

**SECTION 12 36 00  
COUNTERTOPS**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

- A. This section specifies solid surface or metal countertops for casework with integral accessories.
- B. Integral accessories include:
  - 1. Sinks with traps and drains.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- A. Color and patterns of countertops: As scheduled on Drawings.
- A. DIVISION 22, PLUMBING.
- B. DIVISION 26, ELECTRICAL.
- C. Equipment Reference Manual for SECTION 12 36 00, COUNTERTOPS.

**1.3 SUBMITTALS**

- A. Submit in accordance with SECTION 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES.
- B. Shop Drawings
  - 1. Show dimensions of section and method of assembly.
  - 2. Show details of construction at 1/2 scale.
- C. Samples:
  - 1. 150 mm (6 inch) square samples each top.
  - 2. Front edge, back splash, end splash and core with surface material and booking.

**1.4 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS**

- A. Publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by the basic designation only.
- B. American Hardboard Association (AHA):
  - A135.4-95.....Basic Hardboard
- C. Composite Panel Association (CPA):
  - A208.1-09.....Particleboard
- D. American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME):
  - A112.18.1-12.....Plumbing Supply Fittings
  - A112.1.2-12.....Air Gaps in Plumbing System
  - A112.19.3-08(R2004).....Stainless Steel Plumbing Fixtures (Designed for Residential Use)
- E. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
  - A167-99 (R2009).....Stainless and Heat-Resisting Chromium-Nickel Steel Plate, Sheet and Strip

- A1008-10.....Steel, Sheet, Cold-Rolled, Carbon, Structural,  
High Strength, Low Alloy
- D256-10.....Pendulum Impact Resistance of Plastic
- D570-98(R2005).....Water Absorption of Plastics
- D638-10.....Tensile Properties of Plastics
- D785-08.....Rockwell Hardness of Plastics and Electrical  
Insulating Materials
- D790-10.....Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and  
Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating  
Materials
- D4690-99(2005).....Urea-Formaldehyde Resin Adhesives
- F. Federal Specifications (FS):
- A-A-1936.....Adhesive, Contact, Neoprene Rubber
- G. U.S. Department of Commerce, Product Standards (PS):
- PS 1-95.....Construction and Industrial Plywood

## PART 2 - PRODUCTS

### 2.1 MATERIALS

- A. Solid Polymer Material:
1. Filled Methyl Methacrylic Polymer.
  2. Performance properties required:

| Property                         | Result  | Test  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Elongation                       | 0.3% min.   | ASTM D638   |
| Hardness                         | 90 Rockwell M   | ASTM D785   |
| Gloss (60° Gordon)               | 5-20  | NEMA LD3.1  |
| Color stability                  | No change   | NEMA LD3 except 200 hour                            |
| Abrasion resistance              | No loss of pattern<br>Max wear depth 0.0762 mm<br>(0.003 in) - 10000 cycles | NEMA LD3  |
| Water absorption weight (5 max)  | 24 hours 0.9  | ASTM D-570  |
| Izod impact                      | 14 N·m/m<br>(0.25 ft-lb/in)   | ASTM D256<br>(Method A)                             |
| Impact resistance                | No fracture   | NEMA LD-3 900 mm<br>(36") drop 1 kg<br>(2 lb.) ball |
| Boiling water surface resistance | No visible change   | NEMA LD3  |
| High temperature resistance      | Slight surface dulling  | NEMA LD3  |

3. Cast into sheet form and bowl form.

4. Color throughout with subtle veining through thickness.
5. Joint adhesive and sealer: Manufacturers silicone adhesive and sealant for joining methyl methacrylic polymer sheet.
6. Bio-based products will be preferred.

## 2.2 SINKS

- A. Sinks of Methyl Methacrylic Polymer:
  1. Minimum 19 mm (3/4 inch) thick, cast into bowl shape with overflow to drain.
  2. Provide for underhung installation to countertop.
  3. Provide openings for drain.

## 2.3 TRAPS AND FITTINGS

- A. Material as specified in DIVISION 22, PLUMBING.
- B. Air Gap Fittings: ASME A112.1.2.
- C. Methyl Methacrylic Polymer Sink Traps:
  1. Cast or wrought brass with flat grid strainer, off-set tail piece, adjustable 38 x 32 mm (1-1/2 x 1 1/4-inch) P trap.
  2. Chromium plated finish.

