

# FRAMED CABINETRY INSTALLATION MANUAL

AN INDUSTRY GUIDE FOR PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION RESULTS

**TO AVOID DAMAGE OR INJURY, READ IN ENTIRETY BEFORE STARTING**

MATERIAL & TOOL LIST FOR INSTALLATION				
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Glasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Design Layout	<input type="checkbox"/> Framing Square	<input type="checkbox"/> Hammer	<input type="checkbox"/> Pry Bar
<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips Screwdriver	<input type="checkbox"/> Flathead Screwdriver	<input type="checkbox"/> Level	<input type="checkbox"/> Tape Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> Pencil
<input type="checkbox"/> Straight Edge	<input type="checkbox"/> Drill	<input type="checkbox"/> Extension Cord	<input type="checkbox"/> 3/32" Drill Bit	<input type="checkbox"/> 7/32" Drill Bit
<input type="checkbox"/> Table or Jig Saw	<input type="checkbox"/> Miter Box	<input type="checkbox"/> "C"-Clamps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stud Finder	<input type="checkbox"/> 6' Step Ladder
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shims	<input type="checkbox"/> Pin Nailer/Gun	<input type="checkbox"/> Finishing Nails	<input type="checkbox"/> 1" x 2" Furring Strips	<input type="checkbox"/> Circuit Tester
<input type="checkbox"/> Pipe Wrench	<input type="checkbox"/> #10x2-1/2" Pan Screws	<input type="checkbox"/> #8x2-1/2" Trim Screws	<input type="checkbox"/> Scrap Lumber for Construction of "T" Brace	

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Check your cabinetry against your design plan to insure that you have all required cabinetry, moldings, fillers, and accessories to complete the installation.

## SAFETY FIRST:

To insure against injury, explosion or shock, make sure that all water supplies, gas supplies and pertinent circuit breakers are shut off. Double check electrical using circuit tester to confirm power is off. If you are uncertain that utilities have been properly shut off, consult your utility company or service professional.

## CAUTION:

It is essential that you use the recommended screws for your cabinetry installation. Under no circumstances, should you use nails or drywall screws as they do not have the strength or holding power to insure that cabinets stay on the wall. Failure to use specified screws will render warranty null and void.

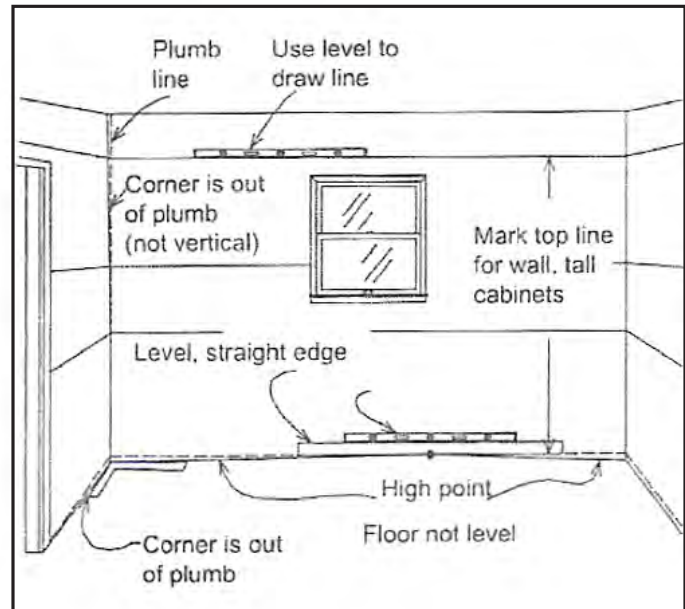
Installation detailed in this manual is for wood stud construction only. Attachment to any other surface material such as concrete block, brick, stucco or poured concrete require special fasteners. Consult with your local home center, hardware store or installation specialist for recommended fasteners

## STEP #1

After you have confirmed the all utilities are shut off, you may begin removing appliances and sink. We recommend moving these out of the kitchen to provide maximum work space. Continue by removing cabinetry, countertops and any moldings or baseboard that may interfere with installation.

## STEP #2

You can expect that your floors and walls will have some uneven areas. Begin by locating the floor's highest point. Place a level at the base of the wall and move around the perimeter of wall until you locate the high point (**ILLUSTRATION A**). Mark this location for reference. Repeat this process at a point 21-1/2" away from the wall (front of cabinet toe kick), and compare to previously identified high point. Use whichever high point is greater for next step.



