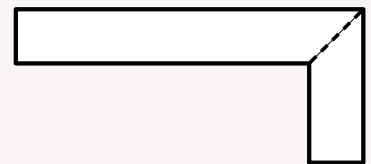




Edge Profile Specification Guide

Eighteen benchtop edge profiles drawn to scale in true cross-section, with material suitability, fabrication method and specifying notes for engineered stone, natural stone and porcelain.

SIX OF THE EIGHTEEN PROFILES IN THIS GUIDE



WORKSHOP & SHOWROOM

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HOURS

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Showroom by appointment

Reading the drawings

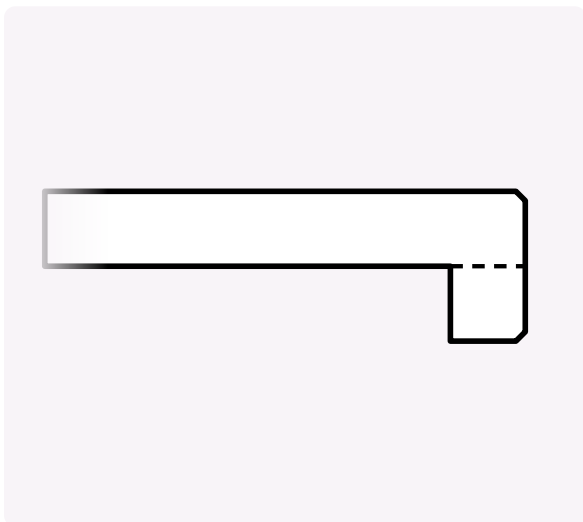
Every profile in this guide is shown as a cross-section — the benchtop cut through and viewed end-on. The finished edge faces right; the slab continues off to the left. All sections are drawn to the same scale, so a 40 mm profile really is twice the depth of a 20 mm one on the page.

 **Stone** shown in section  **Hidden joint** — a mitre or glue line inside the stone

Scale — 20 mm and 40 mm at true relative thickness

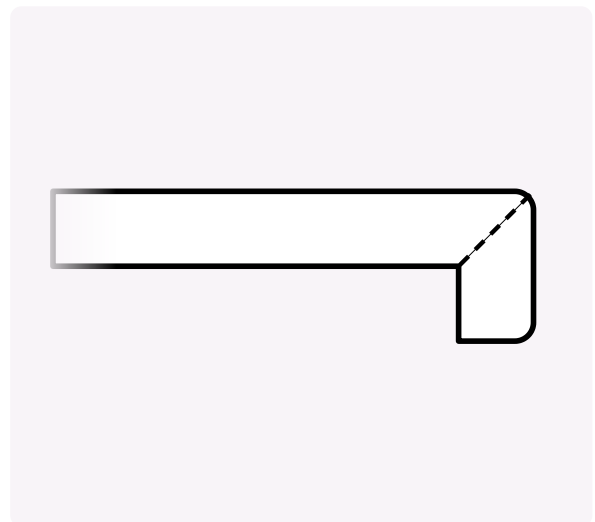
THE TWO WAYS TO REACH A 40 MM EDGE

Australian slabs are supplied at 20 mm (occasionally 12–13 mm for porcelain). A thicker-looking benchtop is always built, never solid. How it is built changes what the edge looks like at eye level — and it is the single detail clients most often don't know to ask about.



Laminated build-up

A second strip of stone is bonded under the top and the whole assembly is profiled together. Quick, economical, and structurally sound — but the bond line runs the length of the edge and, on veined stone, the pattern will not line up across it.



Mitred build-up

Both pieces are cut at 45° and folded together at the corner. The joint is invisible, the surface pattern carries over the edge and down the face, and the polish is continuous. More cutting, more polishing, and the only correct method for porcelain.

Which one should be specified?

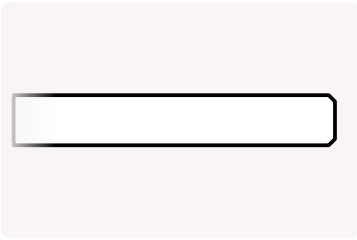
Laminating is the efficient choice on plain, non-directional colours where a fine joint reads as part of the surface. A mitre is the right call whenever the stone has movement — marble, marble-look engineered stone, quartzite, and any porcelain — because it carries the vein and the polish over the corner without interruption. On porcelain a mitre is effectively mandatory: the decoration sits on the surface, so a laminated joint would expose the unprinted body along the whole run.

