rails need to be added for dishwasher voids.
- NB: If existing front rails are unable to be inverted; simply install hardwood rails 42mm x 18mm (White wrapped) vertically behind or under existing flat rail, or
- Embed 25mm x 25mm x 2mm thick Square Hollow Steel tube just behind or under flat top rail. Use multi tool to trim front rail back &/or notch side of cabinets, ensuring steel tube sit is at same level of cabinet walls. NB: do not allow steel tube to be closer that 50mm to cook top cut-out edge.



- Laundry designs where washer & dryer are side by side will require similar support solutions including a centre divider panel finished to same height as cabinets for additional support rails/bars to sit upon.



6. Consider Island Benchtop Overhang support

Some benchtops are extremely heavy, depending on your design, additional support may be required. This will be noted on your plans at time of check measure, if you select the professional installation option. Your Benchtop may come with overhang support installed if the overhang was clearly noted and requested at time of order. For DIY installation, refer to the table as a guide. Please ensure any cut outs required on the island are noted on your plans at time of order as this will affect the positioning of overhang support.

| Product           | Island Overhang |           |             |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | 0-150mm         | 151-300mm | 301 - 400mm |
| Sentio Solid 20mm | ✗               | ✓         | N/A         |
| Sentio Solid 38mm | ✗               | ✗         | N/A         |

✗ = No additional support required  
✓ = Additional support required.  
N/A = Not Available

**IMPORTANT:** 2/3rds of benchtop must be supported by cabinets at all times.  
ie Max benchtop overhang is 1/3 of overall benchtop depth

Support for the benchtop can be achieved using “L shaped” brackets or metal support bars (25mm x 25mm x 2mm Square Hollow Section Steel). Support to be placed every 500/550mm along the length of the overhang and within 250mm at both exposed ends. SHS bar must extend into cabinet cavity as marked to provide load spread. Professional Tips: Cleats on wall can be used for overhang support where peninsular/island butts into wall.