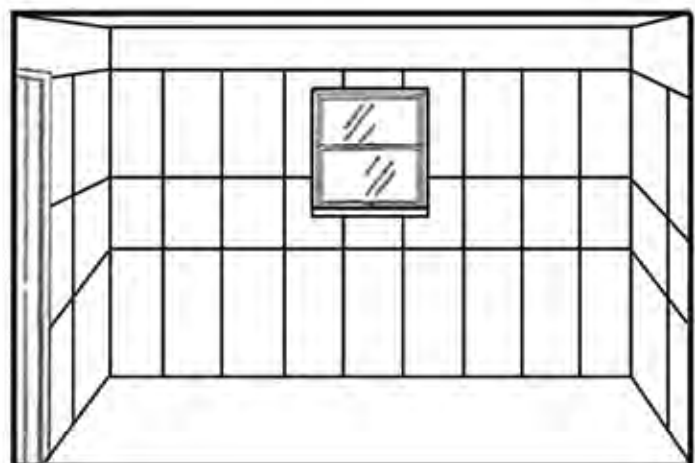
**ILLUSTRATION A**

## STEP #3

Measure up from the highest point 34-1/2" and draw a level line around the room perimeter to receive cabinetry. This is your "base cabinet level line" to which you will align the top of the base cabinets. Now, measure up from the original high point 84" if you are installing 30" high wall cabinets, or 96" if you are installing 42" high wall cabinets and draw a level line around room perimeter to receive cabinetry. This is your "wall cabinet level line" to which you will align the top of the wall cabinets. Lastly, measure down 30" from the 84" line if you are using 30" high cabinets, or 42" down from 96" line if you are using 42" high cabinets and draw a level line around the room perimeter to receive cabinetry. This is your "wall cabinet bottom level line".

## STEP #4

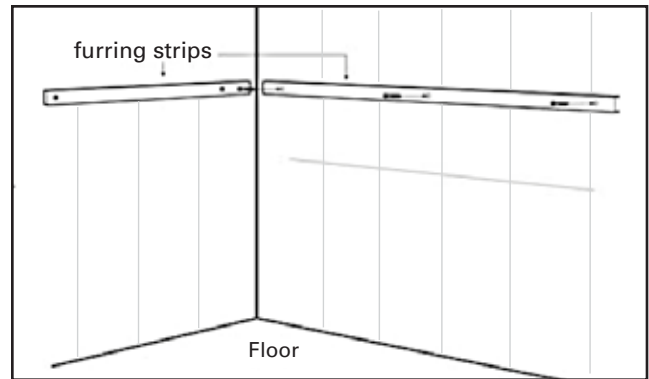
Locate wall studs with stud finder and mark their locations for your installation reference (**ILLUSTRATION B**). Use a straight 2 x 4 and carpenter's level to check walls for any uneven spots. High spots should be removed by sanding or scraping and low spots should be shimmed.



**ILLUSTRATION B**

## STEP #5

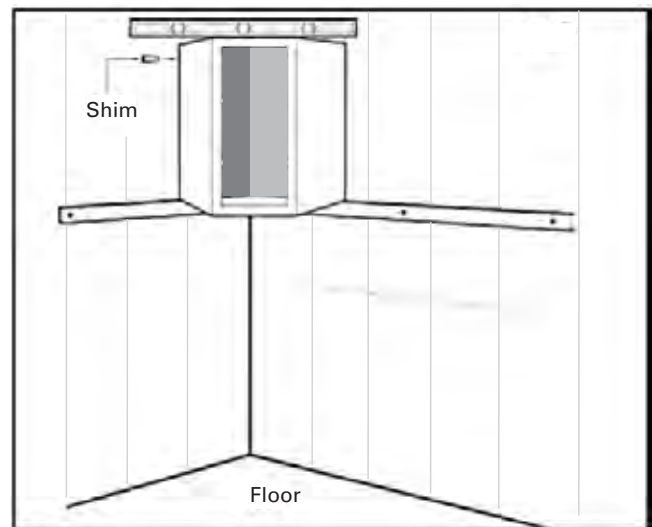
Attach 1 x 2 furring strips directly below the "wall cabinet bottom level line" with wood screws (**ILLUSTRATION C**). These temporary support strips will help to support the weight of the cabinets during installation, and insure that the cabinets are level. You are now ready to begin the cabinetry installation and it is recommended that you remove all doors, drawers, shelves and roll-out trays from each cabinet prior to installing to prevent damage. Consult your cabinetry manufacturer's website for door/drawer removal and adjustments. For ease of installation, begin by installing wall cabinets first.



