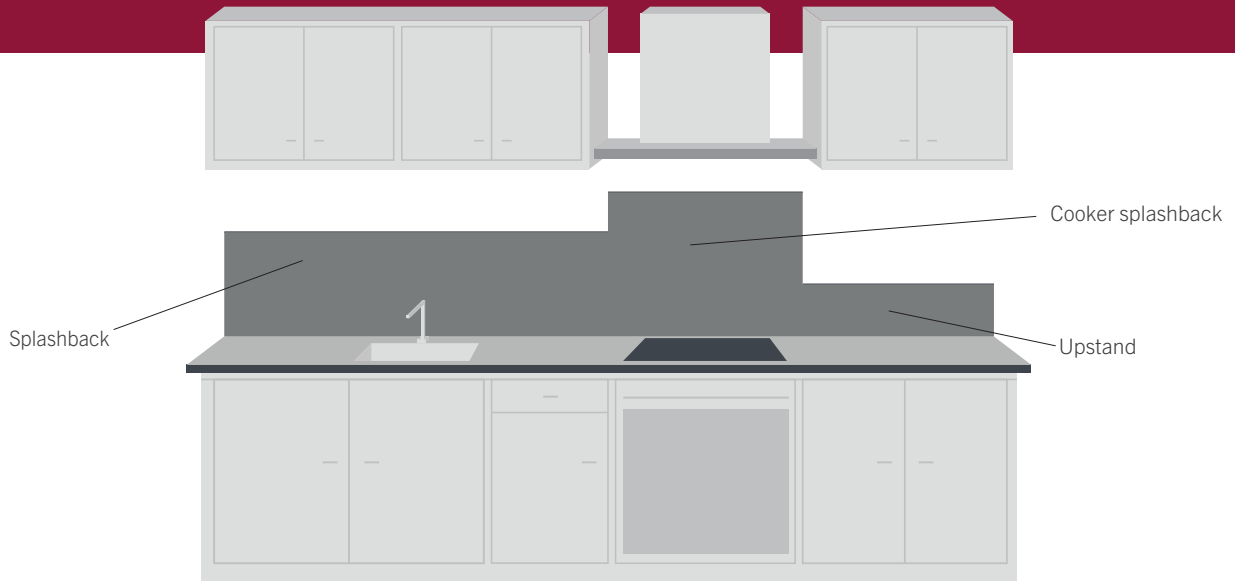


SPLASHBACK ALLOY™ ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE



1. BASIC PRINCIPLES

Storage, handling and preparation

Always ensure that splashbacks are laid flat, fully supported and stored in a dry, well-ventilated location at 10 to 30°C and 40 to 60% relative humidity (RH).

Do not stack them vertically except for short periods during transport.

To prevent scratches when handling the panels, pick them up one at a time. Do not slide them.

Acclimatise them for 24 hours to the environment where they will be installed. Temperature and humidity must be at normal levels (18 to 25°C and 40 to 60% RH).

Before installing

- Inspect the splashbacks for marks, blemishes or damage before installing them.
- If installing several panels next to each other, check for variations in colour between them before starting.
- Check that the background surfaces are clean, dry (RH < 5%) and flat (optimally ≤ 2 mm variance per linear metre).
- Leave an expansion gap of 1.5 mm.
- Place the splashbacks at least 30 mm from the nearest edge of gas or electric hobs. Avoid any direct contact with flames.

While installing

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment at all times. **Take special care while cutting aluminium as the edges can be sharp.**
- Always test-fit before installing.

Please note: these guidelines do not replace those provided by appliance manufacturers (e.g. cooking hobs). **Always follow their instructions on the distance to be left between the appliance and other kitchen elements.**

2. TOOLS

Do not use woodworking tools. Only use tools suited to working with metal.

- Handheld circular saw (plunge saw with guide rail)
- Carbide-tipped non-ferrous aluminium metal cutting blade
- Drill - HSS bit and bimetal hole saw
- Tape measure
- Steel ruler
- Sandpaper
- Masking tape
- Straightedge level
- Caulking gun
- COMPLETE adhesive (available from Polyrey) or polyurethane adhesive
- COMPLETE coloured sealant (available from Polyrey) or silicone sealant
- White spirit and lint-free cloths
- Spacers and scraper for the sealant and adhesive

3. INSTALLATION

1. CUTTING

- Place a clean, flat sacrificial panel under the compact panel to prevent chipping and damage. Check for anything that might scratch or damage the surface. Clamp the splashback to the support surface to prevent movement during cutting.
- Take the measurements you need. Leave a 1.5 mm expansion gap along walls, around appliances and furniture, and between a series of panels or two corner panels.
- Mark out the measurements on the back of the panel. Line up the markings to ensure that the decor matches.
- Use a circular saw with a guide rail to cut the panel to the desired dimensions. Ensure that the blade cuts into the decorative side of the splashback. This side is usually placed facing downwards.
- Ensure that milling and trimming tools have a rotational speed of $\geq 18,000$ rpm.
- To cut out holes for sockets, mark their position on the panel and drill the holes with a bimetal hole saw of the appropriate diameter.

