



INSTALLING A KITCHEN SINK AND FAUCET

Tools needed:

Screwdrivers
Adjustable wrench
Pipe wrench
Pliers

Materials needed:

Plumber's putty
Silicone caulk

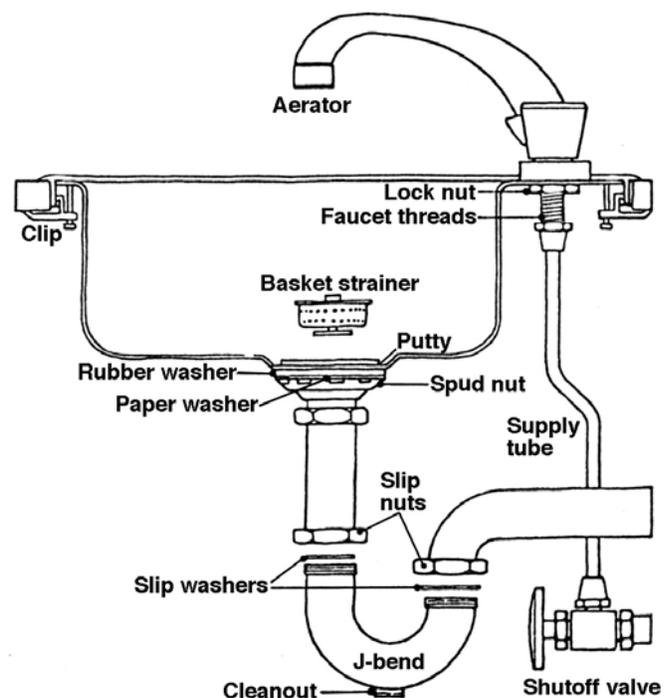
When you buy a new sink and faucet for your kitchen, think about both style and quality of material. Whether you choose porcelain or stainless steel, single-bowl or double, there are two basic styles of sinks commonly used in a kitchen. One is "self-rimming," and the other has a separate trim ring. There is no real advantage to one style over the other; they just install a bit differently.

With faucets, however, material can have a big affect on durability. It pays in the long run to buy a quality faucet. Models that have plastic parts won't last very long. Generally, the heavier the faucet, the better. And, buying a "brand name" faucet means that you'll be able to get replacement parts in the future.

After the opening is ready in the countertop, the first thing you'll want to do is assemble as much of the sink as you can before installing it in the counter. First, mount the faucet on the sink. Faucets are held to the sink by two large locknuts, underneath the sink (*see illustration below.*) Before mounting the faucet to the sink surface, take plumber's putty, roll it into a "snake" about the size of a pencil, and apply it to the bottom of the faucet. This will keep water from getting under there later. Then, put the faucet in place and tighten the nuts underneath, keeping the faucet lined up and straight.

Next, install the basket strainer(s) on the sink drain(s). Apply plumber's putty to the underside of the strainer rim; then, assemble the washers as shown on the box. Stick the handles of a pair of pliers into the holes of the strainer from the top, to give you a "handle" to hold the strainer and keep it from slipping as you tighten the nut securely.

Finally, attach the supply lines to the bottom of the faucet. The flexible ones made from plastic tubing are worth the dollar or two more that they cost.

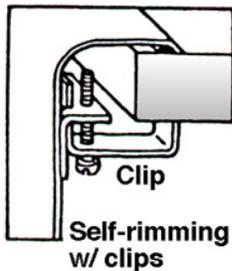
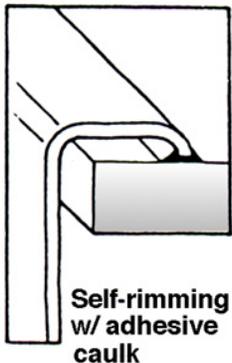
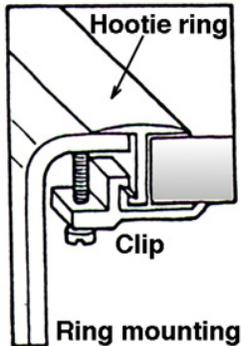


Typical sink installation details

(continued)

Now you can mount the sink. There are small clips that hold the sink in place. These clips attach to the trim ring, or – if you don't have a trim ring – to the sink itself (*see illustrations below.*) Before you mount it, apply a bead of silicone caulk to the bottom of the sink edges to seal out water. Then, position the sink and tighten it down as evenly as possible. (Note: There is one style of enameled cast iron sink that is so heavy that it doesn't use clips. It is simply set into a bead of adhesive/caulk that holds it in place.)

After you have mounted the sink in the counter, connect the supply lines to the water lines, and connect the trap to the sink drain. Clean up any excess caulk on the counter and any plumber's putty around the faucet or strainers to complete the job.



Installing A New Faucet

Shutting off water supply. Using a basin wrench (a tool that enables you to reach up into the narrow space behind the sink to tighten or loosen the locknuts and compression nuts) and working under the sink, disconnect water supply pipes and nuts that anchor the faucet to the sink. Once the faucet is free it can be removed from the sink.

Removing old faucet

New faucet

Shutoff valve

Basin wrench

Hot water shutoff valve

Cold water shutoff valve

Compression nut

Compression ring

Faucet supply lines

Align the new faucet with the corresponding holes in the sink and attach it to the sink with the connectors provided. Connect the water supply lines.