**ILLUSTRATION C**

## STEP #6

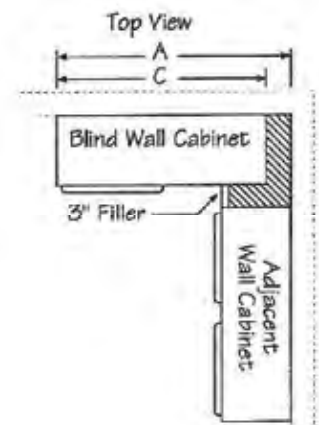
Refer to your design layout to determine what wall corner cabinet to start with (if there is a corner cabinet), and place it on the floor below where it will be installed. Measure from the corner to the first wall stud and transfer this measurement to the inside of the wall cabinet. Repeat for next stud location. Now measure down 3/4" from inside top of cabinet, and 3/4" from inside bottom of cabinet and intersect these measurements with the stud location measurements. Drill through the wall cabinet back using a 3/32" drill bit. Repeat process for adjacent corner back panel. Raise cabinet into place resting on temporary rails and fasten the cabinet to the wall with #10 x 2-1/2" pan head screws but do not fully tighten. Check for level and shim where necessary (**ILLUSTRATION D**). You may also construct a support wood "T" brace to hold the front edge of cabinet in place until you have attached to wall (**ILLUSTRATION D1**).



**ILLUSTRATION D**



**ILLUSTRATION D1**



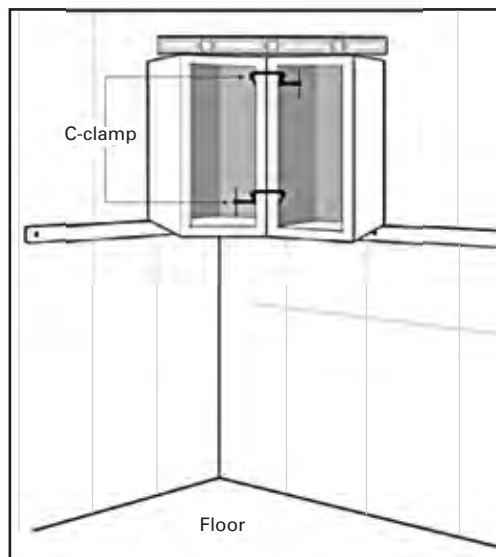
**ILLUSTRATION E**

If your design includes a blind wall cabinet (**ILLUSTRATION E**) instead of a wall corner cabinet, consult your design to determine the distance the cabinet is to be installed from the wall corner. Always measure distance using the front frame width of the cabinet and not the end panel width of the cabinet. Place cabinet on floor below where it will be installed and repeat all measuring and pre-drilling as detailed in Step #5. Raise cabinet into place resting on temporary rails and fasten to wall with #10 x 2-1/2" pan head screws but do not fully tighten. Check for level and shim where necessary.

## STEP #7

Determine next wall cabinet to be installed and repeat measuring, pre-drilling and installation but again, do not fully tighten. Carefully align the face frames of each cabinet with each other and "C"-clamp or "Quick-Grip" together (**ILLUSTRATION F**). Drill a  $\frac{3}{32}$ " pilot hole in three places along hinge side of frame and secure with #8 x 2-1/2" trim screws. Continue around the room until all wall cabinets have been installed. Return to each cabinet for one last check of level and plumb and tighten screws.

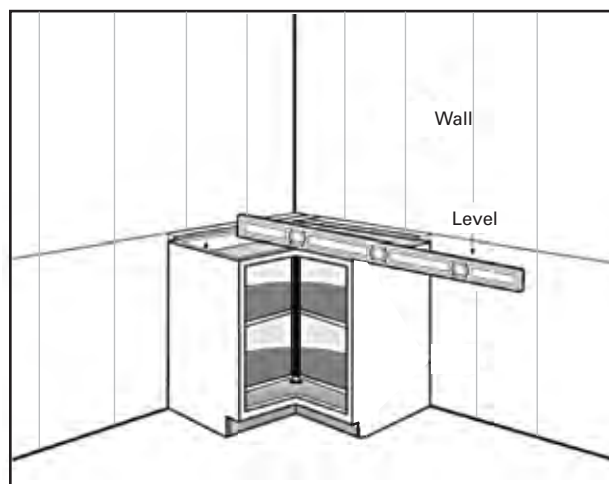
This same method of attachment is also to be used for fillers. Fillers may need to be cut to size to fill an odd open dimension between the cabinet and the wall. Hold the filler in place where it is to be installed. Turn it over and mark at top and bottom where it needs to be cut. Connect the two marks using a straight edge and draw a line to create your cut line. Once cut, install as described above.



