

Creating a Waterfall Countertop

Reference Number: **KB-02936**

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The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION




How do I create a waterfall countertop?

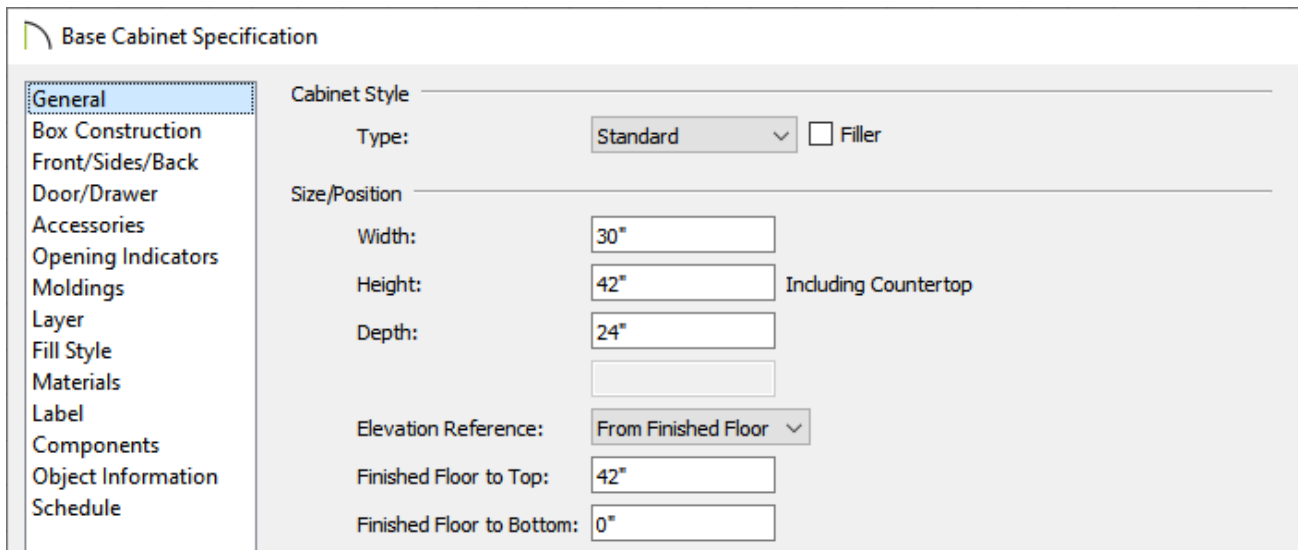


ANSWER

A waterfall countertop is a countertop that 'falls' off the edge of a set of cabinets, creating the appearance of a continuous surface that blends from the top surface down the side. This look can be achieved automatically in X12 and newer program versions, or manually by setting a custom countertop to be taller than it is wide and placing it beside the cabinets.

To place the cabinets and set their dimensions

1. Navigate to **Build> Cabinet> Base Cabinet**  then click once in the plan to place a base cabinet.
2. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, select the cabinet and then click the **Open Object**  edit button.
3. In the **Base Cabinet Specification** dialog that opens:



Category	Property	Value
General	Cabinet Style	
	Type	Standard
	Filler	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Size/Position	
	Width	30"
	Height	42" Including Countertop
	Depth	24"
	Elevation Reference	From Finished Floor
	Finished Floor to Top	42"
	Finished Floor to Bottom	0"






- Set the **Width** of the cabinet.

