



## PLASTIC LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS

Your kitchen and/or bathroom countertops may be made of plastic laminate. Due to its durability, wide range of colors and patterns, and moderate price, plastic laminate is the most widely used surfacing material. Plastic laminate itself is impervious to water, and is not damaged by constant contact. Laminate, however cannot be used on its own to form a countertop. It is a thin sheet of hard plastic that must be cemented to an underlayment/substrate. Most available countertops are constructed within industrial particleboard. This material is extremely sensitive to water exposure, as are all wood products. Manufacturers of plastic laminate countertops do not warrant them against water damage. Therefore, homeowners should be vigilant to keep standing water away from the areas that are prone to water damage - backsplashes, seams, seals around sinks, and edges where the underlayment/substrate are exposed. Excessive moisture will eventually breakdown the seal and cause swelling and delamination. With proper care, plastic laminate countertops can last a lifetime. For care and maintenance information visit [www.Formica.com](http://www.Formica.com) or [www.Wilsonart.com](http://www.Wilsonart.com).