

Step-by-Step Application

Cutting a Hole for a Sink

Postformed plastic laminate countertops are very popular because they are relatively inexpensive and easy to install. However, using a jigsaw to cut the hole for a sink can scratch plastic laminate. To prevent this problem, take special care when cutting.

Step 1 Pencil the sink layout onto the countertop.

Step 2 Adhere a single layer of thin masking tape over the lines. This will help to prevent the laminate from chipping as it is cut. Darken the layout lines on top of the tape if necessary.

Step 3 Cover the bottom of the saw's baseplate with a single layer of wide Painter's Masking tape. It will cover small nicks and scratches in the baseplate that could damage the plastic laminate. This type of tape will not leave adhesive residue on the baseplate when it is removed.

Step 4 Set the saw to make a suitable cut. Some jigsaws can be set to cut with a slight orbital motion. This is an aggressive cut that can damage the laminate. Instead, be sure to set the saw for a reciprocating (non-orbital) motion instead.

Step 5 Make the cut. Use a slow but steady feed and support the cutout so that it does not suddenly break free and tear the laminate as the cut are being completed.