

## Installation Instructions



**Solid wood**

August 2013

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## Before installation - warranty coverage

First and foremost we would like to congratulate you on your new worktop, which SPEKVA has custom made just for you.

Wood is a living material and it is for this very reason that there are certain conditions one must be sure to take into account when installing the worktop.

We ask that you read these instructions carefully prior to installation. If you follow our instructions, you will have a worktop that is not only easy to maintain, but that will also bring you years of enjoyment through its attractive structure and excellent functionality as a worktop.

We are one of the only companies on the market to offer tongue-and-groove joints on our Prima, Classic and Royal products. (See our website for more on tongue-and-groove joints). A worktop reinforced with tongue-and-groove in all joints is much stronger than a worktop that is flat-glued.

The extra strength this gives the worktop means that you as the user can enjoy a quality product that will last for years and years. We are so proud of this quality at SPEKVA that we are willing to extend to you as our customer a 5-year guarantee on Prima, Classic and Royal products.

On Natura products, stave products (rough slabs) and integrated accessory products such as sinks, sink accessories and spots, we offer a basic 2-year warranty period, unless the supplier of the accessory product offers SPEKVA an extended warranty period.

These warranties cover material and production defects on products on the condition of correct compliance with our installation and maintenance instructions.

There is no warranty on solid wood slabs with mitred joints or re-sold model slabs.

All authorised claims shall be remedied at no charge. Unsuccessful or unjustified visits may result in charges. Our service installers will do everything they can to remedy a non-covered claim for a fee, but not without advance authorisation from the kitchen shop.

SPEKVA does not cover consequential costs in the event of delay or as a result of defects in delivered materials.

Contact your dealer if you have questions during installation.

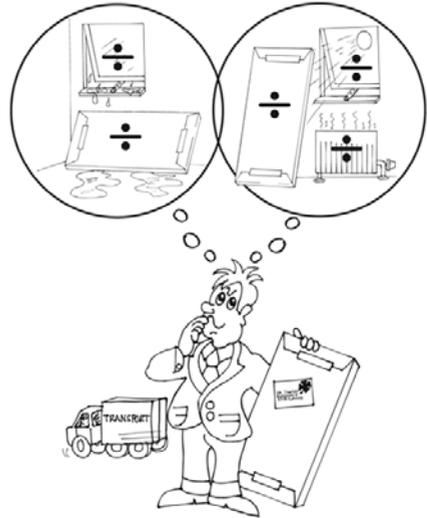
Otherwise refer to [www.spekva.com](http://www.spekva.com), where you can find additional information.

## Receipt and storage

Upon receipt we ask you to check to make sure that the packaging is intact and in proper condition, and that all items match those listed on the consignment note. If no comments are made on the consignment note, the items are considered approved and accepted by the recipient.

Worktops should be installed within 8 days of receipt. Store the slabs in their packing material horizontally on a level surface in the room where they are to be installed and with an ambient temperature of approximately 20°C and humidity level of 40 - 60% for at least 2 full days prior to installation. The room must have been heated and ventilated for at least 4 weeks prior to installation.

SPEKVA has adapted the worktop to your preferences, and we ask that before installation you check that the worktop has been constructed in accordance with the order, as SPEKVA does not cover costs for dismantling/reinstallation and associated consequences.

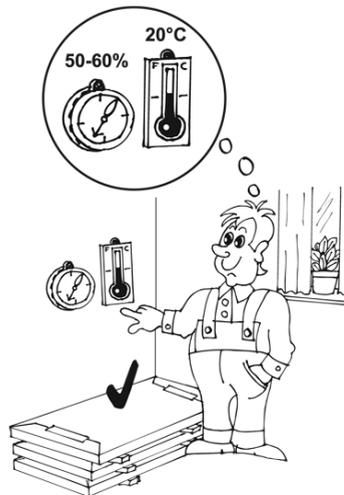


## Location

Wood is a living material that will always work in sync with humidity, which is affected by climate, such as cold, heat and moisture levels.

The slab may fluctuate in depth by +/- 5 mm per 600 mm.

It is therefore important that the slabs are given room to contract and expand either to the front edge or the rear edge with a joint of 3-5 mm at 600 mm depth.



