

# DURCON SPC-CR & SOLICOR-CR

# MATERIAL GUIDE

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A WILSONART COMPANY

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# SPC-CR & SOLICOR-CR MATERIAL GUIDE

## INTRODUCTION

This guide provides instruction for Durcon Solid Phenolic Compact-Chemical Resistance grade and Solicor-Chemical Resistance grade worksurfaces from the time they are delivered through the routine upkeep of the material. It outlines the correct methods for ensuring this unique material remains safe, attractive and effective for the duration of its lifespan.

### Recommended Uses

Durcon SPC-CR and Solicor-CR worksurfaces are resistant to chemicals, easy to clean and relatively lightweight for their durable nature, making them useful for both vertical and horizontal applications in a number of fields, including but not limited to:

- Laboratories - Worktops, shelving, mobile furniture, teaching tables
- Education - School furniture, lockers, partitions, doors
- Healthcare - Lab furniture, tables, headboards, hallways, reception areas, cubicles

## HANDLING & STORAGE

### Handling

Special care should be taken when handling SPC-CR and Solicor-CR worksurfaces to protect employees as well as the aesthetic properties of the product. Always use two people when handling worksurfaces to avoid breakage and damage. Lift pieces individually to avoid scratching. Large pieces should be transported by pallet, fork-truck, rolling table or vacuum lifts.

Additional tips include:

- Place padding (slip-sheet or protective cardboard strips) between pieces when stacking
- Carry thinner pieces vertically to limit flex and possible breakage

### Storage

SPC-CR and Solicor-CR pieces should be stored indoors in a controlled moderate climate, with optimum storage conditions between 64°F and 77°F (18°C - 25°C) and 45% to 55% relative humidity. Avoid storing in excessive heat and humidity extremes, or prolonged exposure to direct sunlight. Material should not be stored near exterior doors that may result in exposure to rain or temperature and humidity variations.

Never store material directly on the floor - store horizontally with the top sheet facing down in order to protect the material from damage, and to reduce the chance of possible warpage to the top sheets. Good circulation and air movement is recommended around the material. It is recommended **NOT** to carry pieces flat, but rather turn the sheet on its side.

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## Acclimation or Preconditioning

In preparation for installation, it is always recommended to ensure proper acclimation of the material to the environment. Recommended optimum temperature is approximately 75°F (24°C), and 45% to 55% relative humidity. All materials should be acclimated for 72 hours prior to installation.

## PRE-INSTALLATION

Once the tops have reached the job site, handle them with great care. If a top is scratched or damaged when received, do not install and contact Durcon immediately.

### Installation Timing

It is best practice to install the worksurfaces in the final stages of construction. Keep the protective film intact and cover with a cloth for protection until the project is fully completed. This reduces the risk of damage by tools, or use of the tops as workbenches or scaffolding. Be sure to store all worksurfaces flat and protected, and do not lean against the wall as they may warp.

### Tools & Helpful Items

Before beginning the work, you will want to have the following items on-hand in order to make your installation go as smoothly as possible.

- Shop drawings or truck drawings
- Safety glasses
- Putty knives
- Level
- Multiple C-clamps
- 2 inch wide masking tape
- 2-part (A & B) epoxy adhesive (other sealants such as lab grade silicone are acceptable)
- Multiple applicator sticks
- Lacquer thinner
- Several pieces of hardwood blocking
- Tapered shims made of wood or similar material
- Several pieces of cardboard in varying sizes
- 2 or 3 pieces of lumber, at least 1.5x the width of the cabinet
- Scotchbrite® Light Duty white finishing pads
- Distilled water
- Several clean rags

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Take time to inspect all cabinet runs to ensure they are level.

**Have shop drawings or truck drawings easily accessible** to reference the location of each top in the room.

## **Dry-Fitting**

Study the worksurface layout included with the shipment and properly place all pieces. Each piece is labeled to correspond with the layout.

Place the worksurface pieces on the cabinets and slide them into place. Be cautious to prevent anything abrasive from coming into contact with the worksurfaces.

When installing worksurfaces with undermount sinks, line the sinks up below the proper cutouts with an even overhang on all sides.

Put the curbs in place and ensure they are the correct length.

After you have checked the cabinets and inspected the pieces, you are ready to begin installing.

*Note: In the case of damaged, malformed or missing pieces, please notify Durcon immediately. Inspect each section of the worktop before applying adhesive. Durcon will not be responsible for removal of adhered defective tops.*

## **Mixing Adhesive**

Two-part epoxy adhesive is the most important material used in installing worksurfaces, and properly mixing it together is a critical step.

