



How do you measure and install a Cast Stone vanity top?

We do recommend that a licensed contractor or an experienced installer measure and install your Cast Stone product(s), however the measuring and installation of Cast Stone vanity tops is not difficult for someone who has the proper tools and knowledge in home repair projects.

First step to making sure your Cast Stone installs correctly is taking accurate measurements before ordering your vanity top.

1. Measure your cabinet length (left-to-right) and depth (front-to-back). Do not include drawer fronts when measuring your cabinet depth. Add 1" to all sides that will be open. This is for your vanity top "overhang". An overhang is the dimension the vanity top will hang over your cabinet. Standard vanity tops are 22" deep, including your overhang. Some overhangs can vary between ½" and 1". This is normal. Your cabinet may finish out at 21-1/8" in depth. In this case, you would keep your vanity top depth at the standard 22".
2. For wall-to-wall applications (surrounded by three walls), measure tight sheetrock to sheetrock and then deduct ¼" off the dimension. This will allow the "play-room" needed to get the vanity top in between the two walls. If your walls are out of square by more than ¼", you may use the lesser wall-to-wall dimension for your vanity top length or use the longest dimension and cut the vanity top to fit on-site. Side splashes should always be ordered with your vanity top. Side splashes will cover most gaps caused from out-of-square walls.
3. Centerline locations for the bowl(s) are done by measuring from the wall side(s) to the center of your cabinet doors. If you have to measure from a side that will be open, add the overhang dimension on that side to your bowl centerline to accommodate the dimension added for your vanity top overhang. For example, if your bowl centerline is measured at 12" from an open side and the overhang you added was 1" to the length of the top, then your centerline for your bowl would need to be 13".

Before you begin the remodeling process, follow these helpful tips:

1. Do not paint or wallpaper your bathroom before your cabinet and/or vanity top are replaced. There will always be differences in your existing products and your new products. Your existing paint or wallpaper may also be scuffed, scratched or stripped during the remodeling process. This is unavoidable in some cases and should be expected, especially with wall-to-wall applications. You should have plans in place to replace your wallpaper or paint, if needed, after your new vanity installation is complete.
2. Do not replace mirrors before the cabinet and/or vanity top are replaced. In some cases, such as wall-to-wall applications, the mirror may need to be removed before the vanity top can be

replaced. This is usually required if the mirror is sitting on top of your existing vanity top's backsplash or if limited space is available in the work area.

3. If your mirror has to be removed before the vanity top is installed, also expect that a new mirror may need to be purchased and installed, especially with older mirrors that are glued onto the wall. When mirrors are removed that have been glued to the wall, the backside of the mirror may become stripped or the mirror may not come down in one piece. This can be unavoidable and should be kept in mind before your remodeling begins.
4. Always have a plumber check out the existing plumbing before work begins. This will let you know if shut-off valves, new supply lines, etc. will be needed when replacing your vanity top's plumbing fixtures. New plumbing fixtures are recommended.
5. Prepare to use another bathroom temporarily while your remodeling process is under way.

When ready to begin the installation of your Cast Stone Vanity top make sure there are enough people present to get the vanity top in the bathroom and on the cabinet. Cast Stone marble is not as heavy as natural stone. It does however have enough weight to require at least two people to move the product(s) from one location to another in most cases. Tools and materials you may need include a measuring tape, skill saw, masonry blade, belt sander, caulking gun, rags, paintable caulk and 100% silicone. You may not need all of these tools; however you may want to have them on hand in case you need them. When you are ready to install your vanity top follow these guidelines:

1. Check the cabinet base to make sure it is level and flat. If the cabinet is not flat, the vanity top will not install properly.
2. If the vanity top is being installed in a wall-to-wall setting, a belt sander with a course sanding belt or a skill saw with a masonry blade may be used to cut or trim the vanity top if needed. Cut from the underside, where the marble is unfinished, so that no chipping will occur on the finished face side of your vanity top. Start cutting at the backsplash and cut towards the front of the vanity top. Make sure the top is secure before cutting. Never cut or sand a finished end (open end) on a vanity top. This will remove the gel coat and will require extensive repair work by an experienced service technician.
3. Always use 100% mildew/mold resistant silicone where marble meets marble and paintable caulk where the marble will meet the sheetrock. Apply a bead of silicone underneath the vanity top where it meets the cabinet.
4. If you have side splashes or separate backsplashes, attach these to the sheetrock with silicone. Apply a bead of silicone where the bottom of the side splash meets the marble vanity top.
5. Use paintable caulk on the top of all splashing and around the perimeter of the vanity top where paint will be applied.
6. Use your manufacturer's directions to install your plumbing fixture(s). DO NOT over tighten the drain; one turn past hand tight is sufficient.
7. Always keep the protective wrap on your vanity top until all work is complete in your bathroom. This will help to avoid any damage to your Cast Stone during the construction process.
8. After all work is complete in your bathroom, you can then remove all protective wrapping and clean your vanity top thoroughly using the cleaning methods described in the care and maintenance section.