Outdoor kitchen

Design & installation guidelines

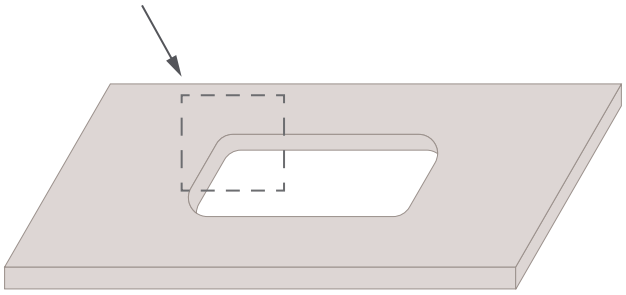
Vers. EN-0/2021

LAPITEC

DESIGN

When making worktops for outdoor kitchens with a grill or barbecue, follow the recommendations given below.

All internal corners in holes must have a minimum radius of 3/8”.



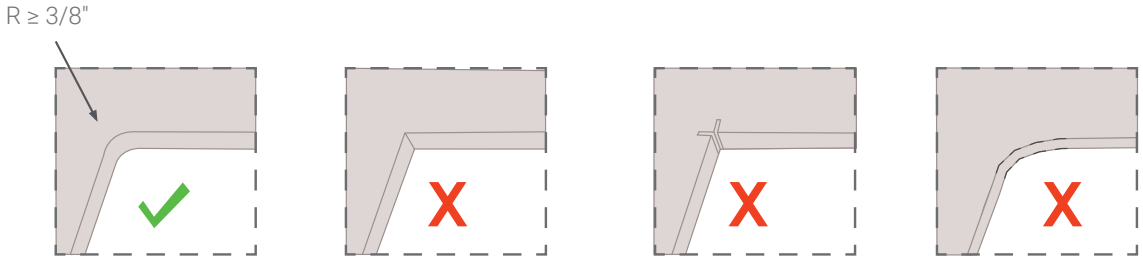
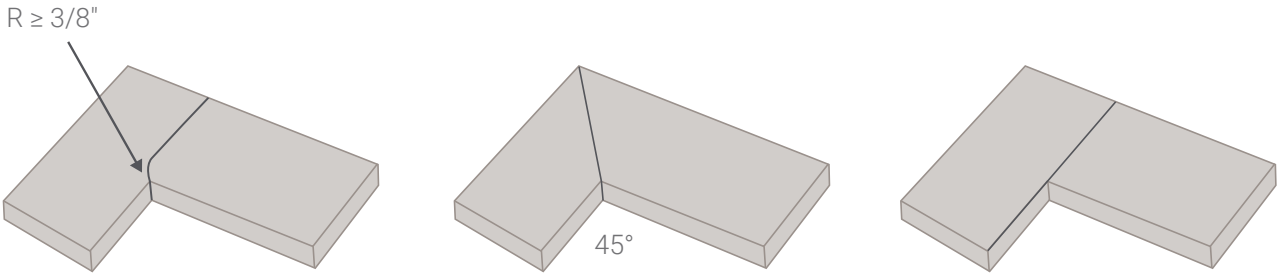


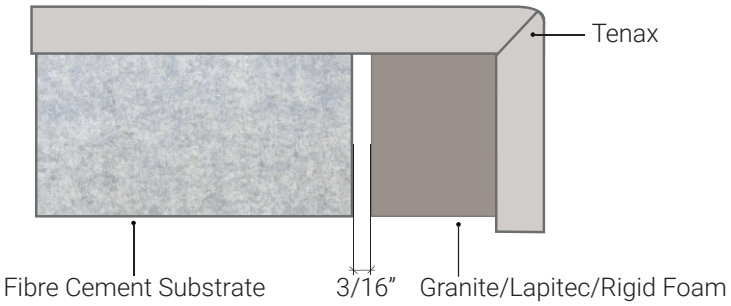
Figure **1** Figure **2** Figure **3** Figure **4**

When possible, we would recommend applying a seam for L-Shaped tops to avoid reducing the structural strength of the top, due to leveling concerns.



In the case of aprons or laminations, the recommended practice is to create fibre cement substrate under the top and leave a gap of at least 3/16" between top and the apron substrate to absorb possible thermal expansion.

