

SECTION 123600 COUNTERTOPS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 SECTION INCLUDES

- A Countertops for architectural cabinet work.

1.02 RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A Section 064100 - Architectural Wood Casework.

1.03 REFERENCE STANDARDS

- A ANSI A208.1 - American National Standard for Particleboard 2022.
- B ASTM E84 - Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials 2023.
- C AWI (QCP) - Quality Certification Program Current Edition.
- D AWI/AWMAC/WI (AWS) - Architectural Woodwork Standards, 2nd Edition 2014, with Errata (2016).
- E AWMAC/WI (NAAWS) - North American Architectural Woodwork Standards 2021, with Errata.
- F NEMA LD 3 - High-Pressure Decorative Laminates 2005.
- G PS 1 - Structural Plywood 2019.

1.04 SUBMITTALS

- A Product Data: Manufacturer's data sheets on each product to be used, including:
 - 1. Preparation instructions and recommendations.
 - 2. Storage and handling requirements and recommendations.
 - 3. Specimen warranty.
- B Shop Drawings: Complete details of materials and installation ; combine with shop drawings of cabinets and casework specified in other sections.
- C Selection Samples: For each finish product specified, color chips representing manufacturer's full range of available colors and patterns.

1.05 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A Installer Qualifications: Company specializing in performing work of the type specified in this section, with not less than three years of documented experience.
- B Quality Certification:
 - 1. Comply with AWI (QCP) woodwork association quality certification service/program in accordance with requirements for work specified in this section: www.awiqcp.org/#sle.

1.06 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

- A Store products in manufacturer's unopened packaging until ready for installation.
- B Store and dispose of solvent-based materials, and materials used with solvent-based materials, in accordance with requirements of local authorities having jurisdiction.

1.07 FIELD CONDITIONS

- A Maintain environmental conditions (temperature, humidity, and ventilation) within limits recommended by manufacturer for optimum results. Do not install products under environmental conditions outside manufacturer's absolute limits.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.01 COUNTERTOPS

- A Quality Standard: Custom Grade, in accordance with AWI/AWMAC/WI (AWS) or AWMAC/WI (NAAWS), unless noted otherwise.
- B Plastic Laminate Countertops: High-pressure decorative laminate (HPDL) sheet bonded to substrate.
 - 1. Laminate Sheet: NEMA LD 3, Grade HGS, 0.048 inch nominal thickness.
 - a. Manufacturers:
 - 1) Formica Corporation: www.formica.com/#sle.
 - 2) Wilsonart: www.wilsonart.com/#sle.
 - 3) Or Approved Equal.
 - b. Surface Burning Characteristics: Flame spread index of 25, maximum; smoke developed index of 450, maximum; when tested in accordance with ASTM E84.
 - c. Finish: Matte or suede, gloss rating of 5 to 20.
 - d. Surface Color and Pattern: As selected by Architect from the manufacturer's full line.
 - 2. Exposed Edge Treatment: Square, substrate built up to minimum 1-1/4 inch thick; covered with matching laminate.
 - 3. Back Splashes: Same material, same construction.
 - 4. Fabricate in accordance with AWI/AWMAC/WI (AWS) or AWMAC/WI (NAAWS), Section 11 - Countertops, Custom Grade.

2.02 MATERIALS

- A Plywood for Supporting Substrate: PS 1 Exterior Grade, A-C veneer grade, minimum 5-ply; minimum 3/4 inch thick; join lengths using metal splines.
- B Particleboard for Supporting Substrate: ANSI A208.1 Grade 2-M-2, 45 pcf minimum density; minimum 3/4 inch thick; join lengths using metal splines.
- C Adhesives: Chemical resistant waterproof adhesive as recommended by manufacturer of materials being joined.

2.03 FABRICATION

- A Fabricate tops and splashes in the largest sections practicable, with top surface of joints flush.
 - 1. Join lengths of tops using best method recommended by manufacturer.
 - 2. Fabricate to overhang fronts and ends of cabinets 1 inch except where top butts against cabinet or wall.
 - 3. Prepare all cutouts accurately to size; replace tops having improperly dimensioned or unnecessary cutouts or fixture holes.
- B Provide back/end splash wherever counter edge abuts vertical surface unless otherwise indicated.
 - 1. Secure to countertop with concealed fasteners and with contact surfaces set in waterproof glue.
 - 2. Height: 4 inches, unless otherwise indicated.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.01 EXAMINATION

- A Do not begin installation until substrates have been properly prepared.
- B If substrate preparation is the responsibility of another installer, notify Architect of unsatisfactory preparation before proceeding.
- C Verify that wall surfaces have been finished and mechanical and electrical services and outlets are installed in proper locations.

3.02 PREPARATION

- A Clean surfaces thoroughly prior to installation.
- B Prepare surfaces using the methods recommended by the manufacturer for achieving the best result for the substrate under the project conditions.

3.03 INSTALLATION

- A Securely attach countertops to cabinets using concealed fasteners. Make flat surfaces level; shim where required.
- B Attach plastic laminate countertops using screws with minimum penetration into substrate board of 5/8 inch.
- C Seal joint between back/end splashes and vertical surfaces.

3.04 TOLERANCES

- A Variation From Horizontal: 1/8 inch in 10 feet, maximum.
- B Offset From Wall, Countertops: 1/8 inch maximum; 1/16 inch minimum.
- C Field Joints: 1/8 inch wide, maximum.

3.05 CLEANING

- A Clean countertops surfaces thoroughly.

3.06 PROTECTION

- A Protect installed products until completion of project.
- B Touch-up, repair or replace damaged products before Date of Substantial Completion.

END OF SECTION