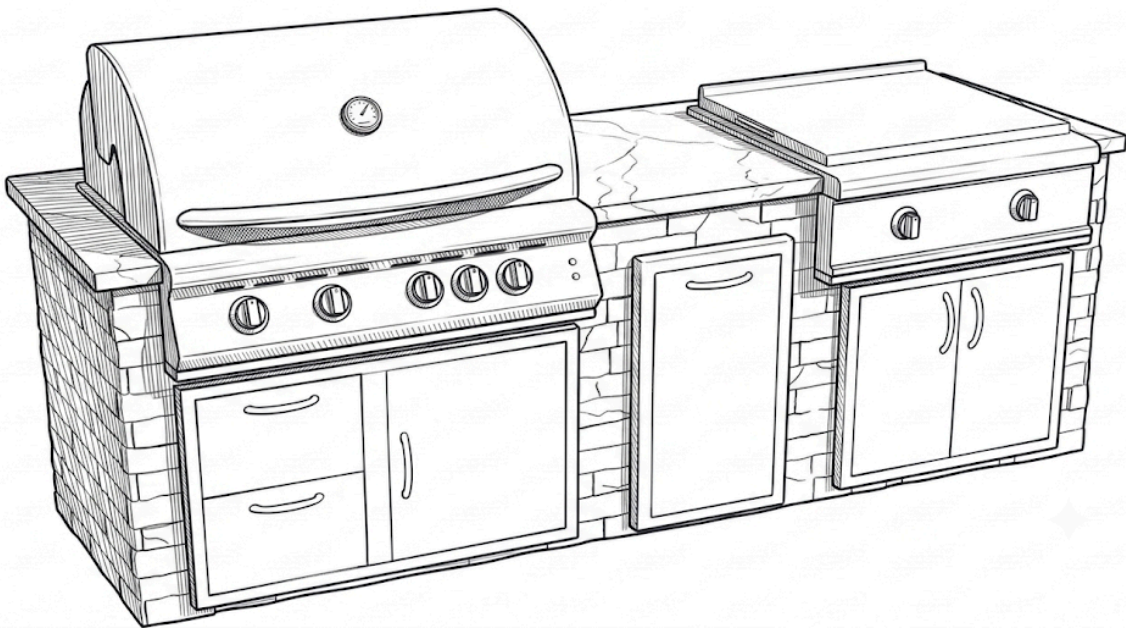


ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

OUTDOOR KITCHEN STRUCTURE



LAST UPDATE: JULY, 2026

SAFETY WARNINGS



Multi-Person Team Required: This structure is extremely heavy. A minimum of 2 to 3 capable adults is required to lift, move, and position the island modules and countertops. Do not attempt to lift alone to avoid severe back injury or dropping the unit.



Pinch Points: Keep hands and fingers clear of edges and seams when aligning modules or dropping in heavy countertops. Heavy materials can cause severe crush or pinch injuries.



Stable, Level Foundation: Ensure the kitchen is installed on a solid, level, and load-bearing surface (such as a poured concrete pad). Installing on uneven ground or unstable decking can cause structural shifting, panel misalignment, or tipping.



Gas Connections: All gas plumbing - whether Natural Gas or Liquid Propane - must be performed by a licensed, certified plumber or gas technician in accordance with local building codes. Do not attempt to connect gas lines yourself.



Electrical Connections: If your kitchen includes built-in lighting, a rotisserie motor, or an outdoor refrigerator, all wiring and outlets must be hooked up by a licensed electrician. All outdoor electrical circuits must be protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter.



Right Tools Only: Use the correct tools specified in this manual. When handling stone, granite, or stainless steel edges, wearing heavy-duty work gloves and safety glasses is highly recommended.



Vent Hood & Island Ventilation: Proper ventilation is critical during and after install. Propane gas is heavier than air and sinks; natural gas is lighter and rises. Ensure the island's built-in vent panels are completely unblocked to prevent dangerous gas buildup and potential explosion.



Do Not Overtighten: If using power tools to join structural framing or panels, use low torque settings. Overtightening can strip hardware, warp stainless steel flanges, or crack stone veneers.

About This Installation Guide

This installation guide has been created to provide a clear, step-by-step reference for assembling your outdoor kitchen.

Inside this guide, you will find detailed instructions, recommendations, and best practices to help ensure your kitchen is installed correctly, safely, and efficiently. The process has been organized in the same sequence followed during a professional installation: from receiving and unpacking your shipment to completing the final adjustments and preparing your kitchen for use.

Every outdoor kitchen is carefully engineered and manufactured as a modular system, with labeled components and purpose-designed hardware to simplify assembly. By following the instructions in this guide and taking the time to properly prepare, most installations can be completed successfully with basic tools and light construction experience.

This guide is intended to complement, not replace, professional services required for certain aspects of installation. Gas, electrical, plumbing, and other utility connections must always be completed by qualified professionals and must comply with all applicable local codes and regulations.

