



Jim Bishop Cabinets, Inc

CRAFTSMAN INSET DEALER INFORMATION BOOKLET

Inset Cabinetry – The Jim Bishop Way!

Inset cabinetry has traditionally been considered the realm of truly high-end custom manufacturers. However, with recent advances in both computerized machining and in manufacturing processes, it is now possible for inset cabinetry to be offered at prices that might have been unthinkable only a decade ago.

The fact that we can offer inset cabinetry at more affordable pricing does not reduce the justification of the high-end manufacturers' prices. They typically hold tighter clearances between doors, drawers and face frames than we do. They typically offer a little more custom flexibility than we do. And they typically use more expensive grades of wood than we do. Those things simply cost more. In some cases they cost a lot more!

Our inset cabinetry is not designed to compete directly with high-end custom cabinetry. We have intentionally targeted our inset product offering towards homeowners who want inset styling, but don't feel that they can justify the expense associated with truly high-end custom cabinetry.

So that homeowners can make an informed decision, we have designed this booklet to point out differences between our products and truly high-end products. Both products offer real value- what you spend versus what you get. Hopefully, homeowners will be able to clearly determine which product offers them the best overall value based upon their own requirements. A second purpose for this booklet is to point out some things which are common to inset cabinetry.

Grades of Wood

Because inset cabinetry is more expensive to manufacture than cabinetry with overlay styling, you might assume that only the very most select grades of lumber would be used for our inset cabinetry. Since our goal is to make inset more affordable, we use the same grades of wood for our inset lines as for our lines with overlay styling.

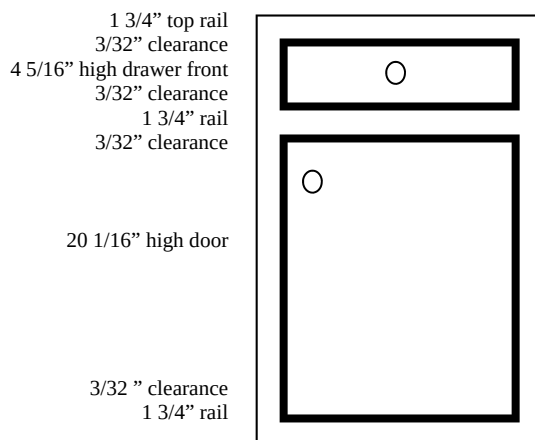
Sizing

The majority of our sizing calculations are based on a nominal clearance of 3/32" per edge. In some cases, such as with deep drawer fronts, an additional 1/16" of clearance (or a minimum nominal clearance of 5/32") may be used for the bottom edge.

Nominal clearances are used solely for the purpose of calculating door and drawer front sizes. They do not represent a measurement of acceptability or a specification. The minimum gap we allow in production between the edge of any door or drawer front and the edge of any frame is 1/16".

Our approach to door and drawer front sizing allows our pricing to be below that of high-end manufacturers. Many high-end manufacturers literally custom fit each door and drawer front to the opening of the face frame. We, on the other hand, base the sizes of doors and drawer fronts on the nominal, or intended, sizes of frame openings. An example is the best way to explain this. The drawings on the following page show what can happen with intended sizes.

Intended Sizing

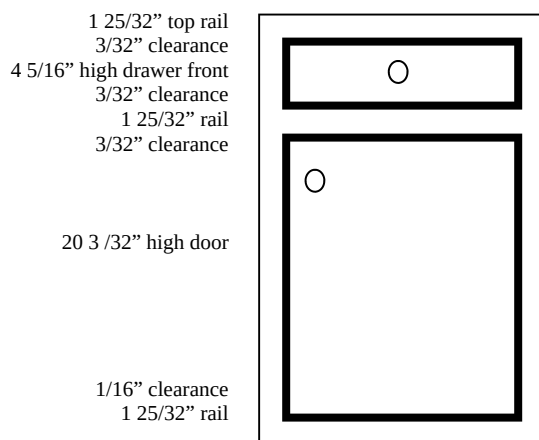


The intended sizes and clearance are shown above. The rails are intended to be 1 3/4" high. But rails may swell or shrink slightly as the humidity level changes. This is normal with all solid woods.

Another issue to consider is door and drawer front sizing. The intended height of the door in the example above is 20". The better door manufacturers can typically hold sizing tolerances within 1/32" in either direction. Even if the manufacturer hits the size dead on, fluctuations in humidity levels can cause the door to swell or shrink.

For the example below, let's assume that the humidity level changes and the rails end up 1/32" taller, and that the door comes in 1/32" taller than the intended size. Both of these conditions are normal and are well within the normal range of acceptability. The drawer opening will be jiggled to maintain the proper opening height. This means that all of the tolerance issues will affect the door opening. That leaves you with 1/16" total clearance, or 1/32" at the top and bottom, which is below our minimum.

Possible Reality



Field Adjustment

Because our cabinetry typically travels hundreds of miles on tractor trailers, you should assume that every door and drawer front will need adjustment. Our production staff makes some adjustments prior to shipping to make certain that the amount of adjustment that will likely be needed exists, but the intent is not to adjust the doors or drawer fronts to their final positions. Whenever possible, we intentionally send drawer fronts recessed as far into the drawer opening as possible in order to add an extra measure of protection during shipping.