Overhangs, cut-outs and where edges get hit

The edge profile is chosen for the whole benchtop, but it is only tested in a few places — the sink and dishwasher run, the front of an island where stools tuck under, and any external corner in a walkway. Those are the points where a square arris chips and a radiused profile survives. Where an unsupported overhang exceeds roughly 300 mm, a build-up or bracketry is needed regardless of the profile chosen.

Square & minimal

Edges that keep the benchtop reading as a single clean plane. The whole family is cut from a single 20 mm slab, so these are the quickest to fabricate — and the least forgiving of a knock at an external corner.

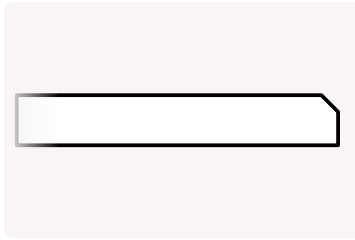


Arris

20 MM

Square edge softened by a 0.5–1 mm chamfer. The contemporary default — reads as a clean line at bench height.

Best for Modern, minimal kitchens
Chip resistance ● ○ ○

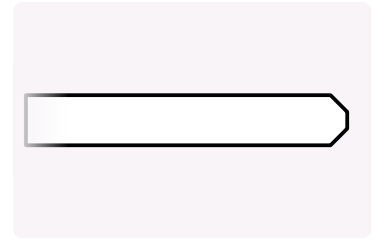


Chamfer / Bevel

20 MM

A visible 3–6 mm angled cut along the top edge. Crisp, and more forgiving of knocks than a raw square.

Best for Transitional joinery
Chip resistance ● ○ ○

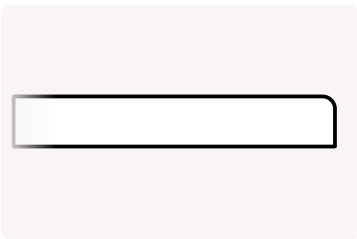


Double chamfer

20 MM

Bevelled top and bottom. Reads symmetrical from standing height and lightens the apparent thickness.

Best for Vanities, slim line tops
Chip resistance ● ○ ○

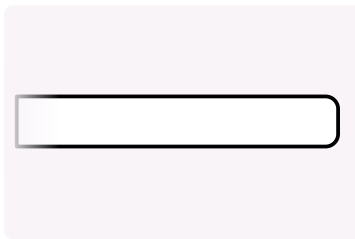


Pencil round — top

20 MM

Small radius on the top arris only, flat underside. Comfortable to lean against without softening the silhouette.

Best for Perimeter benches
Chip resistance ● ● ○



Pencil round — top & bottom

20 MM

Radiused both sides. The most specified finish on 20 mm island tops, and the safest all-round choice.

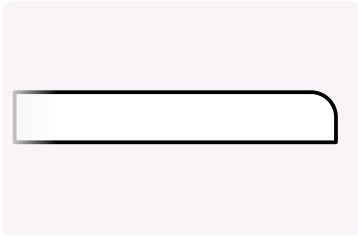
Best for Islands, family kitchens
Chip resistance ● ● ○

IN PRACTICE

Where a square edge meets an external corner in a walkway, we will usually suggest easing it slightly. A 2 mm radius is invisible at standing height and removes the chip risk almost entirely.

Rounded

Where the top surface rolls over into the edge. Rounded profiles distribute impact instead of concentrating it on a corner, which makes them the most durable choices in the guide and the ones we recommend around sinks, dishwashers and in family kitchens.

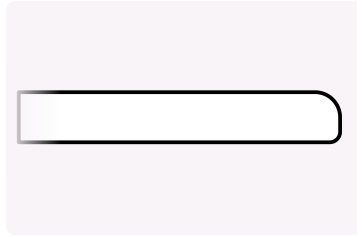


Half bullnose

20 MM

Top half rolled over to a flat underside. Softer than a pencil round without committing to a traditional look.

Best for Laundries, wet areas
Chip resistance ● ● ●

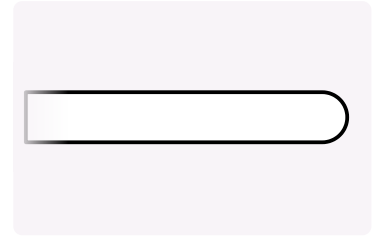


Demi bullnose

20 MM

Generous top curve finished with a small radius beneath. Sits between the half and full bullnose.

Best for Vanities, bar tops
Chip resistance ● ● ●

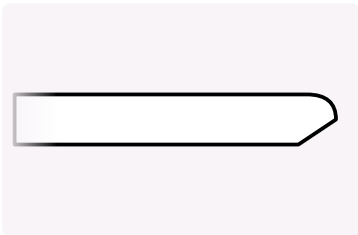


Full bullnose

20 MM

A complete half-circle. The most impact-resistant profile available, and unmistakably traditional in character.