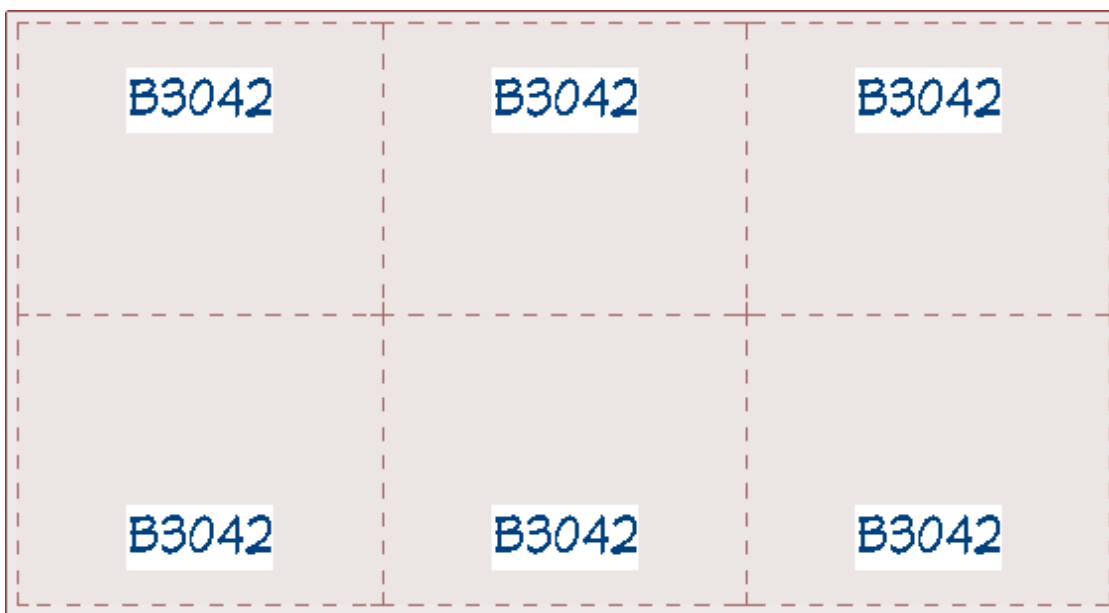
In this example, 30" is used.


- Set the **Height** of the cabinet.

In this example, 42" is used.

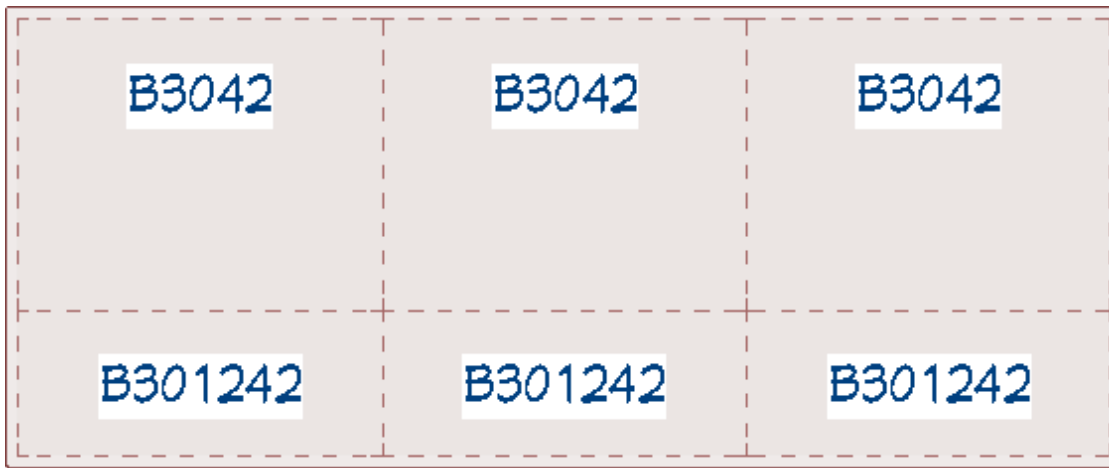
- Make any other desired changes, then click **OK**.

4. With the cabinet still selected, click the **Copy/Paste**  edit button, then click the **Sticky Mode**  edit button.
5. Click 5 times in the plan to place 5 copies of the base cabinet, then click on the **Select Objects**  tool once again.
6. Use the **Move**  and **Rotate**  edit handles for each of the cabinets to move them into place.




