

Carrier Countertop Brace



Installation Considerations

Every successful countertop installation begins with good planning and action. Do not wait until the last minute to order your countertop supports, fasteners or adhesives for installation. Make sure that all aspects of the support substructure are considered and discussed to insure that your countertop installation will be smooth and that your countertop support products will be sufficient.

Note that this installation document should not be considered a specific recommendation for your particular application. Federal Brace cannot provide installation guidelines to meet the particulars of every application. This document should be considered a help sheet that provides considerations about the general characteristics of a particular type of support and installation.

Characteristics of the Carrier Bracket Countertop Support Bracket

Our Carrier Support Brackets are designed to allow the maximum amount of leg room possible under a countertop extension or serving bar while allowing for gusseted support strength. The bracket is designed with a very small down flange and a shallow gusset. The material thickness of the Carrier Bracket is ¼”.

Preparations for the Carrier Brackets

The Carrier Support comes in both brushed stainless steel and raw steel materials. If you have ordered your Carrier Brackets unfinished (without paint) you will need to finish them before installation. Make sure you clean the bracket of any machine oil or rust preventative before painting. Once clean and dry apply a metal compatible paint to the bracket completely. Let the first coat dry and do at least 1 more coat. Before installing the brackets the paint should be allowed to dry completely.



Installation Considerations Continued

Considerations when Installing Carrier Countertop Support Brackets

Whenever installing the Carrier Brackets make sure that you are tying into a minimum of a 2x4 board. You will want the fasteners to have as much “biting” material as possible. This will provide with a secure fastening of the brackets. Also, the substructure must be tied into the floor. Remember, a weak substructure makes for a weak installation.

With the substructure in place and sturdy, measure out your bracket pattern. We suggest that you space the Carrier Bracket no greater than 30” apart on a standard application. Once you have your bracket support pattern set up you can attach your first bracket to the substructure. Make sure that when you fasten the Carrier Bracket that you check for level in all directions. The bracket should be straight and level across the top flange as well as down the top flange. This will give the best possible support result to your countertop.

You will need to route out the top of your support structure to allow for the ¼” material thickness of the Carrier Bracket. The top of your bracket should not extend over the top of your support structure but should meet flush with the top. In the Carrier Bracket design we have allow of the additional 3.75” for the bracket to extend over the substructure and out the desired distance under the counter. When placing the bracket in place move the short down flange to a tight fit with the face of the supporting wall with the finished fascia in place.

Once your first bracket is in place you can now add the additional bracket making sure that you check the additional brackets the same way you checked the first. Also, use a level to test each successive bracket installed to make sure that the whole installation is level. Placing the level from bracket to bracket will help you read this aspect of the installation.

Once all the Carrier Brackets are in place you will want to wipe them down to get rid of any handprints or other debris. Just before installation of your counter you may want to apply adhesive or silicone to the top of the bracket to adhere it to the counter. Once the counter is in place you can caulk around the edge of the brackets if you choose. This will give greater adherence to the countertop and cover any gap between the brackets and counter.

Final step is to enjoy your work and your new kitchen counter! We are thankful that you chose to support your beautiful counters with Federal Brace brackets. We would be thankful if you would send us images of your new kitchen and our brackets under your counters. We enjoy seeing Federal Brace supports at work.

Also, know that the highest compliment Federal Brace can be given is a reference from our customers to friends and family. If you have enjoyed your buying experience with Federal Brace please let someone know.