## Industry Quality Standard Checklist - Countertops

ILG must comply with all industry quality standards, and therefore all of ILG's independent contractors must do so as well. These quality standards include supplier/ manufacturer requirements for their products, standards published by industry trade associations and similar bodies, and other common and generally followed standards in the industry (collectively "Industry Quality Standards").

## 1. Material Inspection:

- Verify the quality and grade of the countertop material (granite, marble, quartz, etc.).
- Check for any visible defects such as cracks, chips, or discoloration.
- Inspect the edges of the countertop for smoothness and consistency.
- Ensure that the edge profiles (beveled, bullnose, etc.) match the design specifications.

## 2. Measurements:

Confirm that the countertop dimensions match the specifications and template.

Ensure that all cutouts for sinks, cooktops, and other fixtures are correctly placed and sized.

## 3. Surface Preparation:

Verify that the base cabinets are level and securely fastened.

Check that the surface is clean and free of debris before installation.

## 5. Adhesion:

Check that the countertop is securely adhered to the cabinets using the recommended adhesives.

Verify that the adhesive is evenly applied and has fully cured.

## 6. Backsplash:

- Confirm that the backsplash is correctly aligned and securely attached to the wall.
- Check for proper sealing at the joint between the countertop and backsplash.

## 7. Sink and Fixture:

- Ensure that the sink cutouts are accurately sized and positioned.
- Drill the fixture holes, as required, in the correct locations.
- Verify that the sinks and other fixtures are securely mounted and properly sealed to prevent leaks.

## 8. Level and Alignment:

Check that the countertop is level

#### 4. Seams and Joints:

Ensure that the seams are tight, level, and properly aligned.

Verify that the seams are filled with the appropriate adhesive or sealant and are smooth to the touch. across its entire surface.

Ensure that the countertop is aligned correctly with the cabinets and walls.

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# Industry Quality Standard Checklist - Countertops (cont.)

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## 9. Finish and Polish:

Inspect the surface finish for uniformity and smoothness.

Verify that any polishing is even and consistent across the entire countertop.

## 10. Sealant (if applicable):

Ensure that the countertop surface has been properly sealed.

Check for uniform application of the sealant and absence of streaks or bubbles.

## 11. Hardware Installation:

- Verify that any installed hardware (brackets, supports, etc.) is secure and correctly positioned.
- Ensure that the hardware does not interfere with the functionality of the countertop.

#### 12. Cleanliness:

Inspect the countertop for any residue, dust, or debris.

Ensure that the installation area is clean and free of any installation materials.

Cover the countertop with paper or plastic after installation, if required.





# **Industry Quality Standard:** Countertop Installation

#### **Standard References**

- ANSI/KCMA A161.1 Performance & Construction Standard for Kitchen and Vanity Cabinets.
- ASTM C97/C97M Standard Test Methods for Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone.
- ASTM C503/C503M Standard Specification for Marble Dimension Stone.
- ASTM C1028 Standard Test Method for Determining the Static Coefficient of Friction of Ceramic Tile and Other Like Surfaces by the Horizontal Dynamometer Pull-Meter Method.
- ANSI/NSC 373 Sustainable Production of Natural Dimension Stone.
- The Marble Institute of America (MIA) Dimension Stone Design Manual Provides detailed guidance on the selection, design, installation, and maintenance of stone countertops.
- The National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) Kitchen Planning Guidelines -Offers comprehensive guidelines on kitchen layout and design, including countertops.
- The Tile Council of North America (TCNA) Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation - Contains detailed information on the installation of tile and stone countertops.
- Marble Institute of America (MIA) / Natural Stone Institute (NSI) Standards
- Dimension Stone Design Manual
- MIA Accreditation Program Standards
- Building Stone Institute (BSI) Publications
- Building Stone Magazine and Technical Bulletins