Before beginning installation, we recommend reviewing this entire guide to become familiar with the process, required tools, and installation requirements. Proper preparation will help ensure a smoother installation experience and the best possible final result.

Thank you for choosing Designing Backyards. We hope this guide helps you enjoy the process of creating your outdoor kitchen and many years of enjoyment in your outdoor space.

REQUIRED TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

Get the following tools before starting your installation

1 POWER SCREW GUN



Equipped with a standard Phillips tip for initial hardware unpacking and panel prep.

2 5/16" HEX HEAD BIT

REQUIRED



Crucial for driving the self-tapping frame screws directly into the heavy-duty structural aluminum profiles.

3 CAULKING GUN & CLEAR SILICONE

REQUIRED



Details: Used along the underside perimeter to permanently bond and secure the granite countertop to the base frame panels. *(Not included in standard shipment).*

4 36" WOOD CLAMPS

RECOMMENDED / OPTIONAL



Details: Highly useful for holding panels perfectly upright during assembly, allowing a single installer to make micro-adjustments easily.

5 1" DIAMOND HOLE SAW

IF NEEDED



Details: Required only if boring clean service pass-throughs for gas or electric supply lines through the stone panels.

6 4" DIAMOND BLADE GRINDER

IF NEEDED



Details: Required only if you need to manually cut out openings to frame out exterior GFI electrical utility outlets.



PRO TIP:

Having the right tools on hand will make installation faster, easier, and help ensure a professional-quality result.



Always wear appropriate PPE and safety gear.

INSTALLATION OVERVIEW

Follow these 9 steps for a successful installation

More details on key steps in the next section



PRO TIP:

Use two people and take your time

Large clamps make installation easier

Patio not level? Use composite shims or leveling feet

This is a light construction project—expect to use power tools and spend a few hours assembling your kitchen.

STEP #1- UNPACKING

Your kitchen arrives fully crated on a heavy-duty wooden pallet and is shipped via LTL freight (18-wheel/box truck). Each kitchen is carefully packaged to protect the natural stone, structural aluminum frame components, and accessories throughout transit.

The complete shipment is designed so every component arrives together, securely fastened inside the crate and ready for assembly.



Before signing for delivery, carefully inspect the shipment for any visible shipping damage. If you notice damage to the crate or pallet, take photos immediately and note the damage on the carrier's delivery receipt before accepting the shipment.

What You'll Need

Before opening the crate, make sure you have:

- At least two people
- Power screw gun with a Phillips bit
- Clear area to organize the panels
- A safe path from the delivery location to the installation site

Understanding the Crate

Your kitchen is packaged with two distinct sides:

Granite Side - One side of the crate contains the granite countertop pieces. These are secured vertically inside the crate to protect them during transportation. **Do not open this side first.**

The granite acts as part of the crate's structural support during shipping and should remain secured until the cabinet panels have been removed.

Panel Side - The opposite side contains the structural cabinet panels and hardware and should open first. Once opened, you'll have access to the natural stone panels and hardware packages (incl. brackets)

STEP #2 - BUILD THE CABINET FRAME

Once all components have been unpacked and organized, you are ready to assemble the cabinet frame.

Each cabinet is manufactured using a structural aluminum frame clad with natural stone panels. Every panel is labeled to match its corresponding location, making the assembly process straightforward.

Take your time during this stage. A properly assembled frame ensures the granite countertop, appliances, and doors will fit correctly during the remaining installation steps.

Before You Begin

Verify that:

- The installation area is clean and reasonably level
- All cabinet panels have been unpacked and inspected
- Hardware bags have been opened
- Self-tapping screws, L- and flat splice brackets are easily accessible
- You have a 5/16" hex driver installed in your screw gun

Understanding the Hardware

Your hardware kit includes the self-drilling screws and two types of structural brackets:

L-Brackets - Used to secure 90-degree corners where two cabinet panels meet. Use these whenever assembling the sides of the kitchen.

Flat Brackets - Flat brackets are used to connect two straight panels together. These are typically used on longer kitchen runs where multiple panels form a single wall.



Self-tapping Screws - Screw designed to tap its own threads into a material as it is driven into an undrilled hole. Engineered with hardened points and sharp, aggressive threads that cut or form their own internal mating threads during installation.

Panel Identification

Every structural panel is labeled with a corresponding letter. During assembly, simply match identical labels (e.g., A connects to A, B to B). This labeling system ensures every panel is installed in its correct location.

Step 1 - Start with the Rear Panels

Begin by positioning the rear cabinet panel(s) in their final location. If your kitchen includes multiple rear sections, connect them together using the supplied flat splice brackets.

Do not fully tighten every screw immediately. Leaving the hardware slightly loose during initial assembly allows for easier alignment as additional panels are installed.

Step 2 – Attach the Side Panels

Attach each side panel to the rear panel using the supplied L-brackets. As each corner is completed, verify that the cabinet remains square before installing additional panels.

If available, use 36-inch woodworking clamps to temporarily hold the panels upright while fastening them together.

Pro Tip: Large woodworking clamps allow one installer to hold panels securely while making small alignment adjustments, reducing the need for a second person during assembly.