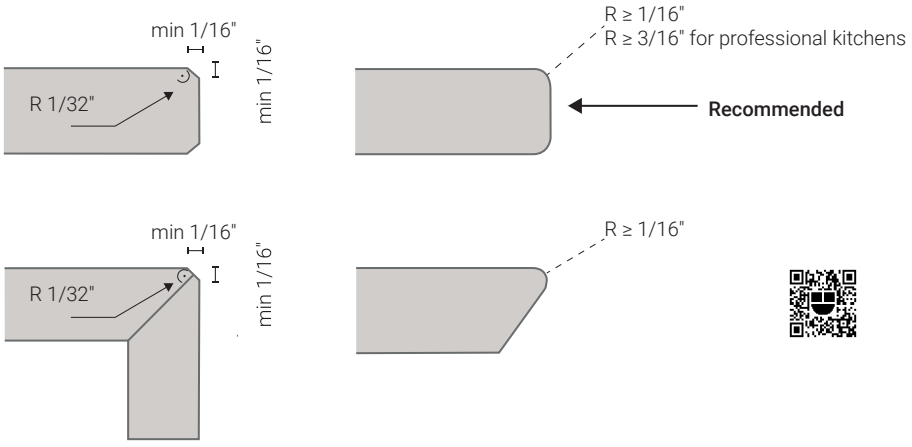
Use suitable adhesives for outdoor applications, choosing the type based on the local weather conditions (such as Strongbond and Frozebond adhesives, developed by Lapitec in collaboration with Tenax - see specific indications in the heading ASSEMBLY USING ADHESIVES in the processing manual).



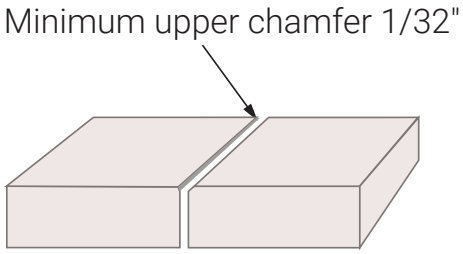
Warnings

If the working temperatures exceed the temperatures stated in the adhesive technical datasheets, Lapitec suggests adopting a solution without apron, with exposed edges and no use of adhesive bonding.

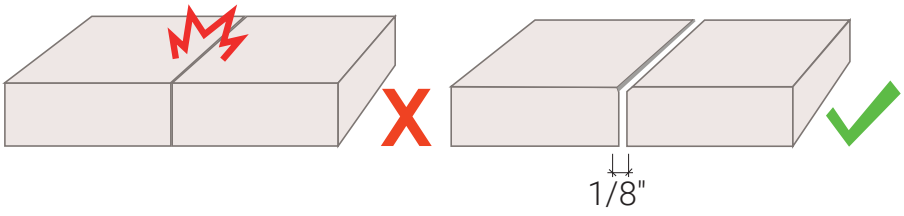
Finish the edges as per the indications in the drawing. The indications are the best compromise between appearance and function, while also greatly reducing the risk of chipping the edges.



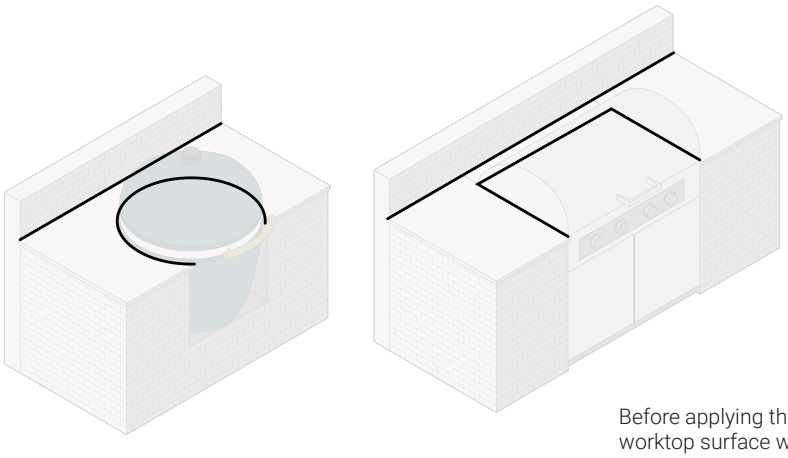
Machine a chamfer of at least 1/32” on the top edges for joints between two adjoining worktops. This will reduce the risk of edge chipping during installation.



