# Foster

# **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS – UNDERMOUNT SINKS**

These instructions are for installing Foster Undermount stainless steel sinks. By Undermount, one identifies a sink that is installed from below the countertop. If you are installing a different kind of sink, for instance a drop-in sink which is to be installed from above the countertop, please refer to

instructions specifically made for these sinks. The Foster Undermount sinks can be installed with three different kinds of reveal: positive, negative or no reveal. Each one will make your sink look different (see drawing). The decision on which kind of installation to use must be done prior to commencing the job.

Positive reveal: the countertop edge is approximately 1/8" back from the edge of the sink, exposing thus the sink rim. All the Foster undermount sinks feature 1" of finished rim

Please note that if the positive reveal is more than 1/8", the cutting-board will rest on the steel edge of the sink, and not on the couter-top.

Zero reveal: the cut-out exactly matches the bowl's dimension

Negative reveal: the countertop extends over the edge of the sink on all sides by approximately 1/8". Prior to making the cut-out for such an installation, please check if the eventual accessories such as colanders or cutting boards will fit properly.

WARNING: With a negative reveal the steel bottom grid and wood cuttingboard cannot be used.

The template is supplied only as a guide. The use of the sink itself will ensure a more accurate cut-out. Foster recommends that undermount sinks should be installed by a professional installer, in order to obtain the best results. Prior to commencing any operation, check your sink for damage. Do not install a damaged sink. Please remember that it is the installer's responsibility to follow local plumbing and building regulations.

Please remember that the warranty will be considered void if these installation instructions are not followed.







The following instructions refer to the installation of a Foster undermount stainless steel sink on a solid surface countertop only. The minimum thickness of the actual countertop material must be 1/2 ". However, the presence of a 1" counter-frame around the sink is advisable. Requirements vary for installation on granite, marble or stone countertops. Please check this out with your fabricator for more details.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS NEEDED FOR INSTALLATION	
Eye protection (safety glasses) and ear protection are highly recommended	6" bar clamps
Undermount template supplied with the sink	silicone adhesive sealant
Undermount clips, screws and brass inserts supplied with the sink (please note that these come in a separate plastic bag, make sure you do not throw it away with the packing).	Stop block (needed to drill holes of equal depth)
3/8" thick plywood sheet to cut a template	Tape measure
Pencil (not permanent)	Router
Ball peen hammer (6 oz.)	Drill and drill bit
Screwdriver	File
Framing square	5/8" template guide
Alcohol	Wood braces

#### STEP 1 (recommended for professional installers only) Create a template

Using a framing square, make a line from front to back of the bottom of the countertop, marking the center of the sink. Draw a line, parallel to the front edge of the countertop, to indicate how far back the sink should be positioned. Normally this measure is 2" to 2 ½" from the front, depending also on the countertop overhang, and the type of sink. To make a template, position the sink upside down on a piece of plywood, and draw a line following its perimeter. As an alternative, you can use the template which is provided with the sink, to be



also placed on plywood, as explained for the sink. However, the use of the actual sink ensures a more accurate cutout. Mark the center of the sink on the template. If you use a 5/8" template guide on the router, draw another line 1/16" outside the outline of the sink (this makes room for the template guide). If you use other cutting methods, adapt this accordingly.

## Be sure to cut on the inside of the template, in order to obtain the desired reveal.

The template size should be adjusted in order to obtain the desired type of reveal (overhang or positive reveal). Cut the plywood template, taking particular care to exactly follow the corner radius.

# STEP 2 (recommended for professional installers only)

## Make the sink cutout

Locate the center of the sink template, and align it with the center mark on the countertop. Position the template with the front edge corresponding to the front edge line previously drawn on the countertop.

Fasten the plywood template to the countertop using 6" bar clamps. Position the router over the template and cut around it, ensuring that the router follows the edge of the template.

The finish of the inside of the cutout should be done according to the recommendations of the countertop supplier.

#### STEP 3 (recommended for professional installers only)

#### Attach the undermount clips

Position the sink so that the reveal is equidistant. Then drill the holes for the brass inserts on the underside of the countertop. Use a drill bit with a stop block, in order to avoid drilling too deep, and eventually through the countertop. For ½" countertop material, the holes should be 3/8" deep. Use four clips on the long side of the sink, and three clips on the short side. The holes should be drilled 1" back from the cutout edge.





NOTE: the clip is <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" wide and 2-<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" long. It may be too long in some cases. If so, make a brace of wood or solid surface material, butt it up against the sink, and screw it into the cabinet wall (this must be done on site). Make sure that the screw does not go through to the other side of the cabinet.

#### **STEP 4** (recommended for professional installers only)

#### Installing the sink

Clean the bottom of the countertop and the rim of the sink with denaturated alcohol. Then apply some silicone adhesive sealant to the top edge of the rim of the sink, and position the sink in the countertop.

#### STEP 5 (recommended for professional installers only)

#### Tighten the clips

Tap in the brass inserts for the clips into the pre-drilled holes, with the slotted end first. Thread a wingnut onto a screw, up near the head, then tighten the screw into the brass insert into the countertop material. Repeat for each clip.

**NOTE**: do not fully tighten a clip at a time. Tighten partially a clip, then tighten partially the clip opposite from it. After you have partially tightened all clips, repeat the process to fully tighten them. This process secures a proper and installation, and avoids any damage to the sink.

NOTE FOR MARBLE OR GRANITE: for these materials, lead inserts which are glued in, should be used in place of the brass inserts.

# FOSTER STAINLESS STEEL SINKS

Foster's stainless steel sinks feature a **"NO HASSLE LIMITED 5 YEARS WARRANTY"** to be free of all manufacturing defects under normal use.

LIMITED WARRANTY on STAINLESS STEEL SINKS

Foster will replace without charge, (excluding labor) any Stainless Steel sink supplied by Foster that is proven to be defective, with an equivalent replacement, within the specified appropriate period from date of purchase, to the original owner, under condition that it has been used solely in a residential application and installed in accordance with the Foster installation instructions, used and maintained as recommended, and not damaged due to abuse, misuse, or negligence. (In case of a warranty claim, the owner will be required to provide proof of purchase - save sales receipt.). This warranty will not cover any damages which might be caused by the product. (Some states do not allow such limitation, so this limitation may not apply to you.)

Foster reserves the right to inspect any sink reported to be defective, in order to ascertain whether the claimed defect is indeed a manufacturing defect, prior to replacement of the sink. Foster's decision will be final. Replacement cost EXCLUDES transportation and any labor costs for the removal or reinstallation.

Foster shall not be liable in case of:

- Improper installation/modification
- Improper care or maintenance
- Damages resulting from abuse, such as violent impact or dropped objects
- Improper use (such as exposure to corrosive chemicals, photographic solutions, etc.)
- Any modifications made to the product after it left Foster's premises
- Any application different from residential private use

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