

# **MISTRAL INSTALLATION ADVICE**

## **(7) CUT-OUTS**

### **General Advice**

#### **Safety**

- Use appropriate safety equipment while performing any jointing tasks.
- Always use effective extraction to remove debris from the working environment.

#### **Tooling**

- Ensure that the router bits you use are sharp and chip-free.
- Ensure that the bearings on the router are sound to prevent router chatter.
- Jigs must have minimum corner radii of 10mm.

#### **Performing the Operation**

- Check measurements repeatedly to avoid costly and time-consuming errors.
- Always allow slow or soft start tools to obtain full speed before beginning the cut.
- Perform the operation at a constant pace, in line with the recommendations of the router bit manufacturer.
- Use speed-cramps to hold the worktop in place whilst performing routing operations.
- Ensure all pieces, especially the cut-outs, are adequately supported.
- Always follow manufacturers' guidelines when fitting sinks or appliances.

### **Undermount Cut-outs**

These cut-outs should always be made with a jig and a router to ensure the accuracy and quality of the finished result.

- Place a sacrificial piece of 12mm MDF under the part of the worktop that you are performing the cut-out to aid debris control.
- Place the appropriate jig on the surface of the worktop and secure in place with clamps.
- Ensure that the jig is square to the front edge of the worktop (assuming that the sink hole is square to the outside of the jig).
- We would recommend that when forming the cut-out you use a 30mm and 32mm guide bush.

- Use the 32mm guide bush to create the cut-out, doing so with at least two router passes.
- Once the cut-out has been created remove the offcut, making sure that you do not damage the internal cut-out edges.
- The excess cut-out material should be left on site in case of any future instance of damage that requires specialist repair.
- Use the 30mm guide bush to provide a smooth finish with a single router pass.
- Now profile the internal top and bottom edges as required and finish to the specified level to match the worktop surface.

### **Overmount Cut-outs**

Ideally, these cut-outs should be made with a jig and a router for improved quality and accuracy of finish, but here we shall describe the alternative method.

- Place your template onto the surface and mark the surface around it with a pencil.
- Remove the template and measure the centre points for your corner holes.
- Drill a pilot hole with a 3mm drill bit in each of the corners to ensure that the spade bit used subsequently can be easily located.
- Use a 20mm spade bit to cut the holes in each of the corners.
- Insert the blade of the jigsaw into one of the corner holes and follow the pencil line to create the cut-out.
- Cut the left and right sides first and then attach the seaming tools onto the cut-out and the main part of the worktop to support the cut-out while you cut the other two sides.
- The excess cut-out material should be left on site in case of any future instance of damage that requires specialist repair.
- The internal edge of the cut-out must be sanded with 240 grit sandpaper to remove any micro fractures caused by the rough jigsaw cut and then the debris removed with denatured alcohol.
- If the cut-out is to be used for a hob, ensure that there is a 6mm gap between the hob and the cut-out face all the way round.
- If the cut-out is to be used for a hob, two layers of aluminium heat reflective tape should be placed around the internal face of the cut-out, overlapping the top by approximately 3mm.