

# Wilsonart® THINSCAPE™ Performance Tops

## Home Depot Installation

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### GENERAL SAFETY

Read directions carefully before fabricating/installing Wilsonart® THINSCAPE® Performance Tops. Always use safety glasses or approved eye protection and/or face shield and ear/noise protectors. Always follow product, equipment and/or tool manufacturer's recommendations and instructions carefully.

### Unpacking and Inspecting the THINSCAPE Performance Top

Inspect top before installing for any damage that may have occurred during delivery.

### Tools and Protective Items Needed

- Keep Nut Inserts Keep-Nut™ insert (IM2S-P1.4-20/H6). <https://www.chemical-concepts.com/>
- Thread cutting screws Type F point thread cutting screw with a machine screw thread with a blunt tapered point, having multi-cutting edges and chip cavities.
- Cordless Drill
- Drill Bit
- Hammer
- Silicone (100%) / Silicone/Caulk Gun
- Tape Measure
- Hot Melt Glue Gun and Glue Sticks
- Clean Shop Towels
- Safety Eyewear
- Safety Gloves

### Preparation

- Clean cabinet rails from debris and any other obstructions.
- Make sure the cabinet is level and secure to the wall.
- Measure the new top and compare measurements to the cabinet.
- Provide minimum 1/8" (3.2mm) gap at all walls.

**NOTE: Wilsonart® THINSCAPE® Performance Tops are designed to be delivered and installed without any modifications. If modifications such as cutting, and/or finishing of edges are required, refer to back of page.**

### INSTALLATION

- Do not install Wilsonart® THINSCAPE® Performance Tops over a solid substrate.
- Cabinet framing should run the front to back of cabinet at every 24" inches.
- Installation is recommended to be conducted by two people.
- Dry-fit the THINSCAPE® Performance Top to ensure that all measurements are correct. Scribe to wall as necessary.
- THINSCAPE must be secured with 100% silicone sealant. **(DO NOT APPLY CONSTRUCTION MASTIC)**
- Lift front edge of top high enough to apply 100% silicone. Apply dime size dots every 12" – 18" along the back of cabinet supports.
- Apply an 1/8" (3.2MM) lineal bead along the entire front cabinet frame length.
- Allow 24 to 48 hours for the silicone to cure properly; see manufacturer's recommendations.

If additional securing is required mechanical fastening is recommended with either Type F Thread Cutting Screw or Keep Nut Insert installation.

### Thread Cutting Screw Installation

- When using Type F Thread Cutting Screws, L-bracket or Figure 8 fastener, along with 100% silicone. **(DO NOT APPLY CONSTRUCTION MASTIC)**
- Dry-fit the THINSCAPE® Performance Top to ensure that all measurements are correct. Scribe to wall as necessary.
- Attach brackets or fasteners to corners of cabinet bases using wood screws.
- Pre-mark holes to be drilled by placing the slab on the cabinet base in correct location and mark with a pencil through bracket or fastener.
- Flip top over and pre-drill holes using appropriate drill bit and stop collar. **Be sure and clean out holes to allow room for Type F screw.**
- Flip the slab back over, and align the holes in the slab with the bracket or fasteners. See above for 100% silicone application instructions.
- Insert / screw the Type F thread cutting screws into the slab, being careful not to over tighten.

### Keep-Nut Installation

- When using Keep-Nut inserts, threaded stems, wingnuts and L-Brackets along with 100% silicone. **(DO NOT APPLY CONSTRUCTION MASTIC)**
- Dry-fit the THINSCAPE® Performance Top to ensure that all measurements are correct. Scribe to wall as necessary.
- Attach L-bracket to corners of cabinet bases using wood screws.
- Pre-mark holes to be drilled by placing the slab on the cabinet base in correct location and mark with a pencil through L-bracket.
- Flip top over and pre-drill holes using Keep-Nut drill bit (11.8mm) and stop collar.
- Using Keep-Nut setting tool and a hammer, insert Keep-Nut inserts into pre-drilled holes by tapping into place and insert threaded stems.
- Flip the slab back over, and align the holes in the slab with the bracket or fasteners. See above for 100% silicone application instructions.
- Insert the threaded stems and tighten with wing nuts.

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### Installation of Backsplash

- Dry-fit the backsplash to ensure proper fitting prior to securing to wall.
- Apply 100% silicone to adhere backsplash to countertop and walls.
- Apply a ¼" (6mm) continuous bead to the bottom of backsplash to be adhered to countertop.
- Apply dime sized dots of silicone every 6" to backside of backsplash.
- Secure the backsplash to the countertop and wall; hot melt adhesive can be used to hold in place until the silicone cures.
- Vertical interactions at side splashes, between backsplash, require a bead of silicone as well.
- Remove excess silicone squeeze-out and finish silicone to desired look.

