

Maia installation - Quick start guide

- Make sure you have enough jointing kits or adhesives for the number of joints or edges in the installation.
- You don't need to sand the whole of the worktop. The factory finish is to the same level as is achieved by using the jointing kit correctly - 3 sandpapers and the finishing pad (120, 240 & 320 grit then Scotchbrite 7447 red). Follow the same process for edging too.
- Check for colour consistency – once the product is installed, it is deemed as having been accepted by you. Occasionally the 'particulate' is dispersed differently in different areas of the full length of the worktop – you may find that using a different part, where possible, will deliver a more precise match. Additional sanding will not normally alter the colour.
- Use of the tongues in joints is imperative and should not be missed. One of their key purposes is to maximise the surface area that the adhesive bonds. Without them your joint may be inferior and will be not covered by our warranty.
- Have you got a grooving cutter suitable for cutting the groove for the tongues?
- Make sure the joint is thoroughly clean. Any pencil marks, grease from a router bit, fluff from a cleaning rag or other dirt will show in your finished joint – particularly on lighter colours. Jointing kits and adhesive packs now include isopropyl alcohol wipes for cleaning surfaces that are to be bonded.
- Always dry fit the worktops before bonding to check that the cut of the joint is precise. As the router tends to deflect at the end of the cut, you may need to flatten this with a sanding block.
- Use two layers of masking tape approximately 2mm either side of the joint. This will limit the spread of the excess adhesive and reduce finishing time. Lightly scrape off the excess adhesive but make sure a good bead is left as the adhesive shrinks very slightly as it cures.
- Mix the adhesive thoroughly in the bag. Remove the grey strip and mix the two parts together for around 1 minute or use the grey strip to run the mixture 20 times from one end of the bag to the other.
- When planting on edging, aligning it to the bottom edge of the worktop will simplify the process of sanding down the excess material. It is often difficult to sand the underside of the edging due to adjacent cabinetry etc.
- Leave a Scotchbrite pad with the householder to use in the regular care of their surface. Normally Cif will be sufficient but some marks will need further attention. It may also be worth leaving a small offcut so that they can make sure they are comfortable with the use of the pad before moving on to their worktops.
- The maia care kit includes various materials that enable the householder to maintain their worktops. The kit is available from selected retailers or from the maia website as below.
- Have you seen our installation DVD? This is available for free download from

www.maiaworksurfaces.co.uk

**If you are in doubt about any part of the installation of this product –
now is the time to ask.**

Maia

Over short period of time in use in the home, maia worktops will develop a smoother finish and appearance. In the first days after installation the dry finish of the surface may show finger marks more readily than it will do when it has achieved this 'patina'.

Regular cleaning with warm soapy water is the usual first step to remove surface marks. If grease marks remain, the gentle abrasive of Cif Cream cleaner will remove most marks without harming the surface at all. This sort of cleaning has a positive effect on maia. For very stubborn grease marks or burnt on areas of fat splashes for instance, Fairy Power Spray will cut through this very easily.

It is possible to enhance the surface lustre by using Countertop Magic #; as with any treatment of this nature, the application has to be repeated in order to maintain the same finish across all areas of the kitchen.

Initial treatment and cleaning –

First ensure that your maia worksurface is thoroughly cleaned with warm soapy water or Fairy Power Spray to remove any greasy residues. A mild abrasive cream cleaner such as Cif cream is also a good part of your regular maintenance regime.

Countertop Magic

Countertop Magic is designed to give a lustre to solid surface worktops – this will be particularly noticeable on darker décors. It will also help to build up the natural patina of your surface and a protective layer that will repel dirt and liquids.

Use daily when your maia worktops are first installed, after the first week this can then be reduced to a weekly application.

Apply the cleaner using the microfibre cloth# and buff to leave a streak free finish.

Countertop Magic will not remove scuffs or scratches but can mask the effect.

• WHENEVER TRYING TO REMOVE MARKS OR SCRATCHES ALWAYS TRY THE LEAST SEVERE METHOD FIRST •

1) Everyday marks

Using a mild abrasive cleaner such as Cif cream, work in a circular motion; wipe away all residue and buff dry. Apply Countertop Magic if applicable.

2) Fine scuffs and scratches

Cover the affected area with a liberal amount of soapy water. Place the Scotch-Brite™ pad # onto the wet surface and, using a sanding block # or firm sponge to ensure even spread of pressure, rub over the affected area in a circular motion. A slight paste will be generated that aids the scouring process and helps to maintain the original level of surface finish.

Repeat step 1.

If marks are still evident, repeat the Scotch-Brite™ process or, in the case of deeper scratches, move on to step 3.

3) Removal of deeper scratches

Ensure that the surface is clean and dry before starting. Place the sanding disc # onto the sanding block ensuring that it is located correctly and wrapped onto both sides of the block.

Using small circular movements, work a small area around the affected part of the surface. A small amount of dust will be generated – this will need to be wiped off to check progress and before moving onto the next step.

When the mark has been removed the repaired area will retain very fine sanding marks; these are removed by repeating step 2 and then step 1 to blend in the refurbished area. Each time you move back through the steps, work a slightly wider area so as to help this blend in.

Items marked with '#' are included as part of the maia Care Kit available from retailers or at www.maiaworksurfaces.co.uk