## 2.4 COUNTERTOPS

- A. Fabricate in largest sections practicable.
- B. Fabricate with joints flush on top surface.
- C. Fabricate countertops to overhang front of cabinets and end of assemblies 25 mm (one inch) except where against walls or cabinets.
- D. Provide 1 mm (0.039 inch) thick metal plate connectors or fastening devices (except epoxy resin tops).
- E. Join edges in a chemical resistant waterproof cement or epoxy cement, except weld metal tops.
- F. Fabricate with end splashes where against walls or cabinets.
- G. Splash Backs and End Splashes:
  1. Not less than 19 mm (3/4 inch) thick.
  2. Height 100 mm (4 inches) unless noted otherwise.
  3. Laboratories and pharmacy heights or where fixtures or outlets occur: Not less than 150 mm (6 inches) unless noted otherwise.
  4. Fabricate epoxy splash back in maximum lengths practical of the same material.
- H. Drill or cutout for sinks, and penetrations.
  1. Accurately cut for size of penetration.
- I. Metal Counter Tops:
  1. Fabricate up to 3600 mm (12 feet) long in one piece, including nosing, backs and ends.
  2. When counter tops exceed 3600 mm (12 feet) in length accurately fitted field joints are acceptable.

3. Finish thickness at edges 32 mm (1-1/4 inch).
4. Reinforced with minimum 1.5 mm (0.0598 inch) thick hat channel stiffeners, minimum of two stiffeners for units without sinks and three stiffeners for units with sinks welded or soldered to underside of top full length, except at sink openings.
5. Apply sound deadening material on underside.
6. Flange edges of tops down 32 mm (1-1/4 inch) and reinforce with concealed hardwood or with a steel frame.
7. Grind welds smooth and finished on exposed surfaces to match finish specified.
8. Stainless Steel Counter or Sink Tops:
  - a. Where noted stainless steel except where specified for nourishment unit, unit kitchen, and medicine cabinet.
  - b. Use 1.5 mm (0.0598 inch) thick stainless steel.
  - c. Depth of splash backs and splash ends 25 mm (one inch) and turned down at least 13 mm (1/2 inch) at wall. Where faucets are located in splash backs, fabricate depth of splash backs 50 mm (2 inches) with provision made to receive required fixture.
  - d. Where sinks occur fabricate top with 5 mm (3/16 inch) marine edge and fit flush with adjacent tops of other materials.
  - e. Weld sink flush to counter top and finish to appear seamless.
- J. Methyl Methacrylic Polymer Tops:
  1. Fabricate countertop of methyl methacrylic polymer cast sheet, 19 mm (3/4 inch) thick.
  2. Fabricate back splash and end splash to height shown.
  3. Fabricate skirt to depth shown.
  4. Fabricate with marine edge where sinks occur.
  5. Fabricate in one piece for full length from corner to corner up to 3600 mm (12 feet).
  6. Join pieces with adhesive sealant.
  7. Cut out countertop for lavatories, plumbing trim.
  8. Provide concealed fasteners and epoxy cement for anchorage of sinks to countertop.

### **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

#### **3.1 INSTALLATION**

- A. Before installing countertops verify that wall surfaces have been finished as specified and that mechanical and electrical service locations are as required.
- B. Secure countertops to supporting rails of cabinets with metal fastening devices, or screws through pierced slots in rails.

1. Where type, size or spacing of fastenings is not shown or specified, submit shop drawings showing proposed fastenings and method of installation.
2. Use round head bolts or screws.
3. Use epoxy or silicone to fasten the epoxy resin countertops to the cabinets.
4. Use wood or sheet metal screws for wood or plastic laminate tops; minimum penetration into top 16 mm (5/8 inch), screw size No 8, or 10.

C. Sinks

1. Install methyl methacrylic polymer sinks in manufacturers recommended adhesive sealer or epoxy compound to underside of methyl methacrylic polymer countertop.
  - a. Bolt or screw to countertop to prevent separation of bowl and fracture of adhesive sealant joint. Machine countertop and sink to provide seamless transition between sink and countertop.
  - b. Install drain and traps to sink.

D. Faucets, Fixtures, and Outlets:

1. Seal opening between fixture and top.
2. Secure to top with manufacturers standard fittings.

**3.2 PROTECTION AND CLEANING**

- A. Tightly cover and protect against dirt, water, and chemical or mechanical injury.
- B. Clean at completion of work.

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