

Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
<p>Make sure you have all the tools and materials you need before you start. If you forget something, it may delay or compromise the installation.</p> <p>Don't be tempted to make do with incorrect tools or with tools that are in poor condition. In particular, make sure that all cutting blades are sharp.</p> <p>This table shows you what you need for all the operations involved in installing Encore. You'll find a printed version in the installation guide supplied with every Encore worktop.</p> <p>To study the table in detail, hit the pause button now.</p>	[table of tools and materials]	<p>Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS</p> <p>Sharp cutting blades for a good finish</p>
[See separate document for table of tools and materials]		

Cutting Encore: GENERAL POINTS		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
You can cut Encore with a router; a sliding table saw, a circular saw, and even a jigsaw. At each stage of installation, we'll tell you which is the right tool for the job.		Cutting Encore: PREPARATION
<p><b>Always</b> cut into the factory-finished face edge. <b>Never</b> cut out of the face edge. This may mean you have to turn the worktop over and work inwards from the other side.</p> <p>A clean cut is essential.</p>		<p>Always cut into the factory-finished face edge Never cut out of the face edge</p> <p>Use good quality tools with sharp blades and cutters</p>
Afterwards, remove all dust and debris. Debris will discolour the adhesive bond between sections and make the joint visible.		A clean cut makes a good joint
Since Encore's solid surface is reinforced and compression-moulded, microscopic chips and cracks cannot run to form visible cracks.		Rough sizing: use a circular saw

<p>That's a big practical advantage of working with Encore: you can rough-size with a circular saw, and make sink and hob cut-outs with a jigsaw. There's no need to finish rough-cut edges with routers or power planes.</p> <p>Remember though, <b>always</b> cut into the factory-finished edge.</p>		<p>Sink and hob cut-outs: use a jigsaw</p>
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Cutting Encore: SIZING		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
<p>The first step is to rough-size Encore.</p>		<p>Cutting Encore: SIZING</p> <p>For details of tools, see the section Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS</p>
<p>Always leave an extra five millimetres when rough-sizing to allow for the final trim for re-edging or mitring. If you're refinishing both ends, that's five mil at either end.</p>	<p>Indicate 5mm at both ends</p>	<p>Rough-sizing: 5mm oversize</p>
<p>Don't use a router to rough-size Encore.</p>		
<p>For rough-sizing use a sliding table saw or – as shown here – a hand-held circular saw with a triple fine tooth tungsten carbide blade.</p>		<p>Rough sizing: a sliding table saw or hand-held circular saw</p>
<p>If you use a sliding table saw, set the height to no more than sixty-five millimetres off the bed.</p>		<p>Use a triple fine tooth tungsten carbide blade</p>
<p>For a hand-held circular saw, cut in two passes ensuring you cut into, never out of the factory-finished edge.</p>		<p>First pass: 15mm deep Second pass: 50mm deep</p>
<p>For general sizing of splashbacks and upstands, use a circular saw. Set the blade to the depth of the material plus five millimetres.</p>		<p>Splashback blade depth: 5mm + 5mm = 10mm</p> <p>Upstand blade depth:</p>

		13mm + 5mm = 18mm
<p>Finish the worktop to the exact length using a router guided by an appropriate clamped jig or straight edge. Use a sharp double flute tungsten carbide tipped cutter.</p> <p>The router should run at around eighteen thousand rpm. Each cutter is good for about ten metres of Encore.</p>		<p>Router speed: 18,000 rpm</p> <p>Router cutter: ½-inch cutter with a ½-inch shank</p> <p>Cutter life: good for about 10m of Encore</p>
<p><b>Always</b> cut <b>into</b> the factory-finished edge, with the work piece to the left of the direction of travel and waste material to the right. That means the length of Encore that you are working on could be face up or face down.</p>		
<p>To finish a right-hand end, lay Encore face up; to finish a left-hand end, lay Encore face down. That way you <b>always</b> cut <b>into</b> the factory-finished edge.</p>	<p>Show Encore viewed from face edge to indicate right- and left-hand ends.</p>	
<p>When using a router, always cut in three stages. Increase the cutter depth by fifteen millimetres each time.</p>		<p>First cut: 15mm</p> <p>Second cut: 30mm</p> <p>Final cut: 45mm</p>
<p>Make sure that the blade does the cutting and that the shank is not in contact with the material.</p>		<p>Do not let the shank rub against Encore</p>

Cutting Encore: MASON'S MITRE		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
<p>A mason's mitre makes the most efficient use of material in a ninety-degree joint. Set out the mitre exactly as you would for Omega or Prima laminate tops.</p>		<p>Cutting Encore: MASON'S MITRE</p> <p>For details of tools, see the section</p>

		Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS
Cut a mason's mitre using a router and a purpose-made jig. Refer to the jig manufacturer's instructions for the appropriate combination of cutter and bush. Remember to cut <b>into</b> the factory-finished edge, <b>never</b> out.		See the section Cutting Encore: SIZING

Cutting Encore: DIAGONAL MITRE		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
You can use a diagonal mitre for a variety of acute or obtuse angles such as those required for a diagonal corner base unit.		Cutting Encore: DIAGONAL MITRE  For details of tools, see the section Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS
Measure the angle of the corner, halve it, and then mark out the halved angle in pencil on both work pieces. Remember to clean off the pencil mark before gluing the joint.		
Clamp a straight edge with an appropriate offset, then use a router to cut the joint, ensuring you cut <b>into, never out of</b> , the factory edge.		See the section Cutting Encore: SIZING

Jointing Encore: USING BOLTS AND BISCUITS									
Voice-over script	Images	Text							
When you joint two sections of Encore, you must use connector bolts and biscuits.		Jointing Encore: USING BOLTS AND BISCUITS							
Your guarantee depends on you using the right number of biscuits and bolts for each joint – one biscuit for every bolt.		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Width of worktop</td> <td>No of bolts</td> <td>No of biscuits</td> </tr> <tr> <td>up to 500mm</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table>	Width of worktop	No of bolts	No of biscuits	up to 500mm	2	2	
Width of worktop	No of bolts	No of biscuits							
up to 500mm	2	2							

		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>up to 700mm</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>up to 900mm</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </table>	up to 700mm	3	3	up to 900mm	4	4
up to 700mm	3	3						
up to 900mm	4	4						
Biscuits add vertical strength to the joint and ensure correct alignment of the two sides. Bolts draw the two sections together firmly to create the virtually invisible joints that are typical of a professional Encore installation.								
Arrange bolts and biscuits evenly across the joint. Place a biscuit between each bolt, never over the top of a bolt.								
Mark the bolt and biscuit locations on each face of the joint. Make sure your marks are aligned.								
Use a router and a connector bolt jig to cut bolt slots on the underside of the worktop.		Max bolt slot depth: 25mm						
Mark locations for biscuit pockets. Make sure the pairs of pockets are aligned on both sides of the joint.								
Use a biscuit joiner to cut pockets for number twenty biscuits. Do not let the pockets reach as far as the bolt slots.		Use no 20 biscuits (62mm x 23mm x 4mm)						

Cutting Encore: SINK AND HOB CUT-OUTS		
Voice-over script	Images	Text
Forming cut-outs in Encore is easy. Unlike other solid surface materials, all you need is a jigsaw. We recommend the Bosch blade T127D, which should cut up to four metres of Encore.		<p>Cutting Encore: SINK AND HOB CUT-OUTS</p> <p>Recommended jigsaw blade: Bosch T127D</p> <p>Blade life: about 4m of Encore</p> <p>For details of other tools, see the section Before you start: ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS</p>

<p>Because Encore is reinforced, you can cut internal corners with radii as tight as five millimetres. Mark your cut-out with a pencil, then drill ten-millimetre holes on the waste side of each corner. Insert the jigsaw blade and cut along the waste side of your pencil line. Remember to clean the pencil mark away.</p>		<p>Minimum internal corner radius: 5mm</p>
<p>You don't need a router to make a cut-out in Encore – nor do you have to re-profile the cut-out edge. Simply jigsaw and leave. Cracks cannot run because Encore is reinforced.</p> <p>Clear up all dust and loose debris.</p> <p>Remember that a cut-out weakens the worktop. If you move it after cutting, make sure you support it. Use a G-clamped support board to add rigidity.</p>		
<p>If you prefer to cut and edge Encore offsite, you could reduce the loss of strength associated with cut-outs by preparing blind cut-outs.</p> <p>Use a router to make the cut, setting the maximum depth to thirty-nine millimetres to leave around five millimetres of uncut material.</p> <p>The uncut material retains enough strength to protect the worktop when you move it.</p> <p>When you arrive on site, you can complete the cut-out with a jigsaw or a hand saw.</p>		<p>Blind cut-outs: leave a depth of 5mm uncut</p>
<p>Seal the bare face of all cut-outs with BB Complete colour-matched worktop sealant.</p> <p>Use heat reflective tape on the bare face of hob cut-outs.</p>		<p>See the section Cutting Encore: SEALING CUT EDGES</p>