



# enCOUNTER™ by BRICKFORM®

## Countertop System

enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM is a countertop system designed to produce beautifully colored and uniquely formed precast or cast-in-place countertops. enCOUNTER systems should be used by professionals that are skilled and trained in the installation of cast-in-place or precast concrete countertops.

**PRODUCT DESCRIPTION** • The enCOUNTER system consists of a countertop mix, integral color, flexible forms and a protective sealer. The countertop mix enCOUNTER is a well-graded, simple-to-use, premixed blend of special materials that requires low water content which minimizes shrinkage and curling. The superior compressive strength reaches 8,870 psi in 28 days. Available in gray or white, enCOUNTER mix can be integrally colored with enCOLOR™ and the edges textured with flexible enFORMS™. If a micro-topping finish is desired, enMAGIC™ is available in white or gray and is designed to produce a thin coating that can be colored for additional highlights. The countertop system can then be protected with enPOXY™, a two-part urethane sealer.

**USES** • The enCOUNTER system can be used for kitchen and bathroom countertops, barbecue surrounds, conference tables, counter service areas and many other concrete applications that can maintain adequate support. NOTE: the enPOXY sealer is not recommended for exterior use. Free-form or cast-in-place counters surfaces can be textured with BRICKFORM Texture Skins™. Cantilevering can be achieved where other materials or bagged mixes may need support.

**LIMITATIONS** • Countertops made with enCOUNTER are not impervious to stains and wear. Sealing is recommended to help protect the finished surface from scratching and staining.

**PACKAGING** • enCOUNTER countertop mix is packaged in 50-pound bags. enCOLOR is available in 58-ounce bottles and are packaged, 4 per case. enFORMS are 8 feet long and packaged 8 per box. enPOXY is available in .75-gallon, 1.5-gallon and 3-gallon containers

**COVERAGE** • enCOUNTER countertop mix will produce approximately 3 square feet at 1.5 inches in thickness or 2.3 square feet at 2 inches in thickness. The coverage per 1-gallon pail of enMAGIC is 200 - 400 square feet. The coverage for enPOXY is approximately 45 square feet per gallon. The coverage for enCOLOR will vary depending on the intensities chosen for each bag of countertop material.

**STORAGE** • Store enCOUNTER mix in a dry, safe place. Keep bags away from moisture.

**CAUTION** • KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Before using or handling, read the Material Safety Data Sheet and Warranty. DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. When working with or near this product, all personnel must wear OSHA-NIOSH approved respirators (refer to OSHA standards in 29 CFR 1910.134). Prolonged, unprotected exposure may result in non-reversible Silicosis or Lung Cancer. Avoid inhalation and use local exhaust to keep exposures below OSHA PEL's for silica and nuisance dusts. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear rubber gloves and aprons to protect skin and wear safety eye goggles. Wash splatters from skin immediately. Close containers after each use. Use good hygiene when handling this product and wash and bathe after each use. Be sure to wash clothing after each use.

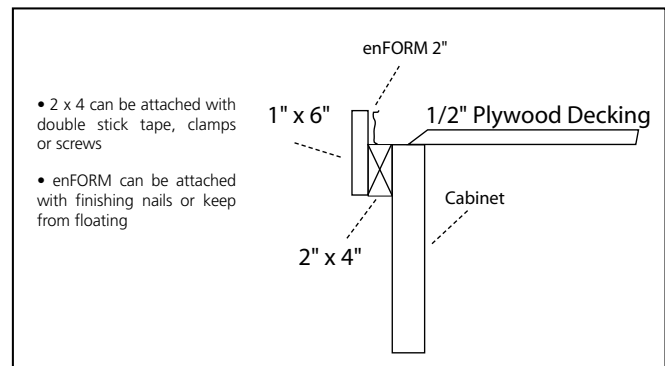
**PREPARATION** • BRICKFORM strongly recommends representative samples, especially when coloring and texturing this product. Individuals who will be performing the work should use the specified materials, as well as the finishing and curing techniques that will be used. Batch to batch uniformity must be maintained to produce consistent integral color.