Best for High-traffic, children
Chip resistance ● ● ●



Shark nose

20–40 MM

Also called bird's beak. Rounded top tapering back to a set-back underside, so a thick top reads slim from standing height.

Best for Thick tops, slim look
Chip resistance ● ● ○

IN PRACTICE

A full bullnose reads distinctly traditional. Where durability is the goal but the kitchen is contemporary, a pencil round top and bottom captures most of the impact resistance without the period character.

Decorative & traditional

Classical profiles carried over from timber joinery. All are cut into a laminated 40 mm edge, which means enough depth for the curve to develop — and enough exposed stone body that the material has to suit the profile.



Lambs tongue

40 MM

Convex roll tucking back under to a set-back base. The Hamptons and French provincial standard, available in several depths.

Best for Hamptons, provincial
Chip resistance ● ● ●



Ogee / Dupont

40 MM

A true S-curve — convex over the top, concave in, flaring back out at the base. The most ornate of the classical profiles.

Best for Traditional, formal
Chip resistance ● ● ○



Cove

40 MM

Concave scoop across the face. Uncommon on kitchen benches; used to good effect on bar fronts and vanities.

Best for Bars, feature vanities
Chip resistance ● ● ○



Waterfall (stepped)

40 MM

Tiered rounds cascading down the face. Note the same word also describes a mitred panel run to the floor — worth confirming which is meant.

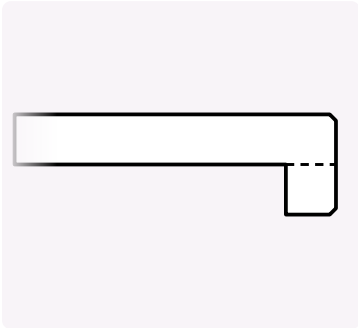
Best for Period restorations
Chip resistance ● ● ○

IN PRACTICE

These profiles are cut into the laminated strip, so the bond line falls inside the curve where it is least visible — one reason the traditional family suits laminating better than most.

Thickness build-ups

These are not shapes so much as construction methods: how a 20 mm slab becomes a 40 mm or deeper benchtop. Each can be finished with any of the profiles on the preceding pages. The choice between laminating and mitring is the one that shows.

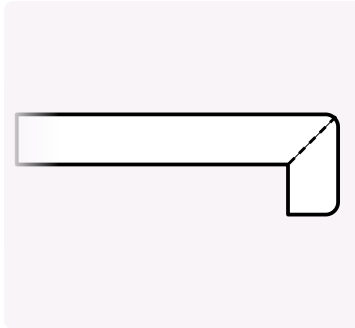


Laminated (built-up)

40 MM FROM 20 MM

A strip glued beneath the top and then profiled as one. The efficient route to a chunky edge; a fine glue line is visible on the face.

Best for Plain, non-directional colours
Chip resistance ●●○

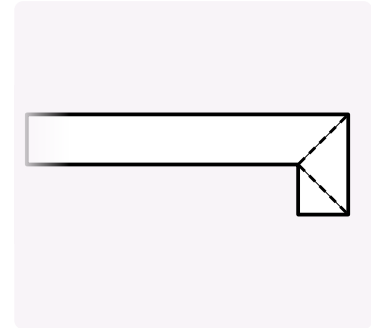


Mitred edge

40 MM FROM 20 MM

A 45° cut so the surface wraps the corner. No glue line, and the vein and polish run unbroken over the edge.

Best for Veined stone, porcelain
Chip resistance ●●○

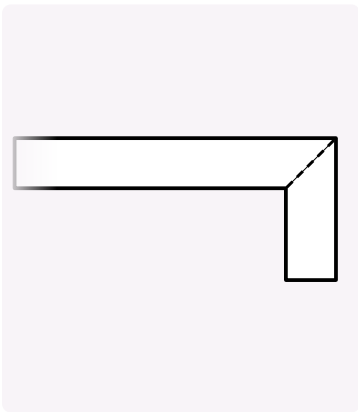


Double mitred

40 MM +

Mitred at the top and again at the bottom return, so no raw edge is visible from any viewing angle, including from below.

Best for Open ends, seating sides
Chip resistance ●●○

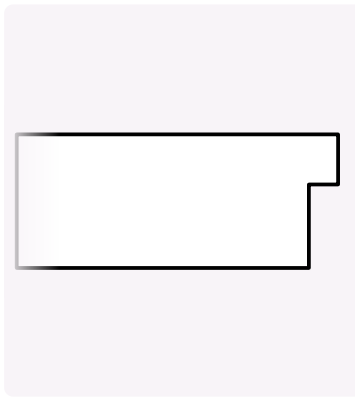


Mitred apron

60-120 MM

A deep mitred face giving a solid, slab-like benchtop. Veining carries unbroken over the edge and down the apron.

