



LA BASTILLE
METAL. EVOLVED.

Countertop Purchasing Guide

Thank you for your interest in La Bastille! The following guide will help walk you through details to consider when planning for a La Bastille Countertop.

How La Bastille's product differs from others:

Over the last 10 years, we have become the industry go-to for complex, custom metal projects across the US and abroad. Our product is made in the US. We hand-cast and hand-finish our products, no shortcuts. Our metals are food safe, not galvanized steel, and not a paint. Our process allows for pieces up to 12'-14', meaning fewer seams. Our edge profile library offers a large variety of options. Radius curves are achieved beautifully. No job is too complex for us to tackle. We love a design challenge so contact us with your ideas.

Countertop construction:

Our countertop substrates are 1-½" thick, made from a wooden core. The substrate refers to the horizontal surface of your countertop. A decorative edge profile added to the substrate before the entire countertop is cast with ⅛" thickness on the surface. The entire piece is cast and the top, front, and sides of the countertop will be polished and finished with your finish choice. If a subtop is needed for support, we supply a pre-finished ¾" radiata pine cut to fit the project at no additional charge. Projects requiring subtops have a minimum edge profile requirement of 2-¼.



Metal Choice:

We offer many unique metal choices: zinc, pewter, brass, bronze, and copper. Each metal has its own unique history and qualities, ranging from bright and shiny silvery hues to vibrant golds with rich and warm tones. We provide samples so you can determine which is the best selection for your space.



Seams:

If your project is longer than 12' to 14' long, we will place seam locations into the shop drawings for your approval. These seams will be butt joints with finished ends. We provide color matched silicone for seaming and an installation guide with step by step instructions.

Edge profile:

Your edge profile choice is a very important design detail that will determine the whole personality of the countertop. La Bastille offers dozens of options, all found on our website, to fit any aesthetic. If you have something special in mind, we can discuss making a custom edge profile design just for you.

Finish:

La Bastille offers a variety of finishes to fit the aesthetic of any project. We use two terms to discuss our finish options: **patina and texture**.

A **patina** is a tarnish produced by chemical processes that form on the surface of many metals with use and time. A patina showing rich shades of browns and grays can take decades to acquire. Our specialty metals are living alloys and will patina and develop wear patterns with use and time. This is precisely why our clients choose our materials. However, just like sterling silver, our products can be polished to look like new. Getting the exact level

of a patina can be a difficult and painstaking process, but our methods are refined and exact. We offer a variety of options to compliment any interior space.

The **texture** of a finish refers to the visual texture seen on the surface. A smoother texture may be desired for projects with a more modern sleek aesthetic, while a heavier texture may be better suited for a countertop that needs to look more aged. All of our surfaces are smooth to the touch, so the texture will not affect how your countertop feels when used.

Subtops:

Some countertops may be installed on cabinetry, while others may be installed on a die wall (sometimes also known as a pony wall or knee wall). Your project may even involve both. La Bastille can accommodate for any of these situations.

If your project requires a subtop for support, we will provide one. This will allow you to securely fasten the countertop to the die wall. The subtop will be ¾” thick, pre-finished radiata pine. This will make the total thickness of your countertop and subtop 2-¼”. This means that projects with subtops should have a minimum edge profile height of 2-¼”. The counters weigh approximately 9 pounds per square foot.



Cabinetry
(No subtopic needed)



Die Wall
(Subtop needed)



Both
(Subtop needed only for upper countertop)

Templating:

We typically work from drawings and rarely require a template. Some projects however may be located in tricky areas, such as between two or three walls, or have special circumstances, such as being out of square. In these cases, we may recommend that a template be made. This can be completed by any general contractor, with guidance from the templating instructions found in the FAQs on our website. Please note that the template should only be made from select materials, which are outlined in the instructions. If you think your project would benefit from the use of a template, please let us know so we can assist you further.

Commercial Project Considerations:

If your project requires drink rails, flip gates, and/or ADA tops, La Bastille can easily accommodate your needs. We offer two drink rail systems to choose from or we can accommodate your vendor. We provide soft close flip gate hardware that is both easy to install and rated highly for safety. La Bastille recognizes the need to incorporate areas that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. We smoothly integrate these areas with the rest of the countertop.

Beer taps can be accommodated, with the beer tap being specified and purchased by others. Just like drink rails and other equipment, beer taps must be properly sealed and siliconed during installation in order to protect your investment for years to come. Let us know about the specific needs of your project so we can help you plan accordingly.

Residential Project Considerations:

Most residential countertops we create incorporate a sink, either undermount or drop-in. We can also accommodate drop-in cooktops. All we need is the sink or cooktop sent to our shop so we can verify its dimensions and test fit it during the production process. You do not need to send us the faucets, as we recommend those cutouts be made on site as their final placement may need to be adjusted at the last minute during installation.

What to expect after deciding to purchase:

When you are ready to contract, we will send you an invoice detailing your purchase as well as payment terms for an approval e-signature. Your initial payment will trigger the Design Phase, when the details and shop drawings for your project will be finalized. An e-signature is required for the final shop drawings and this will signal the start of the Production Phase. The length of the Production Phase will be agreed upon before contracting. When your project is completed, you will receive photos of your completed countertop for finish approval. Once approved, your project will be crated and shipping will be arranged.