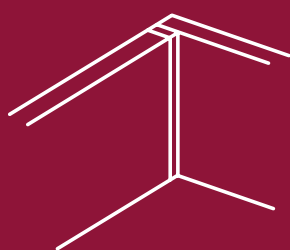
Please note:

- **Wear personal protective equipment as the machined edges are sharp.**
- **Be aware of the risk of sparks and fire. Do not mix metal dust with wood or panel dust.**

2. FINISHING

- After cutting, deburr the machined edges. Slightly bevel the top and bottom of each edge with 300 or 400 grit sandpaper and a sanding block.
- Tilt the sanding block and run it down each edge a few times.
- **Manual sanding only. Do not use deburring or rotary tools for finishing.**

3. ASSEMBLING, BONDING AND JOINTING



Check the splashbacks before installing them:

- ▶ Test-fit the splashback panels by placing them against the wall without adhesive or sealant.
- ▶ Next, remove the protective film from the back of the splashback panels.
- ▶ Leave a 1.5 mm expansion gap between panels, in corners and around accessories.

Install, bond and seal:

▶ Installing the panel against the wall

- Alloy™ splashbacks can be bonded straight onto plasterboard that has been painted or coated with a primer. It can also be bonded onto tiling for renovation projects. Otherwise, use moisture-resistant plasterboard or build a 3 mm frame onto standard plasterboard.
- **If installing a cooker splashback**, leave at least 30 mm between it and the nearest edge of a gas, electric or induction cooker.

▶ Applying the adhesive

- Apply the adhesive to the back of the splashback panels. Use **COMPLETE adhesive** (available from Polyrey) or a polyurethane adhesive and a caulking gun with an application nozzle.
- **Always apply the adhesive in beads at least 5 mm in diameter. Space the beads 100 mm apart and leave a gap of 10 to 15 mm around the edge with no adhesive.**
- **Ensure that the beads are applied perpendicular to the long axis.**
- **Use a straightedge to press down evenly on the splashback when bonding it in place.**

▶ Positioning the panels

- Position the splashback panels end-to-end. Leave a 1.5 mm expansion gap between panels, in corners and around accessories.
- Insert spacers for the expansion gaps.

▶ Jointing

- Once the adhesive has cured (2 to 4 hours), remove the spacers. Seal the gaps where the splashback meets the worktop or the wall to prevent water ingress. Use **COMPLETE neutral adhesive or coloured sealant** (both available from Polyrey). A silicone sealant may also be used.
- Wipe away excess adhesive or sealant with white spirit.

4. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

The best way to ensure that your splashback lasts is to protect it. For that reason, please follow our instructions for use and cleaning.

Protecting your splashback:

- **Protect your splashback from sources of heat**
Our Aluminium Composite splashbacks are suitable for all types of hobs, including gas. Leave 30 mm between the splashback and hobs. Avoid direct contact with flames. To keep your splashback looking its best, use covers on nearby saucepans and frying pans and ensure that steam is directed away from the splashback.
- **Protect your splashback from scratches**
Avoid placing sharp or metallic objects against your splashback as they may scratch it. Never clean with abrasive sponges.
- **Protect your splashback from stains**
Clean up any spills and messes immediately to prevent the surface from being permanently stained.

4. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Cleaning your splashback

- **Routine cleaning steps**

Clean the surface using a non-abrasive sponge and a mild household detergent. Rinse with clean water then dry with a soft cloth.

Clean the entire surface, not just dirty areas, to avoid leaving marks.

Never use abrasive, acidic or alkaline detergents (scouring cream, black soap, lime scale remover, soda-based cleaners, bicarbonate of soda, bleach, hydrochloric acid, etc.). Do not clean without wetting the surface.

- **Removing stains**

Remove stubborn stains like ink and varnish with conventional solvents. Some examples are nail varnish remover, acetone, white spirit and denatured alcohol. Then repeat the routine cleaning steps above (lather, rinse, dry).

Test on a small area first. Please refer to the manufacturer's user guide if adapting the method of use.

- **Disinfection**

Use conventional household disinfectants.

Test on a small area first. Always refer to the manufacturer's user guide for instructions for use.