



Templating Over Existing Countertops

Congratulations on purchasing new stone countertops for your home! We look forward to providing you with the finest quality stone countertops available. You have chosen to have us laser field measure for your new tops over the existing countertops. While this minimizes the amount of downtime in your kitchen while your countertops are being fabricated, it means that we won't be able to check the underlying stability or level of your cabinets until we arrive with your new stone tops.

Cabinet Level

To assure the long term stability of your installation, the Natural Stone Institute recommends that your cabinets be level within 1/8" from front to back and side to side and that walls be straight within 1/4" over any 4' span. After removal of your tops, we will set the new countertops in place and check for level. If our installers have to shim your tops more than 1/8" they will show you the installation and ask for your approval of one of the following courses of action:

1. Proceed- If the tops require only a small amount of shimming, many people choose to proceed and caulk or install trim beneath the tops to hide the shims. We will be glad to caulk this line at your request but are not able to apply trim which should be done by a qualified trim carpenter.
2. Remove the tops- We will remove the tops and leave them at your home while a certified cabinet installer levels your cabinets. We work with several companies that are capable of performing this work and are happy to recommend one. After the cabinets are leveled, we will come back to complete your installation. **A \$75 trip charge will apply.**

Cabinet Stability

Most box frame cabinets are built to easily handle the load placed on them by stone countertops; however, some people have built-in-place or face frame cabinets that may not have the structural stability to handle a stone installation. The template technician will let you know if you will need to have extra supports added, but if there are existing tops in place, he may not be able to see where they might be needed. Our installer will let you know if he needs to put in additional supports. An additional fee may apply for this service. In very rare cases, cabinet installations will require work beyond the ability of our installers. We are happy to recommend a cabinet installer to handle those issues and will set aside your stone tops while that work is completed.

Wall Flatness

Unfortunately stone does not bend! Stone countertops and especially backsplash, will only go back to the highest spot on your wall. If wall flatness presents a problem, the gap can be caulked with the paint line brought down to the top of the splash. In extreme cases the wall should be re-mudded to bring the low spots out to the back side of the stone. While we are glad to apply caulk, (in a color that you supply) painting should be done by a qualified painting contractor and is not included in the price of your job.

I have read and received a copy of the above and agree to have templates made over the existing tops.

Signed _____

Date _____