Mix only what you need for the number of pieces at hand, using a clean piece of cardboard.

Always use a separate applicator stick to scoop each part of the epoxy adhesive, and use the same stick each time to avoid contaminating the unused portion.

Begin with the dark pigment epoxy and mix the white material in thoroughly.

Spread the mixed epoxy adhesive in a layer about 0.25" thick on the cardboard to prevent it from generating its own heat and drying too quickly.

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## WORKSURFACE INSTALLATION

### Setting Pieces

With two worksurface pieces, form a completely flat surface using a straight edge or level. If necessary, use shims to adjust the height of either piece.

Lift and prop up the first two pieces, and place small dabs of adhesive in intervals every 24" (610mm) along the front and back edges of the cabinet top below the first worksurface piece. Then remove the wood prop and lower the worksurface into place.

Put a few dabs of adhesive along the lower edge of the first piece where the next piece will abut.

Repeat the steps above for the second worksurface piece and carefully lower it into place, leaving a 0.125" (3mm) to 0.0625" (1.5mm) seam between the pieces.

Repeat this process for the remaining worksurface pieces in each run.

### Filling Seams

Apply a length of 2" (50mm) wide masking tape to each side of the seam, directly on the edge of the joint.

Using a putty knife, press the adhesive down and into the seam. Using too much adhesive is better than not using enough.

Beginning at the back of the worksurface, drag the putty knife toward you holding it at a 45° angle. Scrape any excess adhesive off the masking tape approximately 0.0625" (1.5mm) from the center of the seam on both sides.

Drag a clean putty knife across the masking tape one more time, then remove the tape.

Use lacquer thinner on a clean rag to smooth out the adhesive for finished seams, then a separate clean rag (damp or dry) to wipe away any excess adhesive.

*Note: Never attempt to sand seams or scratches.*

Allow adhesive to harden overnight (at approximately 77°F / 25°C).

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## **Curb Installation**

Cover the worksurfaces with cardboard to protect against scratching, and place the curbs upside down on the cardboard.

Fill a putty knife with adhesive and, in a smooth stroking motion, run a bead along the bottom of the curb and along the edge that abuts another curb.

Set the curbs in their proper location and press into place. If you have uneven walls you will need to shim the curbs to have an even front. If you have a bow in the wall you can eliminate the problem with a prop and clamp.

Wipe off excess adhesive at the bottom of the curbs with a rag dipped in lacquer thinner or distilled water.

To ensure worksurfaces and curbs are secured in place, block and clamp the seams and allow the adhesive to harden overnight.

## **SINK INSTALLATION**

### **Durcon Dropln® Sinks**

Lower the sink into the cutout and inspect the fit.

Using a rag dipped in lacquer thinner, clean the rim of the Dropln sink, and the area around and inside the rabbeted worksurface cutout.

Remove the sink and apply adhesive around the surface of the rabbeted cutout.

Carefully lower the sink back into the cutout.

Gently press the sink rim until it is level with the bottom of the 0.125" (3mm) cutout bevel.

Use a rag dipped in lacquer thinner or distilled water to wipe away excess adhesive, and allow adhesive to harden overnight.

### **Cupsinks**

Clean the rim of the cupsink, and the area around and inside the worksurface or fume hood base cutout with lacquer thinner.

*Note: If installing Durcon Polypropylene Cupsinks, scuff the contact surfaces under the sink rim to increase adhesion.*

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Position the blocking mechanism used to hold the cupsink in place.

*Note: Create a blocking mechanism by using wire to connect a large wood block and a smaller wood block through cupsink outlet.*

Twist smaller block to achieve enough tension to hold cupsink level with worksurface top when in place.

Apply a dab of epoxy adhesive on all four sides of the cutout in worksurface.

Position cupsink directly over the worksurface cutout and lower into position.

Center the sink (the blocks will hold it level) and allow the epoxy adhesive to harden overnight.

After the epoxy adhesive has hardened, remove support blocks and carefully fill in the sealant seam with adhesive.

Use a rag dipped in lacquer thinner or distilled water to smooth off the seam. Use a clean rag (damp or dry) to wipe away any excess adhesive, and allow adhesive to harden overnight.

## **Undermount Sinks**

Before installing, check to see that the sink fits properly on sink supports provided by your cabinet supplier: **Durcon does not provide sink supports.**

Using a level, check to ensure the top of the undermount sink is flush with top edge of cabinet, and adjust sink supports from under the sink, if necessary.

After the sink is positioned, be careful not to move it as you set the worksurface.

Wipe rim of sink and contact points on the bottom of the worksurface with a rag dipped in lacquer thinner or distilled water.