## Jointing worktops

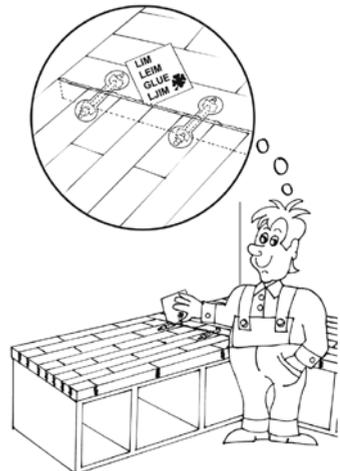
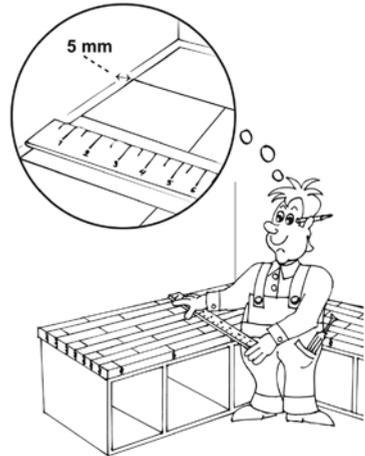
If there is a top on your cabinets, it is necessary to mark off where the mountings will be, and a cut-out must be created so that it is later possible to tighten from inside the cabinet once the worktop is placed on top of it.

The caulking included should be applied in a thin stripe along the top and bottom side of the slab, and this will act as a flexible adhesive to keep the joint tight. White carpenter's glue must not be used.

At the factory, a tongue is placed in the groove on the first slab to counteract warping in the joint.

The mountings are attached and the slabs are tightened together so that the joints are completely closed.

After the mountings are tightened, any excess caulk must be removed with a moist cloth immediately.



# Attachment

The worktop must be fastened at the front edge, middle and rear edge. The slabs are installed with 3 series of screws across the depth of the slab with a maximum of 600 mm between each screw in the worktop's longitudinal direction.

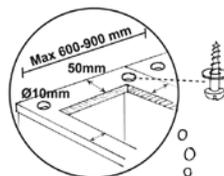
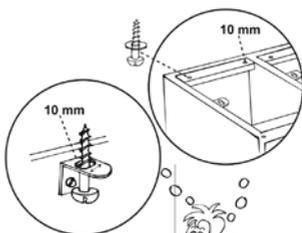
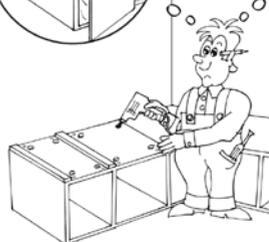
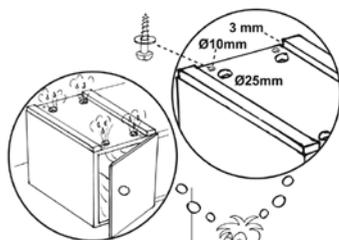
Screws with washers are screwed into the middle of the pre-drilled holes and up into the slab. Tighten the worktop at the rear edge, but do not overtighten the screws, as this will prevent the wood's natural expansion and contraction.

If the depth of the worktop is greater than 800 mm, the drill holes should be  $\varnothing$  15 mm.

If there is no top to the cabinets, use the included angle iron brackets at the middle of the cabinet sides.

The worktop should always be supported and attached. Where there is no cabinet, then strips to support the worktop must be installed.

Aluminium foil, with the blank side down, should be glued into any holes on the underside of the worktop, and airflow ensured. The aluminium foil is glued on with the caulking included before the slab is attached.



## Attachment of worktops with front edge strip

Worktops with a front edge strip must be supported with the support strips included.

The support strips are installed depth wise on the slab, at each body joint and at worktop joints, such as at corner slab solutions.

Holes measuring  $\varnothing$  10 mm are then drilled in the front edge and  $\varnothing$  5 mm holes are drilled in the back edge of the body next to the support strips.

The angle brackets included are then installed in the middle of the support strips, and the worktop is then attached at the front, middle and rear edge.

The worktop should always be supported and attached. Where there is no cabinet, then strips to support the worktop must be installed.

Aluminium foil must be glued into any holes on the rear side of the worktop, and airflow ensured.

## Attachment of the rear wall

In order to prevent the slabs from taking on moisture and becoming warped, one must always dress the rear side of the worktop with aluminium foil, with the blank side against the wall.

This will prevent penetration of moisture and cold.

Masonry must be dry prior to installation.

Make sure there is a gap for airflow between the rear wall and masonry.

## Attachment of worktops with end solution

Sliding screws are installed in the end grain on sidepiece solutions in order to avoid drying out from underfloor heating and water penetration, such as from floor washing, for example.

It is important that the end solution is supported by cabinet elements or sidewalls.

The worktop/end solution must then be fastened at the front edge, middle and rear edge. The slabs are installed with 3 series of screws across the depth of the slab with a maximum of 600 mm between each screw in the worktop's longitudinal direction.

