



Templating for a Stone Countertop

What you will need:

- Template strips (thin wood or plastic strips which can be purchased from many local home improvement stores or some stone fabricators like Valencia Stone)
- Utility Knife / flat razor blade (for cutting template strips to size)
- Hot glue gun with glue sticks (available at any local hardware store)
- Black permanent marker (i.e. Black Sharpie)

How to Create a Physical Template

1. **Lay** your template strips along the edges of the counter.

TIP: If you are templating over an existing countertop you can place the strips along the front edge of the countertop to have the exact same overhang, if there is no countertop place the exposed edge strips flush to the edge of the cabinet top itself and with a sharpie write how much overhang to add onto the exposed edges (standard overhang from the cabinet is **+1 ½ inches**).

2. **Cut** the template strips using a utility blade to fit the countertop area.

TIP: Make sure that the strips are cut accurately to create a perfect fit; this will be what is used to cut your stone to size so any part that is cut short or long will be reflected in the final countertop.

3. Use smaller strips for the depth of the countertop to **connect** the front edge strip with the back strip.

TIP: Make sure to add depth strips every 30 inches or so to help support large countertop templates.

4. Use the hot glue gun to **glue** the depth strips to the edge strips and allow a few minutes to dry before removing the template.

TIP: Large countertops may need seams in order to fit on a slab or even to fit through a doorway. Consider the size of the stone slab you will be using and all entryways, hallways, and elevator openings that may be an issue for larger pieces.

5. Using a black marker, **mark** the sink center, mark the exposed edges, mark corner radiuses, and mark any other details that your fabricator may need to know to fabricate your stone top.

TIP: mark edge details with "D", mark radiuses with "R" and size of radius.

[Contact a Stone Specialist at Valencia Stone](#) for more advice on **Templating**

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