Since the surface is exposed to big temperature differences, make joints at least 1/8” wide. Joints should be sealed with silicone in the required color.

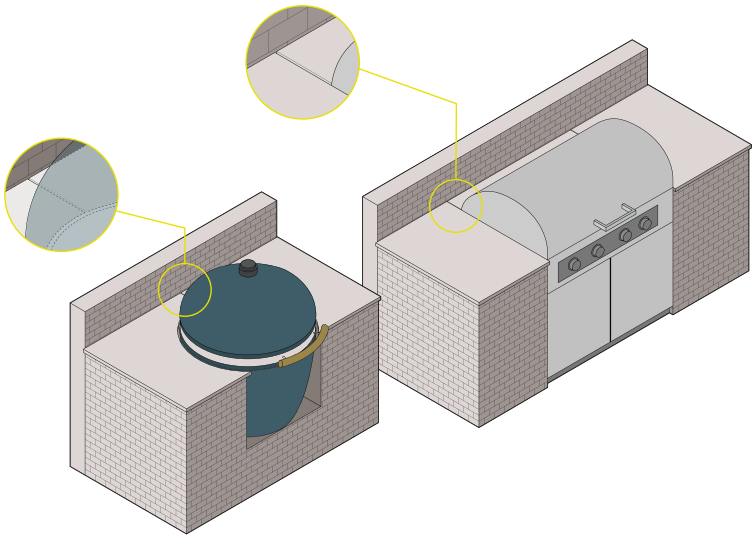


Avoid direct contact between Lapitec® tops and barbecues, metal structures, and any materials subject to significant thermal expansion. Leave a gap of at least 3/16" between the Lapitec® worktops elements of this type, sealing it with colored heat-resistant silicone to prevent water infiltration. Also, when installing Lapitec® worktops against a wall, leave a 3/16" gap and seal it with silicone.



Before applying the silicone, protect the worktop surface with adhesive tape.

For partially recessed barbecues, cut the part of the top behind the barbecue as shown in the drawing.

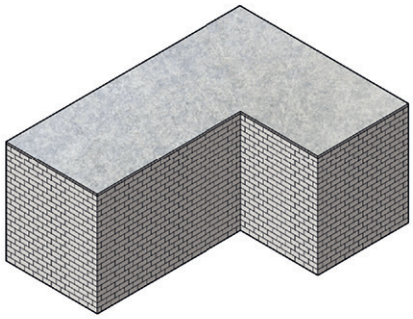


Lapitec® recommends Mapei MAPESIL LM, Sika SIKASIL C, Ardex SX Sealant, Laticrete LATASIL, or an equivalent product. Make sure the temperature range of the above products is suitable for the requirements of your project.

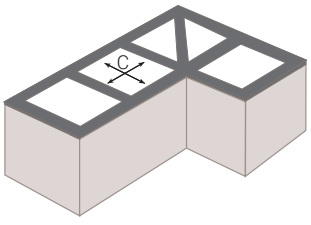
INSTALLATION

Important: the resting base on which the Lapitec® worktop is resting must be flat, level, and structurally robust.