Screws with washers are screwed into the middle of the round 10 mm holes and up into the slab. Do not overtighten the screws, as this will prevent the wood's natural expansion and contraction.

If the worktop's depth is greater than 800 mm, the drill holes should be  $\varnothing$  15 mm, and there must be several series of screws running depth wise (rule of thumb being 1 screw per 200 mm)

If there is no top to the cabinets, use the angle iron bracket included in the middle of the cabinet sides.

If you have ordered an end solution, where the end grain and side-cut wood are visible, we would like to point out that because of the expansion and contraction of wood, a difference in surface level may develop over time.

**IMPORTANT!!** End solutions cannot support cabinet elements.

## Jointing of worktops with dowel solutions

If you ordered a dowel solution from SPEKVA, jointing mountings are installed in the slabs.

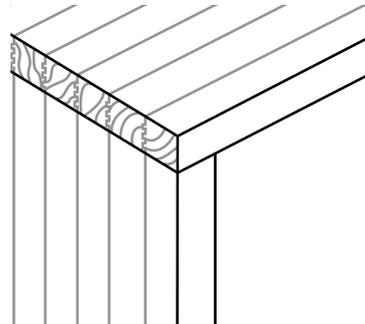
Apply the caulk included on the glue faces at the end. The slabs are pressed together.

The hardware is tightened with the unbrako wrench included. Remember to tighten.

Remember to wipe away any excess caulking.

If there are any sidewalls or mountings these are installed.

**IMPORTANT!!** End solutions cannot support cabinet elements.



# Jointing of worktops with the Unoflex solution.

If you ordered a Unoflex solution from SPEKVA, jointing mountings are installed in the slabs.

Apply the caulk included to the glue faces of the end wall. The slabs are pressed together.

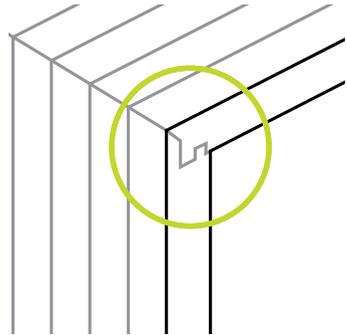
The hardware is tightened with the unbrako wrench included. Remember to tighten.

Remember to wipe away any excess caulking.

If there are any sidewalls or mountings, these are installed.

**IMPORTANT!!** End solutions cannot support cabinet elements.

Also see our online video addressing installation of Unoflex on [www.youtube.com/SPEKVA](https://www.youtube.com/SPEKVA)



# Attachment of end grain worktops

The worktop must be fastened at the front edge, middle and rear edge. The slabs are installed with 3 series of screws across the depth of the slab with a maximum of 600 mm between each screw in the worktop's longitudinal direction.

Screws with washers are screwed into the middle of the pre-drilled holes in the cabinet top and up into the slab, which is pre-drilled using a 3 mm drill crown.

Tighten the worktop at the rear edge, but do not overtighten the screws, as this will prevent the natural expansion and contraction of the wood.

If there is no top to the cabinets, the angle brackets included should be used, where a 10 mm hole is drilled through the angle brackets, which are installed in the middle of the cabinet sides.

## Dish washer, washing machines and range tops

Aluminium foil must be adhered to the bottom of the worktop, with the blank side down, when installing above heat sources such as a dishwasher, washing machine, range top or hot water heater.

Aluminium foil is glued in place with the caulk included before attaching the slab.

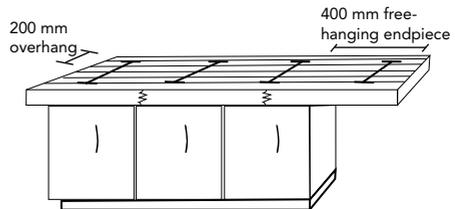
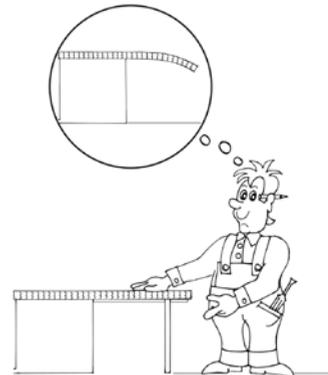
The aluminium foil should cover the entire depth of the worktop and should even extend over the side cabinets, where possible.

## Free-hanging worktops, radiators and cavities

Worktops with an overhang greater than 200 mm must always be reinforced on the underside in order to avoid warping, either with a sidewall or by fitting an iron reinforcement piece.

All worktops installed over any heat source must be dressed with aluminium foil on the underside.