Best for Islands, statement stone
Chip resistance ●●○



Shadowline

20 MM + REVEAL

The top oversails a recessed face below, so the benchtop appears to float on a line of shadow above the joinery.

Best for Contemporary, handleless
Chip resistance ●○○

IN PRACTICE

A mitred apron changes slab usage significantly: the apron is cut from the same slab as the top, so it should be allowed for when estimating how many slabs a job will need.

Material suitability

Not every profile can be cut in every material. The deeper a profile bites into the slab, the more of the stone's body it exposes — which is why the decorative curves belong on engineered and natural stone, and porcelain is held to a short, mitre-based list. This table is general guidance for planning; the final call is made against your actual slab.

PROFILE	ENGINEERED STONE	NATURAL STONE	PORCELAIN / SINTERED	FABRICATION
SQUARE & MINIMAL				
Arris · 20 mm	●	●	●	Single slab
Chamfer / Bevel · 20 mm	●	●	○	Single slab
Double chamfer · 20 mm	●	●	○	Single slab
Pencil round — top · 20 mm	●	●	●	Single slab
Pencil round — top & bottom · 20 mm	●	●	●	Single slab
ROUNDED				
Half bullnose · 20 mm	●	●	○	Single slab
Demi bullnose · 20 mm	●	●	○	Single slab
Full bullnose · 20 mm	●	●	○	Single slab
Shark nose · 20–40 mm	●	◐	○	Single or laminated
DECORATIVE & TRADITIONAL				
Lambs tongue · 40 mm	●	●	○	Laminated
Ogee / Dupont · 40 mm	●	●	○	Laminated
Cove · 40 mm	●	◐	○	Laminated
Waterfall (stepped) · 40 mm	●	◐	○	Laminated
THICKNESS BUILD-UPS				
Laminated (built-up) · 40 mm from 20 mm	●	●	○	Laminated
Mitred edge · 40 mm from 20 mm	●	●	●	Mitred
Double mitred · 40 mm +	●	●	●	Mitred
Mitred apron · 60–120 mm	●	●	●	Mitred
Shadowline · 20 mm + reveal	●	●	●	Single or mitred

● Suitable ◐ Slab-dependent — confirm with us ○ Not recommended

Why porcelain is different

On most porcelain and sintered slabs the colour and veining are printed on the surface, over a plain body. Any profile that grinds into that body — a bullnose, an ogee, a bevel — will show a pale, unpatterned band along the edge. Full-body porcelains relax this, but not entirely. The safe list is arris, polished pencil single or double, and any mitred build-up.

Specifying your edge

A benchtop rarely uses one profile everywhere. Island fronts, return ends, splashback tops and vanity edges are often treated differently, and the drawings we template from need that decided before we cut. The checklist below is what we ask for at measure.

1. **Profile name and finished thickness** — for example "pencil round top & bottom, 20 mm" or "mitred apron, 80 mm".
2. **Which edges are exposed.** Only visible edges are profiled. Edges running into a wall, an appliance gap or a splashback are left square, and calling that out avoids paying for polish nobody sees.
3. **End returns.** Where a run finishes at an open end, tell us whether the profile wraps the end or stops at it.
4. **Different profiles across the job.** A common pairing is a mitred apron on the island and a plain 20 mm pencil round on the perimeter benches — worth deciding early, as it changes slab usage.
5. **Splashback and vanity edges.** Top edges of splashbacks and the front edge of a vanity are usually profiled to match, but not always. Confirm either way.
6. **Sink and tap detailing.** Undermount sinks, drainer grooves and any recessed drainage board interact with the front edge and need to be nominated at the same time.
7. **Slab direction.** On veined material, tell us which way the vein should run and whether a mitred edge needs to be book-matched down the face.

A note on chipping

The single strongest predictor of a chipped benchtop is a square edge in a busy kitchen. Every profile in this guide is durable when treated well, but the rounded family — pencil round, half bullnose, full bullnose — distributes an impact instead of concentrating it on a corner. Where a household has young children, heavy cookware or a hard quartzite, we will generally recommend against a raw arris on the sink run.

Samples and viewing

Drawings communicate geometry, not feel. Every profile in this guide can be seen and handled in our Holden Hill showroom, and we can prepare a sample in your selected material before fabrication so the edge is signed off on the actual stone rather than on paper.

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