



## **CARIBOU INSTALL GUIDELINES**

All Caribou surfaces come prefinished in **standard 1.75" thickness and standard ¼" round over edge**. The product used to finish surface is applied only in the factory due to the time and equipment intensive nature. Below you will find the manufacture recommended install practices and guidelines for the product. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will void any manufacture provided warranty.

**Templating Caribou** – Caribou should be measured wall to wall with appropriate room left to install top without damaging walls. No shrink/grow allowance is required for this product, Caribou will arrive as measured and remain that dimension.

**Templating for Sinks** – Sinks will be built to template generated exactly in factory, therefore sinks must have mandatory ¼" overhang calculated into the template. Minimum radius allowed is 5/8"

**Backsplash** – 4" x 10' x 7/8" thick backsplash is available in prefinished lengths to be cut on site. No other sizes are offered in wood backsplash.

**Transporting Caribou** – Caribou will arrive wrapped from factory, Caribou surfaces can be transported via A frame or flat pack.

**Installing Caribou** – Caribou is a 1.75" thick hardwood surface. Depending on cabinet rail thickness, typical #8 wood screws can be used. We recommend predrilling an appropriate guide hole to avoid any chance of splitting during install. Recommended screw size is dictated by rail size, see calculation below:

$$1" \text{ PENETRATION INTO SURFACE} + \text{THICKNESS OF CABINET RAIL} = \text{SCREW SIZE}$$

Adhesive is not required for this products installation.

$$\text{EXAMPLE: } 1" + 5/8" \text{ STANDARD RAIL} = 1-5/8" \text{ SCREW}$$

**Cutting Caribou** – Caribou can be cut using traditional woodworking tools. Any cut outs for taps, sinks, stoves or otherwise must be resealed. Please see resealing instructions below.

**Tap cut outs** – We recommend using a sharp hole saw as opposed to a spade bit for cutting holes in a Caribou surface. We have found that all but the sharpest spade bits cause the surface to "check" or splinter. All tap holes must be resealed after cutting. Please see resealing instructions below

**Top Mount Sink and Stove Cut Outs** – Manufacturer recommends using a wood specific jig saw blade in a medium tooth count for sink and stove cut outs. All top mount sinks and stove cut outs must be resealed. Please see resealing instructions below.

**Under mount Sink Install** – Under mount sink holes will come precut and finished from factory. Sinks are to have sink manufacturer provided flanges and brackets screwed into place with standard #8 wood screws. The seam separating the surface from the lip of the sink must be silicone with no penetrations to the underside of the surface.

**Scribing Caribou to uneven walls** – Caribou can be scribed most successfully with a power planer and belt sander. We recommend a 30 to 60 grit paper for best removal vs. surface condition. Scribes over ¼" in depth should first be cut with a jig saw, then belt sanded to scribe line.



**Countertop Mitre Installation** – Caribou Surfaces are all coated 6 sides (mitre included). Mitre joints are broken at the seam to allow for a noticeable joint, clients are prepped for this at time of sales. #20 biscuits and countertop bolts will be required for the installation of all mitre joints. Simply insert biscuits, push joint together, and add countertop bolts to the underside slots. Tighten bolts with an appropriate sized wrench, make snug, but do not overtighten.

**Re-sealing Instructions for all penetrations –**

**\*\* ALL CUTS AND PENETRATIONS MUST BE RE-SEALED TO MAINTAIN FACTORY WARRANTY \*\***

Cuts may be resealed with the products below, best to apply with either a brush or roller liberally on every cut edge or penetrations sealing the core from any potential future moisture. It is important for this product to maintain its “sealed 6 sides” integrity.

Both products are readily available at HOME DEPOT and manufacturer approved. Water based will need to be stored above 0 degrees to keep from freezing and carries little to no odor. This along with no harmful exposure and easy clean up makes it preferred. The oil based will not freeze in vans and trailers, but carries a strong smell and harmful effects of time to users. Please read cans carefully to determine best practice for your own install.



**Touch Ups** – End and Edge finish is unfortunately unable to be finished on site, any major site damage will require a return of the top. Smaller touch ups can be performed with Essie Matte Nail Polish, this is available at all your local pharmacy or box store and blends perfectly with our finish for smaller repairs.

*Any Further Installation Questions can be forwarded to [info@cariboublock.com](mailto:info@cariboublock.com) or:*

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