The worktop must always be supported, including in window frames, and when installing over masonry the underside of the worktop should always be dressed with aluminium foil.



# Cut-outs, cooking plates and range tops

Range tops and cooking plates must not be placed closer than 200 mm from the slab joints and open worktop ends. For a closed joint/end edge there must be at least 100 mm and at least 60 mm from the front edge.

When installing a double hotplate, the distance must be at least 200 mm, as the wood would otherwise be subject to over drying, which could result in crack formations.

In order to ensure that the worktop can expand and contract, the cut-outs should always be 3-5 mm larger than the object they accommodate. Remember to cut from the back in order to avoid scratches and tears.

Cut-outs should be sealed properly with a thin layer of caulk, and then should be dressed with a piece of aluminium foil strip.

For free-standing range tops, slab units adjacent to the range should be sealed with caulking and dressed with aluminium foil strips.

Despite this sealing, minor crack formations may occur, which must be accepted as a natural consequence of heat, and which should then be immediately treated with SPEKVA's care products.



# Sinks and pipes

Avoid placing sinks and water pipes near joints. There should be a minimum of 200 mm to the edge.

The cut-out for the sink should be 5 mm larger than the sink (check the template) and the cut-out for water pipes should be made 3 mm larger than the pipe. When using an electric jig-saw, cut from the underside of the slab in order to avoid tears and scratches.

The cut-outs must be sealed properly with caulking or acid-free silicone and be completely watertight, as any unsealed sections may cause splitting and discoloration of the wood that cannot be repaired later.

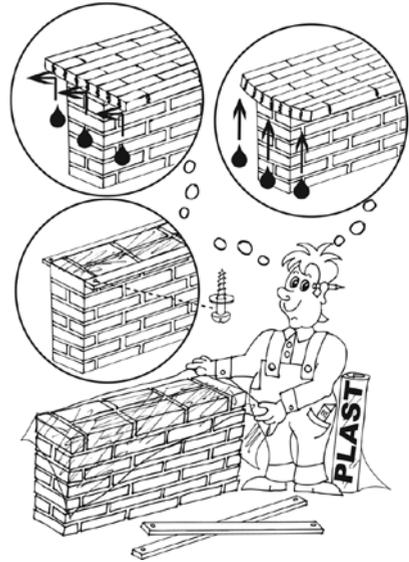
When installing a double sink it is important for there to be bottom support between them. The distance between the sinks must be a minimum of 200 mm.

## Masonry

On a brickwork cooking island or similar, the backside of the worktop should always be dressed with aluminium foil, blank side down, in order to prevent penetration by moisture, cold and heat.

After this a 5 mm airflow gap must be ensured under the slab by blocking with 5 mm strips between masonry and worktop. It is important for there to be "gaps" between the strips so that airflow can reach below the slab.

In order to prevent the slabs from absorbing moisture and warping, the edges and rear side of the worktop must be carefully dressed when installing on- or against masonry. Masonry must be dry prior to installation.



## Bar top

The bar top is supplied by the manufacturer with felt pads on the bottom in order to create airflow, and it is placed loose on the worktop.

The bar top should also be maintained on both sides in order to ensure that it remains even. See also maintenance instructions.

## Loose moulding strips

Loose moulding strips are set in caulk or acid-free silicone. Small tacks/screws should be used as extra fasteners.