**ILLUSTRATION F**

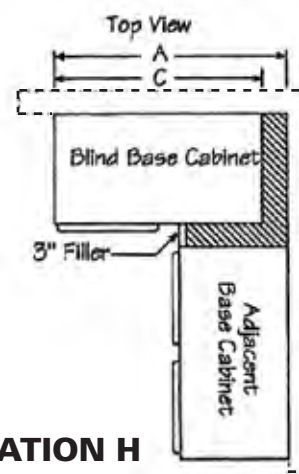
## STEP #8

Base cabinets are installed in much the same manner as wall cabinets. Refer to your design layout to determine what base corner cabinet to start with (if there is a corner cabinet), and place it on the floor where it will be installed. If your design includes a base easy reach or base easy reach lazy susan (**ILLUSTRATION G**), measure from the corner to the first wall stud and transfer this measurement to the inside of the base cabinet. Repeat for next stud location. Now measure down  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from inside top of cabinet and intersect these measurements with the stud location measurements. Drill through the base cabinet back using a  $\frac{3}{32}$ " drill bit. Repeat process for adjacent corner back panel. Move cabinet into place and check for level and plumb. Shim where necessary and fasten the cabinet to the wall with #10 x 2-1/2" pan head screws but do not fully tighten.



**ILLUSTRATION G**

If your design includes a blind base cabinet (**ILLUSTRATION H**) instead of a base easy reach corner cabinet, consult your design to determine the distance the cabinet is to be installed from the wall corner. Always measure distance using the front frame width of the cabinet and not the end panel width of the cabinet. Place cabinet on floor where it will be installed and repeat all measuring and pre-drilling as detailed in **Step #7**. Move cabinet into place and check for level and plumb. Shim where necessary and fasten the cabinet to the wall with #10 x 2-1/2" pan head screws but do not fully tighten.



**ILLUSTRATION H**

## STEP #9

Determine next base cabinet to be installed and repeat measuring, pre-drilling and installation but again, do not fully tighten. Carefully align the face frames of each cabinet with each other and "C"-clamp together (**ILLUSTRATION F**). Drill a 3/32" pilot hole in three places along hinge side of frame and secure with #8 x 2-1/2" trim screws. Continue around the room until all base cabinets and fillers have been installed. Return to each cabinet for one last check of level and plumb and tighten screws.

**NOTE:** You will need to create cutouts for electrical and plumbing in some cabinets. Carefully measure each location and transfer to **BACK** of cabinet. Accurately cut holes **BEFORE** installing cabinetry.

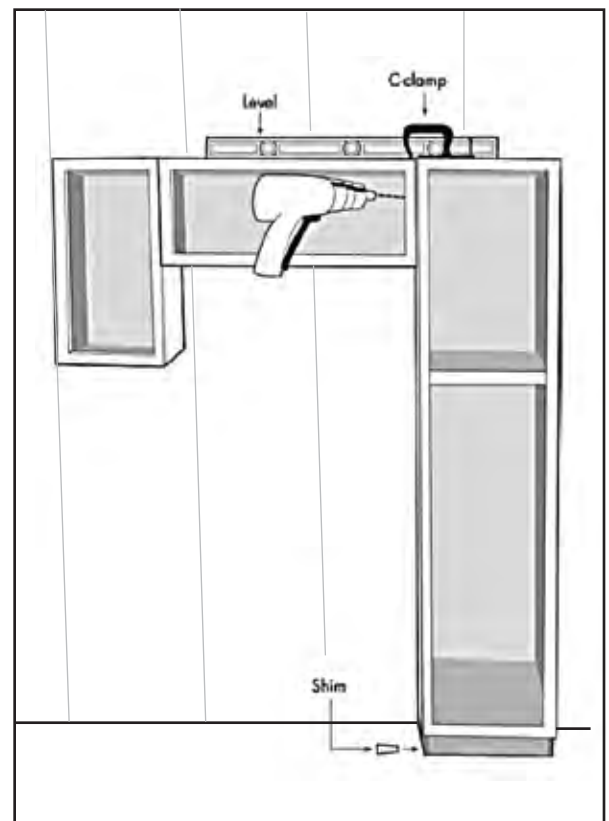
## STEP #10

You may now install any tall cabinets (**ILLUSTRATION I**), base end panels or tall refrigerator panels, if included in your design. Tall cabinets are installed in the same manner as wall and base cabinets. If your tall cabinet requires an end panel skin, attach to end panel before installing cabinet (**ILLUSTRATION J**).