### CUTTING & ROUTING

**NOTE: If modifications such as cutting and/or finishing of edges are required, these can be accomplished by using standard wood working tooling. Refer to the Wilsonart® THINSCAPE® Performance Tops Fabrication Manual for complete instructions at: [www.wilsonart.com/thinscape](http://www.wilsonart.com/thinscape).**

The following tools are in addition to the list of tools and protective items needed on front page.

#### Hand & Power Tools:

- Skill Saw with Carbide Saw Blade (Good quality carbide proves effective for small projects). Triple chip designs have shown to provide good cut quality. Slight Negative to No Hook.
- Jig Saw (20 tooth per inch) designed for laminate cutting
- Random Orbital Sander
- Dust collection system (suggested)
- Sanding Disks (Micron / Grit)
- Mirka Abralon® pads / Scotch Brite pads
- Straight Edges (Phenolic or Aluminum)
- Clamps
- Router (Options)
- 1½ -2½ HP with ½" (13mm) collet (edge details)
- General Router Bits (cutters with ½" diameter shanks are recommended)
- ½" (13mm) Straight cut
- 1" (25.4mm) Top bearing flush trim bit

When cutting Wilsonart® THINSCAPE™ Performance Tops, cutting rates and feed speeds play a major role in quality of cuts during machining. When cutting Wilsonart® THINSCAPE™ Performance Tops, slower feed-speeds should be expected due to the density of the material (as compared to HPL on particleboard/MDF). Rate of advance of the cutter (chip load) should be .001"-.002".

While surface wear inhibitors can be a factor in tool life, the enemy in any machining process is heat.

#### Hand Routing

For best results, finished edges of Wilsonart THINSCAPE Performance Tops should be routed/milled. Rough cut panels to approximately 1/16" before finish routing. It is best to use cutters with larger diameter shanks (1/2"). However, smaller tools may be used with minimal feed rates and trim amounts. Two-flute carbide straight cutting bits work well for trimming.

### Finishing

Machining edges will normally result in slight-to-moderate cutter/kerf marks. All edges should be sanded smooth and free of sharp corners and kerf marks, which result in stress points. These edges can be finished by using a random orbital sander to smooth the edges until they possess an attractive appearance. Edge finishing is a multi-step sanding process that utilizes large-to-small grit.

Similar to Solid Surface finishing, the final finish using the following sanding steps are the recommend finishes:

#### Finishing Chart

Finish Type	USA Grit	3M™ Micron
Matte Finish	150, 180, 220 Grit Finish Mirka Abralon 360 / Maroon Scotch Brite Pad #7447	100, 80, 60 micron Finish Mirka Abralon 360 / Maroon Scotch Brite Pad #7447
Satin Finish	150, 180, 220 Grit Finish Mirka Abralon 1000 / Grey Scotch Brite Pad #7448	100, 80, 60 micron Finish Mirka Abralon 1000 / Grey Scotch Brite Pad #7448

**NOTE: If a modification was made to an exposed edge, such as cutting and/or finishing of edges, all exposed edges will require the same refinishing to have a uniform appearance. When finishing an edge, care should be taken at the transition to the face in order to minimize the "feathering" of the top horizontal decorative surface.**

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE – WILSONART® THINSCAPE® PERFORMANCE TOPS

Everyday cleaning of this product is as simple as a quick wipe with a damp cloth or sponge, as it is resistant to muddy fingerprints, and so much more. To clean the surface, use a damp cloth or sponge and a mild soap or detergent. Rinse thoroughly with warm water, and wipe dry. Difficult stains can be removed using a mild household cleaner/detergent and a soft bristled brush, repeating as necessary. Please visit [www.wilsonart.com/thinscape](http://www.wilsonart.com/thinscape) for complete Care & Maintenance instructions, including approved cleaners.

#### Recommended Household Cleaners

Windex, Glass Plus, Fantastik, Mr. Clean, Formula 409, Isopropyl Alcohol (Isopropanol)

NOTE: Prolonged exposure to bleach will cause discoloration. Do not use toilet bowl cleaners or other abrasive cleaners.

For additional information, questions, or technical assistance, please contact our Wilsonart Smartline at 800.433.3222 or [smartline@wilsonart.com](mailto:smartline@wilsonart.com), Monday through Friday, 8am – 5pm, CST.