### FEATURES

- Can Be Textured And Colored
- Less Shrinkage And Curling
- Easy To Mix
- Interior/Exterior Use

**REINFORCEMENT** • Reinforcement must be used in the center of the slab and all re-entrant corners and narrow strip sections around sinks and ranges. BRICKFORM recommends 4 X 4 X 6 gage wire mesh for the centers and pencil rod or #3 bar, 1/4 inch below the surface for corners and strips. Consult an engineer for extremely long sections or unusual applications.

**FORMING** • enCOUNTER mix is usually placed at a thickness of 1 1/2 to 2 inches. The weight at 2 inches is 25-pounds per square foot. BRICKFORM recommends using cabinets built to support stone with tops already in place to form the deck. Countertops that will include cantilevered sections require temporary forming and bracing. Most edge forms work well with enCOUNTER. Single use Styrofoam or enFORM reusable decorative countertop forms are recommended. Because they are extremely flexible, enFORM easily wraps corners without mitering and can also be used on plywood or melamine to free form any shape of table or countertop.



**MIXING** • Temperatures should be in the range of 15.5°C and 26.7°C (60°F-80°F) before mixing and placing the material. Practice and experience with this product will determine the amount of water to use for your particular application. Use 80-ounces of water per bag for hand pressed casting. Use 85-ounces of water per bag for casting in place and up to a total of 95-ounces of water per bag if needed. Add all water into a barrel or drum mixer. Only add one bag of dry material to the mixer at one time and mix thoroughly before adding others. It may be necessary to scrape the sides of the drum to ensure consistent mixing.

NOTE: Adding more than the recommended amount of water may result in shrinkage, cracking and curling. Do not mix by hand. This may reduce the compressive strength by as much as 1000 psi. Use only a barrel or drum mixer. The large aggregates in this mix may damage rubber scrapers or mixing paddles.

**APPLICATION** • Begin application by floating the mixed material to the edges, filling in all the voids. Scream and float the surface to the desired level. Consolidate the edges with a palm sander or pencil vibrator. Re-float the surface and allow the concrete to take an initial set before steel troweling. Avoid burning the surface with a magnesium float or steel trowel. Depending on type of use and desired look, consideration should be given to the appropriate final finish.

**CURING** • enCOUNTER mix should be covered with 1 mil poly sheeting for a period of 24 hours. Do not remove cantilevered forms until the concrete has gained sufficient strength to support itself. Allow at least 4 to 7 days depending on conditions and the distance of the cantilever before stripping and shoring.

**POLISHING** • Allow the concrete to cure for a minimum of 4 days at normal temperatures. Consider using a liquid densifier to strengthen the surface. Start by polishing with a diamond cup wheel or equivalent. This will help with the leveling and breaking the surface. A wet-polishing system, or dry-polishing system is acceptable for use.

**COLORING** • When using enCOLOR to integrally color the countertop mix, be sure to stir the contents of the color bucket thoroughly to ensure complete blending of the pigments. After determining the amount of pigment for each bag of enCOUNTER mix, draw the proper amount into the syringe and add the color to the measured amount of mix water. For more color consistency, up to 4 bags of material can be colored and mixed at one time. Be sure to check the dosage rate on the back of this brochure and measure with a syringe to dispense the correct color. When using BRICKFORM® Color Hardener™, BRICKFORM® Blush-Tone Acid Stain™, BRICKFORM® Cem-Coat™, and BRICKFORM® Freestyle Stain™, these products must be applied according to the appropriate Technical Information Sheet.

**MICRO-TOPPING** • If a smoother look is desired, enMAGIC can be used in a thin layer over the countertop material. This polymer-modified micro-topping can be integrally colored or stained for more interesting effects. The countertop should be free from all contaminants and dust or dirt. Be sure that the application area is damp but with no standing water. Depending on the desired consistency, mix 45 to 60 ounces of clean water in a bucket and add one bucket of enMAGIC and mix by hand or with a small drill with a mixer attachment. Pour the enMAGIC in a long thin line and spread with a BRICKFORM Magic Trowel, margin trowel, pool trowel or squeegee. Apply as thin as possible. Avoid layers of greater than 1/8" in thickness. DO NOT use water on or around the micro-topping until cured and preferably sealed.