## Online instructions

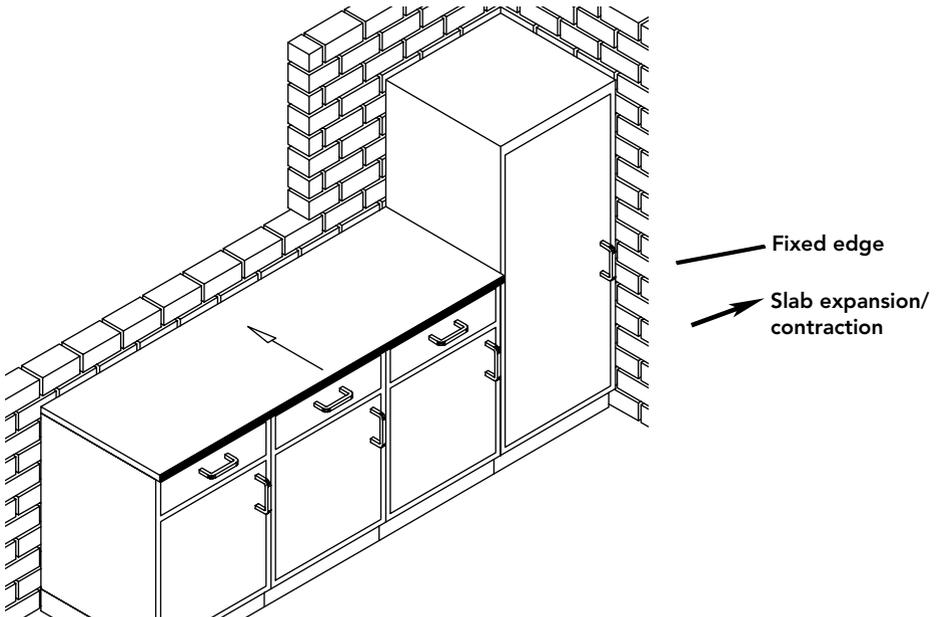
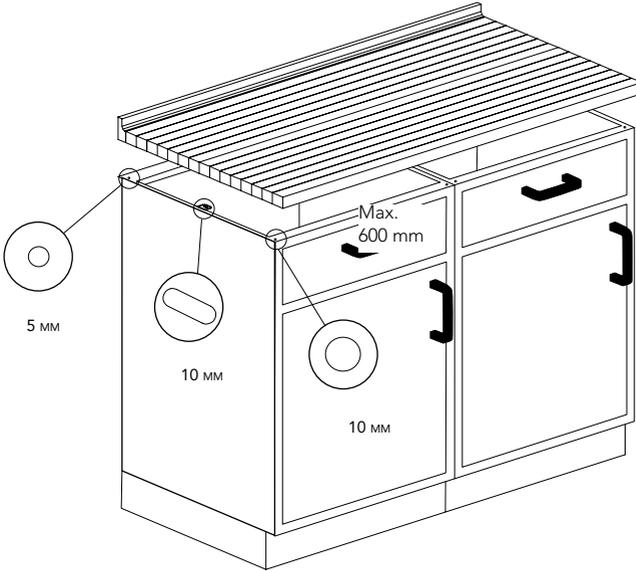
See also our videos on maintenance, installation and repair on

[www.spekva.com/guides/online](http://www.spekva.com/guides/online)

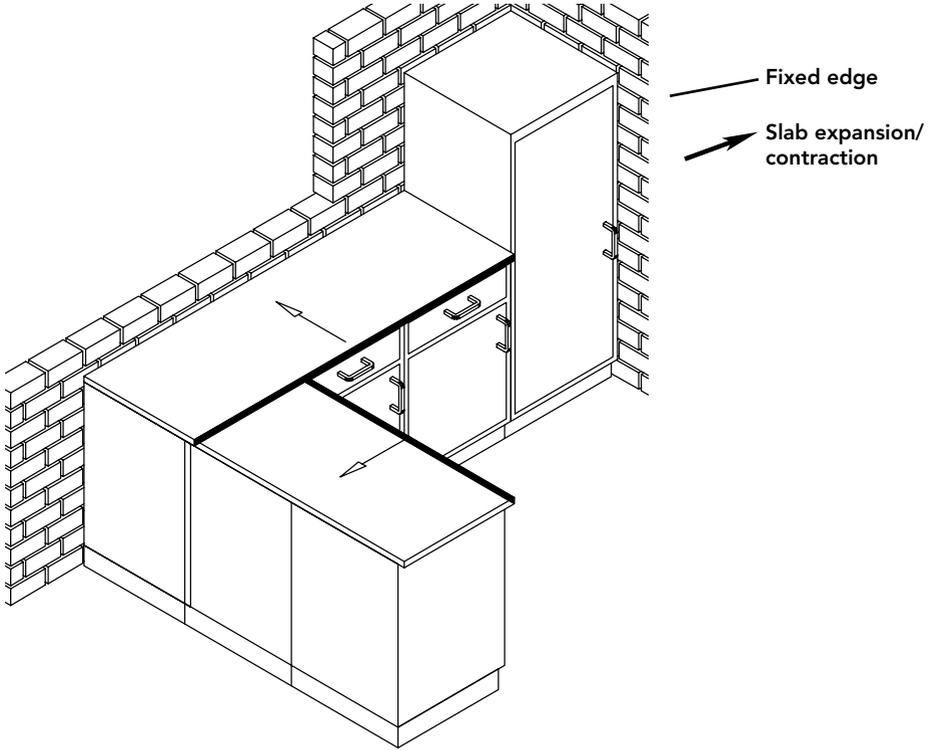
or follow the QR link directly to our videos on YouTube ([www.youtube.com/SPEKVA](http://www.youtube.com/SPEKVA)):



# Installation examples



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