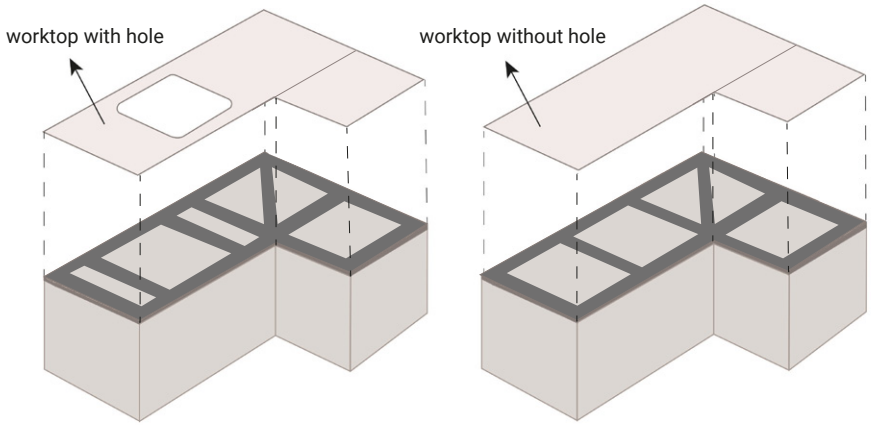
For brick-built kitchens, provide for a substrate for the entire area of the worktop. Lapitec® suggests using GRC panels at least 1/2'' thick as supporting surface adequately fixed to the resting base. If the resting base is insufficiently solid, add support bars. Do not use marine plywood. A supporting substrate is required for all Lapitec® thicknesses, or check with the supplier that this support is suitable and stable for outdoor application.



In the case of kitchens composed of modular units, use units with a solid top to provide greater support for the Lapitec® worktop. If solid top units are not available, use supports as per the table below.

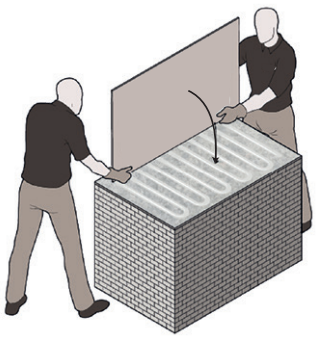
Required support	Thicknesses 1/2"	3/4"	1 1/4"	Drawing
Max recommended spans Maximum load 130 kg	C ≤ 10"	C ≤ 17 3/4"	C ≤ 23 1/2"	

If the worktop has one or more holes (sink, barbecue, etc.) the parts most subject to stress must be adequately supported to ensure the worktop is sufficiently stable.

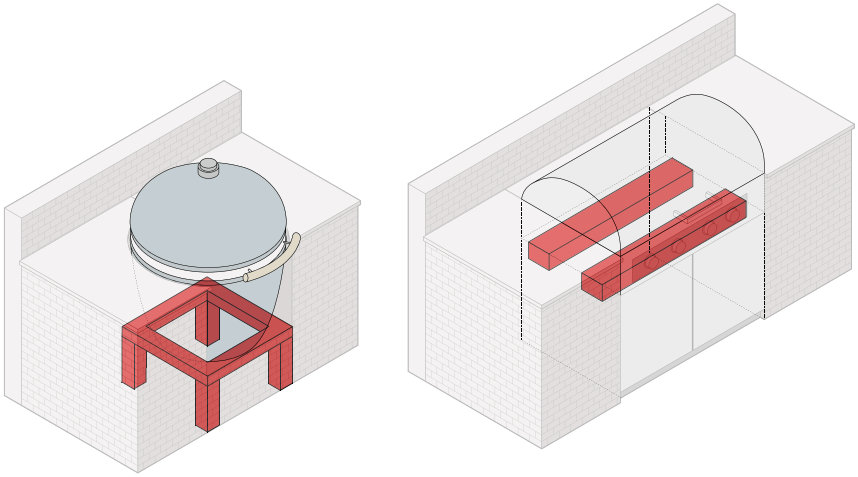


The Lapitec® top must be bonded to the substrate using polyurethane adhesives: avoid cement-based or epoxy adhesives, which may be too rigid and unsuitable for the temperatures reached by the worktop (see adhesive manufacturers). Lapitec® recommends Mapei ULTRABOND ECO PU 2K, Sika SikaForce 479 L45, Ardex 90, Laticrete LATAPOXY 300, or an equivalent product. Make sure the temperature range of the above products is suitable for the requirements of your project.

It is important to check that the substrate is perfectly flat before bonding on the worktop. Whether the support is a full-size solid substrate, or a structural frame, apply a full bed of adhesive to ensure the adhesive is evenly distributed over the entire support.



Lapitec® recommends that the barbecue be held by a suitable support rather than resting directly on the finished surface. With this method, the weight of the barbecue is not supported directly by the worktop, and provides the ease of pulling out the BBQ without potentially scratching the surface or damaging the BBQ.



For more details on assembly of the barbecue resting base, see the related manufacturer's manual.

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