

Laminate has come a long way since its introduction in the late 1940's. Today's laminates offer hundreds of design options, with many different colors, patterns, finishes and edge styles. Laminate countertops are made with a high pressure laminate (HPL) sheet that is bonded to a substrate, usually particleboard or Kraft paper. There are two different types of laminate, postform and custom. Postform laminate is the most cost effective laminate and typically has a streamlined, coved backsplash; custom laminate tops may be made without seams (maximum size to NOT have a seam is 60" x 144").

Postform laminate is the perfect choice for remodels on a tight budget and those looking to install the tops themselves.

Strength and Durability

- Laminate is very durable and can last for many years; **HOWEVER** it can scratch more easily than stone countertops and repairing it is **UNLIKELY**.
- **ALWAYS** use a cutting board; cuts in the laminate will expose the substrate to liquids and foods; also **DO NOT** do prep work directly over seams or allow liquids to sit on it.

Low Maintenance

- Cleaning is as simple as wiping down with warm water, mild soap and a soft cloth; for stuck-on residue, it is best to scrub with a nylon bristled brush.
- DON'T use chemicals and abrasive cleaners that might dull the surface or destroy the protective layer.

Stain Resistant & Hygienic

- Laminate is stain resistant due to its nonporous surface, **HOWEVER** it is not stainproof.
- Its smooth surface does not allow liquids to penetrate so bacteria, mildew and mold **CANNOT** grow.

Heat Resistant

- Laminate has a low heat resistance, so **ALWAYS** use a hot pad or trivet under hot pots/hot pans/lefse griddles/slow cookers; laminate is susceptible to scorching and melting.

PRICE	\$ - \$ \$
WARRANTY	1 Year
NON-POROUS	★ ★ ★ ★
EASY-TO-CLEAN	★ ★ ★
HEAT RESISTANCE	★ ★ ★
STAIN RESISTANCE	★ ★ ★
SCRATCH RESISTANCE	★ ★ ★
SEAMLESS APPEARANCE	★ ★
REPAIRABLE/RENEWABLE	★
CONSISTENT COLOR/PATTERN	★ ★ ★ ★ ★