Countertop Station Zoning Map

Measure, zone, and assemble a spill-proof barista setup for your space.

Build a functional, compact barista setup that fits your existing kitchen architecture perfectly. Use this guide to map your zones, space your equipment, and protect your counters.



Core Station Dimensions

min 1.5-inch
Spill-catch tray base lip height

1.5-inch
Edge-grip tamping mat profile fold

8-10 inches
Water tank clearance above machine

8-inch depth
Horizontal prep, brew, and storage zones

min 12 inches
Unencumbered landing pad width

min 6 inches
Tray width beyond primary brewer

Hidden Tank Slider Mat

Cut a 1/8-inch felt (for stone) or Teflon (for wood) slider slightly smaller than your wooden tray to effortlessly glide heavy espresso machines forward.

Equipment Clearance Guide

Find your row: **Your equipment type**

Your equipment type	Your pick	Why
Single boiler machine	3in back, 2in side, 6in up	Safely vents active steam output
Heat exchanger	4in back, 3in side, 8in up	Protects painted cabinets from damage
Dual boiler setup	5in back, 4in side, 10in up	Manages intense heat and moisture
Electric gooseneck kettle	3in back, 2in side, 12in up	Clears high, concentrated steam vents
Standalone burr grinder	2in back, 2in side, 4in up	Allows motor heat to dissipate
Drip coffee brewer	4in back, 3in side, 10in up	Prevents MDF from warping over time

Measure Before You Build

- ○ Measure backsplash to front bullnose edge confirming standard 24-inch depth.
- ○ Locate nearest GFCI outlet and verify electrical requirements for machines.
- ○ Measure counter to upper cabinets to establish maximum equipment height.
- ○ Verify floating shelf brackets anchor directly into wall studs.
- ○ Check packaging to find the exact weight rating for shelves.

Station Assembly Sequence

- ☐ Anchor setup with a sealed spill-catch tray to contain moisture.
- ☐ Fold silicone edge-grip mat over counter to absorb tamping pressure.
- ☐ Position tamping mat exactly shoulder-width from the group head.
- ☐ Preserve flavor by storing beans in opaque UV-blocking canisters.
- ☐ Bundle grinder and scale cords using reusable velcro ties.
- ☐ Route thick heating element cords along backsplash with adhesive clips.
- ☐ Install warm 2700K LED light strip under first floating shelf.

Station Measurements & Notes

Enjoy your perfectly mapped morning ritual and the beautiful coffee it brings!