**SEALING** • A quality epoxy sealer should be applied to the cured surface to protect it from stains. enPOXY is a two-part system, designed for sealing countertops. NOTE: enPOXY is NOT recommended for exterior applications. Allow the countertop surface to dry for at least 2 days at 21.1°C (70° F). The surface must be clean, dry and free of contaminants, dirt or dust. Mix the two components (part A and part B) together, slowly by hand or low rpm mixer for 2 minutes. Avoid whipping air into the mix. Pour the mixed material into a separate container and continue mixing for 5 minutes. The pot life of the mixed material is approximately 15 minutes. Working time may be extended by immediately pouring enPOXY onto the countertop, immediately after mixing. Apply with a brush, roller or squeegee. Use a spiked roller and a heat gun to pop air bubbles. For best results, apply on a 15.5°C (60° F) surface and rising, not to exceed 32.2°C (90°F). Let the material dry for at least 12 hours for light use and at least 72 hours for full use. If a second coat is desired, the first coat must be sanded with sandpaper, cleaned and reapplied.

**MAINTENANCE** • The sealed surface should be inspected periodically for areas of thin or worn sealer and reapplied as needed.

**WARRANTY** • This product is not intended for public use and is intended for use by licensed contractors and installers, experienced and trained in the use of these products. It is warranted to be of uniform quality, within manufacturing tolerances. The manufacturer has no control over the use of this product, therefore, no warranty, expressed or implied, is or can be made either as to the affects or results of such use. In any case, the manufacturer's obligations shall be limited to refunding the purchase and liability.

**PLAN SPECIFICATION**

**enCOUNTER™ by BRICKFORM® Countertop Mix suggested Short Form Specification:** All concrete countertops in the plans and specifications to be made with enCOUNTER shall be manufactured by BRICKFORM 800-483-9628, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, 909-484-3399. enCOUNTER

shall be applied, in accordance with the enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM Technical Information Sheet.

**enCOLOR™ by BRICKFORM® Integral Color Suggested Short Form Specification:** All concrete countertops in the plans and specifications to be colored with enCOLOR shall be manufactured by BRICKFORM 800-483-9628, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, 909-484-3399. enCOLOR shall be applied, in accordance with the enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM Technical Information Sheet.

**enFORM™ by BRICKFORM® Flexible Edge Forms Suggested Short Form Specification:** All concrete countertops in the plans and specifications to be treated with a decorative edge with enFORM shall be manufactured by BRICKFORM 800-483-9628, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, 909-484-3399. enFORM shall be applied, in accordance with the enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM Technical Information Sheet.

**enMAGIC™ by BRICKFORM® Micro-Topping Suggested Short Form Specification:** All concrete countertops in the plans and specifications to be treated with enMAGIC micro-topping shall be manufactured by BRICKFORM 800-483-9628, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, 909-484-3399. enMAGIC shall be applied, in accordance with the enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM Technical Information Sheet.

**enPOXY™ by BRICKFORM® Sealer Suggested Short Form Specification:** All concrete countertops in the plans and specifications to be sealed with enPOXY shall be manufactured by BRICKFORM 800-483-9628, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, 909-484-3399. enPOXY shall be applied, in accordance with the enCOUNTER by BRICKFORM Technical Information Sheet.

**ORDER SPECIFICATIONS**

Product / Item Number	Shipping Weight	Container Size
<b>enCOUNTER Countertop Mix</b>		
EN-1000 Gray	50.0 Lbs.	Bags
EN-2000 White		

enCOLOR Integral Color	Shipping Weight	Container Size
EC-1066 = enCOLOR 066	28.0 Lbs.	Case
EC-1500 = enCOLOR 500		
EC-1920 = enCOLOR 920		
EC-1775 = enCOLOR 775		
EC-1492 = enCOLOR 492		
EC-1417 = enCOLOR 417		
EC-1338 = enCOLOR 338		
EC-1288 = enCOLOR 288		
EC-1242 = enCOLOR 242		

enMAGIC Micro-Topping	Shipping Weight	Container Size
EM-4000 Gray	16.0 Lbs.	Case
EM-5000 White		

enPOXY Sealer	Shipping Weight	Container Size
EP-6000	8 Lbs	.75 Gallon
EP-6100	15 Lbs	1.5 Gallon
EP-6200	30 Lbs	3.0 Gallon

enFORM Flexible Edge Forms	Shipping Weight	Container Size
EF-CS8 Chiseled Slate	48 Lbs	Case
EF-CSS8 Coral / Seashells	48 Lbs	Case
EF-SFG Split Faced Granite	48 Lbs	Case