**NOTE:** If you are installing an oven cabinet, be sure to consult the appliance manufacturer's installation instructions for cutout size and additional bracing or reinforcement requirements.

Base end panels and tall refrigerator panels are installed in the same manner. Determine location of panel and draw a line on floor that represents the **INSIDE** edge of the end panel. Attach a wood "cleat" to floor to create an anchor point for securing end panel. Attach three (3) "L" brackets to panel at back. Test fit panel and determine if there is a stud where "L" brackets will attach to wall. If no stud is present, install plastic wall anchors.

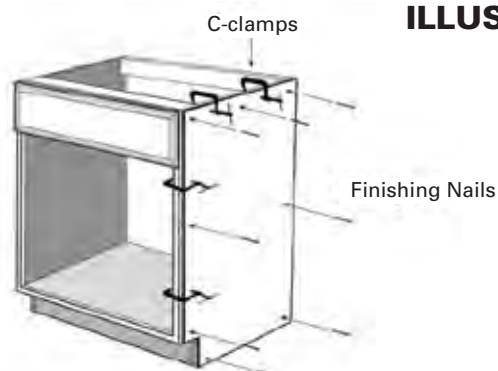
You are now ready to install skins and matching toe kick cover. This is a simple measure and cut operation. Attach matching skins or toe kick cover with finish nails or pin gun. Construction adhesive may be used as an alternative (**ILLUSTRATION J**).



**ILLUSTRATION I**



**ILLUSTRATION J**

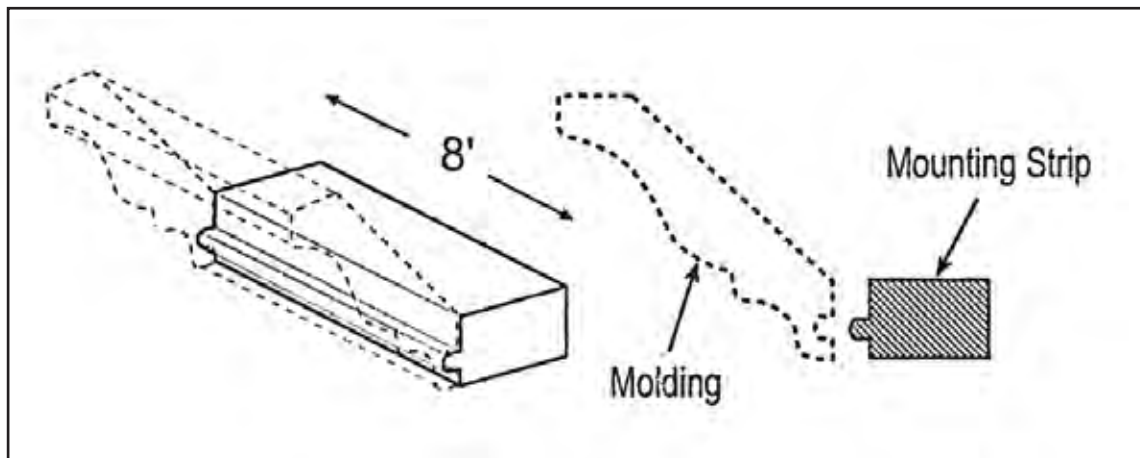




### STEP #11

You are now ready to install any moldings included in your design. Crown moldings give your kitchen a custom look so, take your time and measure carefully. We recommend a miter box or compound miter saw to insure accurate cuts. **Remember, the proper position for cutting molding in a miter box or compound miter saw is upside down with the bottom edge of the molding resting against the miter box fence.**

If your cabinetry selection features a standard overlay door, molding may be attached directly to the cabinet face frame with finish nails or a pin gun. If your cabinetry selection features a full overlay door, use of molding support strip is required (**ILLUSTRATION K**). Your cabinetry supplier may have included this strip so be sure to check for it. If it was not included, a 1 x 2 can be secured to the top of the cabinets for molding attachment.



**ILLUSTRATION K**

### STEP #12

It is now time to reinstall all shelves, doors, drawers and roll-out trays. Consult your cabinetry manufacturer's website for door/drawer adjustments procedures. Make sure that all doors and drawer fronts are adjusted to your satisfaction **BEFORE** installing decorative hardware.

### STEP #13

You can now safely remove the wall cabinet support strips and patch any screw holes in wall. Consult your cabinetry manufacturer's website for initial care and cleaning instructions and begin enjoying your new kitchen cabinetry!