

# 1.8 Layout

## **DESIGNING AND FABRICATING WITH AVONITE SURFACES STUDIO COLLECTION GLASS SERIES**

The unique translucent quality of Avonite Surfaces Glass products allows you to exercise a great deal of creativity. For this reason, it is expected that there will be many new applications that will produce unanticipated effects. By all means experiment, be creative, and consult with us as you have questions. However, always make sure that the end result will meet your expectations and those of your client by doing a test piece to demonstrate the effect you are trying to achieve. Should you develop special techniques for dealing with new applications, please give our Technical Services department a call at 800.866.8324

### **The Nature of Avonite Surfaces Studio Collection Glass Series**

Keep in mind that dabs of silicone, supports, and under-mount sink flanges will show through these products like any typical glass. When the products are laminated together for a thicker appearance, such as a drop edge or seam block, they will appear darker due to reduced light transmission. These special effects can be worked into the design for a unique aesthetic effect or application. Thermoforming of Avonite Surfaces Studio Collection Glass products is not recommended.

When Glass products are chosen for more typical applications, where less transparency is desired, the backsides of the finished top can be painted to hide any supports. ***We have found that most customers prefer the brighter appearance when the backsides are painted white.*** The color you choose will affect the final appearance. Frosted glass offers unique opportunities for painting the back different colors to achieve custom hues that transmit through the sheet. Painting should be done after fabrication to avoid painting any surface where Solid Surface Adhesive will be applied (field seams, build up, etc):

### **Seam Blocks**

Due to the translucency of the glass products, on some occasions the clear acrylic seam-blocks are noticeable. Therefore Avonite Surfaces has decided on the following procedure for seams in the GLASS series.

The edges of the seams should be routed with the Pinsky Wavy Bit System. This allows for added glue area & helps to align the surface better. After glue has dried, sand seam, flip sheet and do remaining fabrication, edge build up, sinks etc. Clean up excess glue before it dries. Then paint the back of the sheet with a flat latex paint (WHITE). After the paint has thoroughly dried, attach the substrate. In the area where the seam is put a 4" wide piece of the substrate to act as a seam block using extra silicone.

For field seams, prepare edges as above, but stop substrate 2" from each edge of the seam and apply the 4" wide substrate "seam block" and attach when making the field seam.

If there are seams in a top that is to be backlit, run a full sheet of 1/2" clear acrylic under the top being sure to cover the seam. Do not glue a separate 4" piece of the clear acrylic under the seam.

## Backlit Applications

For backlit applications, you may use clear 1/2" (12.7mm) acrylic to support larger spans. Using the 1/2" (12.7mm) clear acrylic sheet as a solid substrate is recommended. The clear acrylic will not appear when lit. Counters must be supported every 24" (61.2cm). Frosted or white acrylic may be used to diffuse the light source. When adhering the Avonite Surfaces glass product to the acrylic, we recommend 100% silicone containing a matching translucent tint, such as Axiom Sealants (Buffalo, NY 14215, phone: 716.894.1561 or email at [thiemkeent@juno.com](mailto:thiemkeent@juno.com)), or equivalent. Another method uses 3M VHB Clear Acrylic double side tape #4910 90065 287 N. Always test a small piece to judge appearance. Backlit Applications that require deck seams or have unsupported spans will require special consideration. Please call Avonite Surfaces Technical Services (800.866.TECH [8324]) as you have questions.