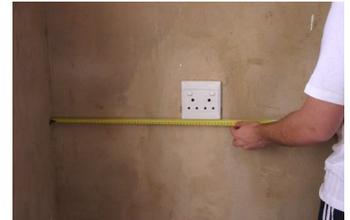


INSTALLATION OF FLOOR KITCHEN CUPBOARDS



If you have not, in the planning stage, marked out the cupboard positions on the walls, it is advisable to do this before starting to install the cupboards. From the kitchen plan layout take the cupboard dimensions and mark this on the wall where the cupboards will be fitted. This is a check to see if the units will fit as planned. If there are any problems, take care of them now. If everything will fit as planned, you are ready to start with the installation.



Start by measuring 150 mm up from the floor and marking that on the wall. At this level the cleat carrying the cupboards must be fitted. Use a spirit level to ensure that the cleat is fitted level. When the floor is out of level, start by fitting the cleat at 150 mm at the lowest point of the floor and then working your cleat level to the other end of the wall where the floor units will be fitted.



In the picture you can see that the end cupboard is fitted about 135 mm above the floor as the floor is sloping up to this level. Starting at 150 mm and working the kickplate smaller allow the 150 mm supplied kickplate to be trimmed smaller. Note the chipboard strip fitted under the cupboard, this is used to fit the kickplate on the side of cupboard. The strip is set back from the side by 20 mm. this allow the kickplate to support the cupboard side. See section on fitting of the plastic support legs.



Next start fitting the plastic support legs to the bottom front of the floor units. Unclip all the doors from the cupboards, this makes them easier to handle and to install. Turn all cupboards upside down. Mark 50 mm from the front of the cupboard, this is where the leg base will be fitted. Screw the adjustable leg base plates down with 6x16 chipboard screws.



Note that the base plate is fitted with the lip protruding beyond the side. The adjacent cupboard will share the leg with this one. CAUTION!: If you fit the base inside the vertical upright of the cupboard, there will be no adequate support for the cupboard and downward pressure on the cupboard will cause the vertical side to move down and will break out the shelf!



The last leg base is fitted inside the vertical and is set back by 20 mm. The side kickplate will then support the vertical of the cupboard.



A scrap offcut piece of chipboard is screwed onto the base of the cupboard, set back 20 mm to allow the side kickplate to be fitted against it. This view is from the rear of the cupboard.



This is a view from the bottom of the cupboard showing how the side kickplate act as a support for the vertical upright of the cupboard. Make sure that the leg is fitted to the base before the cupboard is placed in position.



Fit the adjustable leg into the leg base and place the cupboards in position, resting the rear of the cupboard on top of the cleat against the wall. The first cupboard will have two support legs and all intermediate cupboards will only have the one leg sharing with the neighbouring cupboard. The last cupboard in the line will again have two legs. If you have corner cupboards in the design, start with the corner cupboards and work away from them.



When the cupboard is in the correct position, drill a 6 mm hole through the cupboard and into the wall with a masonry drill. Hammer in a 6x50 mm through-hole-wallplug into the hole, securing the cupboard to the wall. Do this in each top corner of the cupboard. Repeat this as you continue fitting the cupboards in position.





Screw the two fitted cupboards together with a 6x30 mm chipboard screw. Make sure that the cupboards are flush at the front, the top and the bottom. Do this in all four inside corners of the cupboard, two at the front and two at the back.



Using a spirit level, check if the cupboard is level, adjust the leg by turning the leg in or out as required to set the cupboard level. Here you can see the first cupboard that was fitted is a corner unit.



Continue placing the cupboards next to each other, fit the through-hole wallplugs, screw the cupboards together and check with the spirit level and adjust the legs as required until the last cupboard is placed in position. Remember the last one has two legs, with the outside leg fitted as described above, the side kickplate supporting the vertical upright of the cupboard.



The centre cupboard will house an under-counter oven. Here the backing board of the cupboard was removed to allow the cable into the cupboard as well as to give more depth to the cupboard when fitting the oven. Alternatively, cut a hole in the backing board with a hole saw, to allow the cable through.

Once all the floor cupboards are installed you can start fitting the kickplates. Start with the side return kickplates. Cut them to the required length, (normally 504 mm) and fit them to the scrap piece of chip or melamine board that was screwed 20 mm from the side of the cupboard on the underside of the cupboards when the adjustable leg bases were fitted. Once the side kickplates are in place the front kickplate lengths can be measured and cut to size. Edge the short visible ends of the kickplates by applying contact glue onto the kickplate ends as well as to the edging strip, let it dry and then glue together. Trim the excess edging from the kickplate. Place the kickplate in position and mark on the inside of the kickplate the position of the adjustable legs. Screw the U shaped leg clips onto the kickplate with 6x16 chipboard screws. The kickplate is then clipped onto the adjustable legs from the front. It is advisable to seal the joint between the kickplate and the floor as well as the kickplate-to-wall and kickplate-to-kickplate joints with silicone sealant to prevent water damage to the kickplates if water is spilled onto the floor or when the floor is washed.

FITTING OF WORKTOPS

If you are fitting granite worktops, contact the granite installer and inform him that the cupboards are ready to have the tops fitted.

If you are fitting postformed laminated worktops go ahead as follow: Measure the worktop sections that will be required. Plan where the corner joints will be, remember to leave about 25 mm overhang at the end cupboards.

Make a cutting list of what section must be cut from which long length supplied. Remember once the top is cut it is final, mistakes can be costly!!