Adjusting Doors

We use six-way adjustable concealed hinges so that doors may be adjusted up and down, in and out and from side to side. We also recommend installing the cabinets with the doors on them. That way, you can use the alignment of the doors to determine if the cabinets are being racked and can deal with it before the crown molding and countertops are installed. This will also allow greater control for better door-to-frame alignment.

Adjusting Drawers and/or Drawer Fronts

Drawers may be adjusted forward or backward by loosening the screw which affixes the front of the drawer slide to its mounting bracket. With the screw loosened, the slide may be moved forward or backward.

Drawer boxes may be adjusted up, both at the front and at the rear, by using the adjustable feature of the Blumotion slides.

Drawer fronts may be adjusted up and down and side to side by loosening the screws which affix the drawer front to the drawer box, adjusting the drawer front to the desired location, then re-tightening the screws.

Swelling/Shrinking

The characteristics mentioned below are normal both in our price range and in that of higher-end wood products.

Because wood is a hygroscopic material, it is constantly trying to achieve an equilibrium with the surrounding environment. When the relative humidity of the environment rises, the moisture content of wood rises. As the moisture content of wood rises, the wood will swell. When the relative humidity of the environment drops, the moisture content of the wood falls. As the moisture content falls, the wood will shrink.

Humidity levels and wood moisture content are a big deal when it comes to inset cabinetry! Because the doors and drawer fronts are positioned inside of frame rough openings with tight clearances, anyone buying inset cabinetry should carefully consider the environment into which their cabinetry will be going.

Our door and drawer front sizing is based upon an acceptable moisture range of 6% to 9% at the time of their manufacture, which equates roughly to a range of relative humidity from 26% to 51%.

If the climatic conditions become too humid, doors and/or drawer fronts may swell to the point that they become stuck in the face frames. This is a natural characteristic, and is thus not a warrantable issue. The best protection against swelling is year-round climate control, with both heating and air conditioning. In some cases, dehumidification may be necessary.

If the climatic conditions are dry enough, doors and/or drawer fronts may shrink to the point that they crack. This is a natural characteristic, and is thus not a warrantable issue. The best protection against shrinking is year-round climate control, with both heating and air conditioning. In more arid climates, humidification may be necessary.

Depth of Wall Cabinets

The standard depth for our wall cabinets is 12". Because of the demand for 13" deep wall cabinets in inset, we have set up a 13" deep modification in our Smart Pricing Program, and have priced it below the up charge for custom increased depths. When ordering 13" deep cabinets, you need to remember the following things:

- When WA, WLS, WATC, WLSTC, ERW and twister wall cabinets are increased to 13" deep, they will occupy 25" from each corner instead of 24".
- On blind corner wall cabinets, the depth will increase to 13", but the configuration of the blind space will not change. You will need to plan for 1" of extra pull from the corner to account for the 13" deep cabinet on the adjacent wall.

Depth of Wall Cabinets (continued)

- The 13" depth option is not available for certain cabinets, such as WEA and WMS cabinets. These cabinets will need to be blocked off of the wall one inch.
- Accessories for use with wall cabinets cannot be increased in depth, so you will want to plan in advance how to make them work. Examples are Apothecary cabinets, what-not shelves, end panels, soffits, condiment shelves, tambour units and wine racks.

The depth of drawers on WDT cabinets will not change. The current drawer slide is designed for 12" deep cabinets (they don't make one for a 13" deep cabinet), so the rear of the drawer space will be blocked 1" at the factory before the drawer slides are installed.

Reduced Depths

Because Blum motion drawer slides are limited in depth to 3" increments, cabinets with drawers can only be reduced in depth in 3" increments, to a minimum depth of 12".

Drawer Fronts

The wider a piece of wood is across the grain, the more it can swell. To minimize potential problems with swelling, all drawer fronts 6" high and above will be five-piece, frame and panel drawer fronts.

Dealer Registration

The characteristics of inset cabinetry are so different from overlay cabinetry, and the Jim Bishop approach to inset cabinetry is different enough that we require our dealers to register in order to offer our inset lines. If you, as a dealer of our products, wish to sell inset cabinetry, please copy this page, fill out the registration portion of this booklet below and send it to us.

DEALER REGISTRATION FORM FOR INSET CABINETRY

I have read the Inset Dealer Registration Booklet and clearly understand the information contained within it. I agree to carefully qualify each customer who shows interest in inset cabinetry, making them aware of the differences between Jim Bishop Cabinets' inset cabinetry and that of higher-end cabinet companies. I further agree to explain to each customer that it is normal for wood to expand and contract as humidity levels vary, that this will cause door and drawer front clearances to vary within an entire kitchen or other room, and that in some cases doors or drawer fronts may swell to the point that they bind with the face frames. I understand that this will not be considered a warranty issue and will explain this to each customer. I further understand that a consumer-oriented version of this form is available which I may use at my discretion for homeowners to sign.

Dealership: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Date: _____