Step 3 – Install the Front Panels

With both side panels secured, install the front cabinet panels to complete the structural frame. Continue matching the panel labels and securing each connection with the appropriate brackets.

Once complete, the cabinet should form a rigid, self-supporting structure.

Important: Leave Clearance Behind the Kitchen

Do **not** push the rear panel tightly against a wall or your home. Leave approximately 3–4 inches of clearance between the back of the cabinet and any permanent structure. This space allows for the natural granite countertop overhang. Installing the cabinet too close to the wall may require disassembling and repositioning the entire kitchen once the

countertop is installed.

This is one of the **most common installation mistakes**. Always verify rear clearance before moving to the next step.

STEP #2 - INSTALL GRANITE AND APPLIANCES

With the cabinet frame fully assembled, level, and securely fastened, you are ready to install the granite countertop and appliances.

The granite pieces are precision cut for your kitchen layout and should fit directly onto the cabinet frame with minimal adjustment. Before permanently securing the countertop, all granite sections should be dry-fitted and aligned to verify proper placement.

Once the countertop has been positioned, the appliances can be carefully installed into their designated openings.

Important: The granite countertop should not be permanently bonded with silicone until all countertop pieces and appliances have been installed and properly aligned.

Part A – Installing the Granite Countertop

Step 1 – Carefully Position Each Granite Piece

Granite is extremely heavy and should always be lifted by two people.

Begin by placing each countertop section onto the cabinet frame in its approximate location. Most pieces include factory-cut openings for appliances and are designed to fit only one position.

Avoid sliding the granite across the frame, as this may scratch the stone or chip the edges. Instead, lift each section into place and lower it carefully.

Step 2 – Verify Alignment

Once all granite sections have been placed, inspect the countertop from every angle. Confirm that:

- The seams are tight and evenly aligned.
- The front edges create a consistent reveal.

- Appliance openings line up correctly.
- The countertop sits flat on the cabinet frame.

If necessary, make small adjustments by lifting and repositioning the granite until everything aligns properly.

Step 3 – Verify the Countertop Overhang

Inspect the countertop overhang along all exposed sides of the kitchen.

Because natural stone thickness can vary slightly, the overhang may differ from one kitchen to another. This is normal.

The goal is a consistent and visually balanced appearance around the entire kitchen.

If adjustments are needed, carefully shift the granite before continuing.

Pro Tip: Do not focus solely on measurements. Instead, step back several feet and verify that the countertop appears evenly centered on the cabinet.

Part B – Installing the Appliances

Once the countertop has been properly positioned, you are ready to install the appliances.

Step 4 – Install the Grill

With two people supporting the appliance, carefully lower the grill into the prepared opening. Take your time during this step to avoid striking or chipping the granite edges.

The grill should sit evenly within the opening without forcing or modifying the stone.

Step 5 – Install Remaining Appliances

Repeat the same process for any additional components, including:

- Side burners
- Griddles

- Refrigerators
- Ice makers
- Beverage centers

Each appliance should slide smoothly into its designated opening.

Never force an appliance into place. If resistance is encountered, verify that the countertop is properly aligned and that no packing material remains inside the opening.

Important: The granite countertop should not be permanently bonded with silicone until all countertop pieces and appliances have been installed and properly aligned.

Step 6 – Install Doors & Drawers

Once the appliances have been installed and properly positioned, you are ready to install the access doors and drawers.

Each door and drawer assembly is designed to mount directly to the structural aluminum frame using the supplied self-tapping screws. No pre-drilling is required.

Begin by positioning the frame within the corresponding opening and verify that it is centered and aligned with the surrounding stone.

Secure each assembly using approximately four self-tapping screws: One screw on each side (left, right, top and bottom). This fastening pattern provides a secure installation while keeping the frame properly aligned.

Tip: Install all four screws loosely at first. Once the door or drawer is centered and the gaps around the perimeter are even, fully tighten the screws.

After installation, open and close each door and drawer several times to ensure smooth operation and proper alignment. If necessary, slightly loosen the mounting screws, reposition the frame, and retighten.

Step 7 – Install Door & Drawer Handles

Attach each handle using the hardware provided with the door or drawer assembly. Tighten the fasteners securely, taking care not to overtighten, which could damage or scratch the surface.

Once all handles have been installed, remove any remaining protective film from the stainless steel surfaces.

Step 8 – Install Stainless Steel Filler Panels

After the appliances have been installed, attach any stainless steel filler panels included with your kitchen. These panels conceal any remaining openings and provide a clean, finished appearance around the appliances.

Verify that each panel sits flush with the surrounding cabinetry.



Step 9 – Final Countertop Inspection

Before permanently securing the granite, perform one final inspection.

Confirm that:

- All granite sections are fully seated.
- Countertop seams are aligned.
- Appliance openings fit correctly.
- Appliances sit level and square.
- Overhang is consistent.
- No adjustments are required.

Only after everything has been verified should the countertop be permanently secured during the next step.