Apply a small bead of silicone sealant to the top edge of the sink.

Apply a dab of epoxy adhesive at each corner of the sink cabinet.

Place a bead of silicone under the inside of the sink cutout, and the sink.

Carefully lower the worksurface into place, then follow the steps outlined in the **Filling Seams** and **Curb Installation** sections of **WORKSURFACE INSTALLATION** (Pages 6-7).

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## **Epoxy Sink Outlets**

Clean both the outlet and recessed hole in the sink with lacquer thinner.

Apply silicone or epoxy adhesive to the outlet in a 0.25" (6mm) bead around bottom edge.

Insert outlet directly into recessed hole in the sink.

Give outlet a 1/4 turn after contact is made - be sure the outlet is centered in the hole.

From under the sink, thread retaining nut all the way up and hand tighten until upper outlet flange is flush with sink basin.

*Note: Do not use tools or over-tighten the plastic retaining nut.*

Wipe off the excess adhesive in the sink. Using a rag dipped in lacquer thinner or distilled water, smooth out the edges of the sealant seam.

Clean excess sealant with a clean rag (damp or dry).

## **Polypropylene Sink Outlets**

Scuff the contact surfaces under the outlet flange to increase adhesion.

Follow the procedure shown above using silicone or epoxy adhesive.

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## CARE & MAINTENANCE

This section details best practices in cleaning and caring for Durcon Solid Phenolic Compact-Chemical Resistance grade and Solicor-Chemical Resistance grade worksurfaces.

Please take a moment to review and share with cleaning personnel, faculty, and end users at your facility. We recommend instituting a regular maintenance schedule to help ensure the best physical appearance and longevity of your worksurfaces.

### **Routine Care & Stain Treatment**

As part of daily routine cleaning, or for some instances of light staining, clean the worksurfaces using a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or household cleaning solution (see **Recommended Cleaners** list on *Page 11*). Rinse thoroughly with warm water and wipe dry with a paper towel to prevent streaks.

For stains resulting from prolonged exposure to liquids such as coffee or tea, use a sponge or soft bristled brush with a mild household cleaning solution, and repeat as necessary. The cleaning solution can be applied overnight if needed, removing with a wet cloth the following day.

More persistent stains may require a paste made from baking soda and water. Apply with a soft bristled brush, lightly scrubbing for 10-20 strokes. This should remove most stains.

*Note: While baking soda is a low abrasive, excessive scrubbing and force could scuff the surface.*

### **General Precautions**

Do not use acidic or abrasive cleaners as they can damage worksurfaces.

Drain cleaners containing lye will permanently damage any worksurface. If you spill drain cleaner, wipe it up immediately and rinse several times with water.

Food, textile and hair dyes can cause permanent stains. If dye should happen to spill, wipe it up immediately and clean with dishwashing detergent or recommended cleaner.

Never place hot or heat-producing apparatuses such as Bunsen burners, beakers or crucibles directly on an unprotected worksurface. Extreme heat can produce blistering and cracking which will mar the worksurface's appearance as well as its functionality.

Do no work with oven cleaners on an unprotected worksurface. Wipe spills away promptly and rinse with water several times.

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Rust removers contain harsh chemicals which will quickly cause permanent damage to the worksurface. Wipe up spills and all residue immediately, and wash thoroughly with soapy water rinsing several times.

Steel wool and other abrasive pads will damage worksurfaces. Do not use them for cleaning, or store steel wool pads on the worksurfaces as the metal can rust and leave stains.

Toilet bowl cleaners contain harsh chemicals that can cause permanent damage. Wipe up spills immediately and wash with soapy water several times.

## Recommended Cleaners

The following household cleaners are recommended for Durcon SPC-CR & Solicor-CR worksurfaces.

- Windex®
- Glass Plus®
- Fantastik®
- Mr. Clean®
- Formula 409®
- Isopropyl Alcohol (Isopropanol)

## DO NOT USE

When cleaning worksurfaces, do not use any of the following products:

- Muriatic Acid or Hydrogen Chloride; containing Hydrochloric Acid
- Oleic Acid, Oil of Vitriol or Oleum; containing Sulfuric Acid
- Rust Removers; containing Hydrofluoric Acid or Phosphoric Acid
- Caustic Soda, Caustic Lye or Soda Lye; containing Sodium Hydroxide
- Pumice; it is highly abrasive

Following these helpful guidelines, your Durcon SPC-CR & Solicor-CR worksurfaces will maintain their aesthetic and functional attributes.

For any further questions, please contact us at [Sales@durcon.com](mailto:Sales@durcon.com) or 512-595-8000.



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