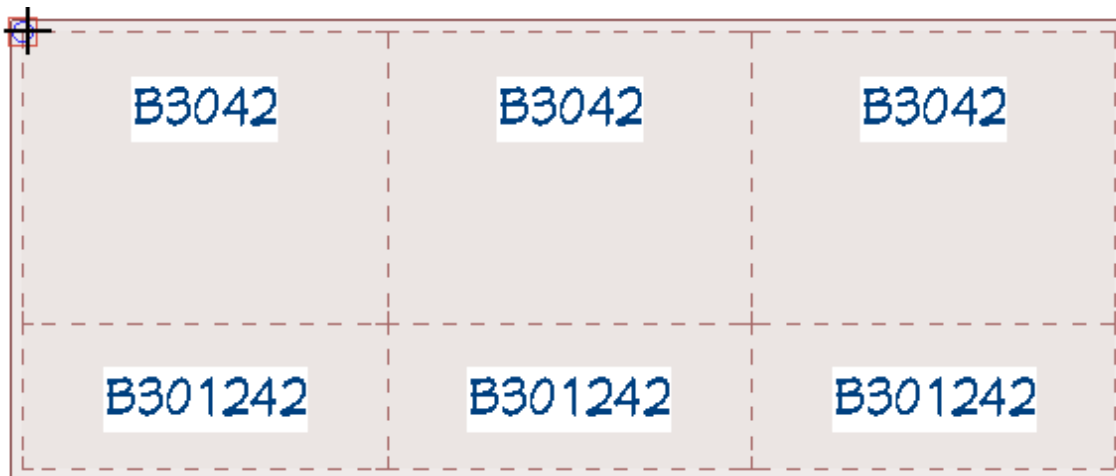
7. Group select the three cabinets on the Breakfast Bar side of the island and click on the **Open Object**  edit button.
8. In the **Base Cabinet Specification** dialog that opens, set the **Depth** to your desired value, then click **OK**.

In this example, 12" is used.



To add the custom countertop

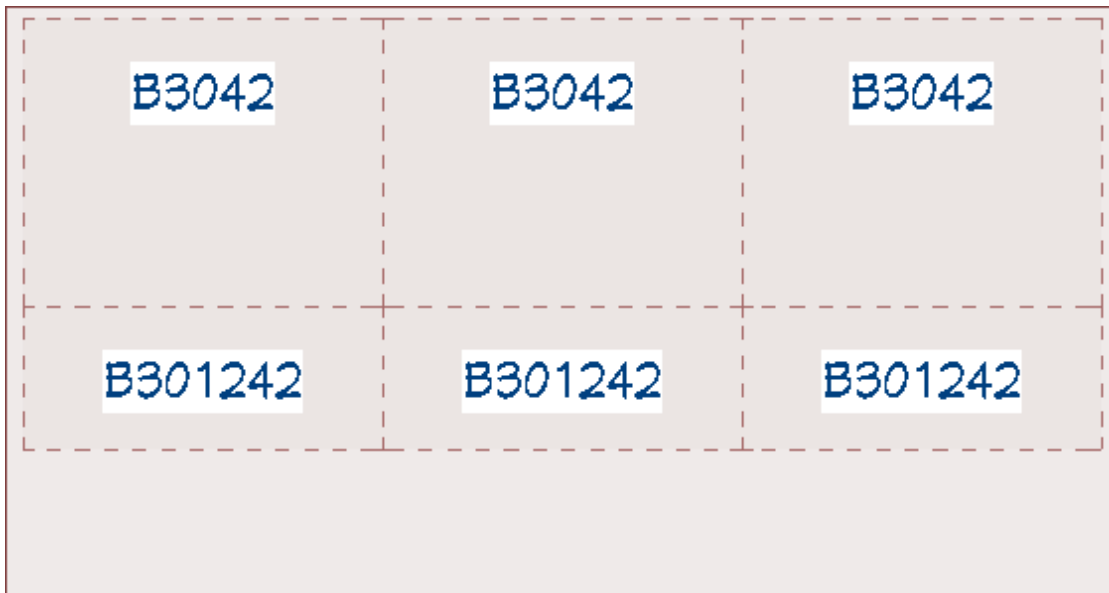
1. Select **Build> Cabinet> Custom Countertop**  from the menu.
2. Click and drag a rectangle over the top of your cabinets to place your countertop.



Creating a custom countertop over existing base cabinets will override any automatic countertops that were part of the cabinet.

3. Resize the countertop to your liking.


In this example, a 1" overhang was added to the front, a 1 1/2" overhang was added to the left and right sides, and a 12" overhang was added for the Breakfast Bar on the back.



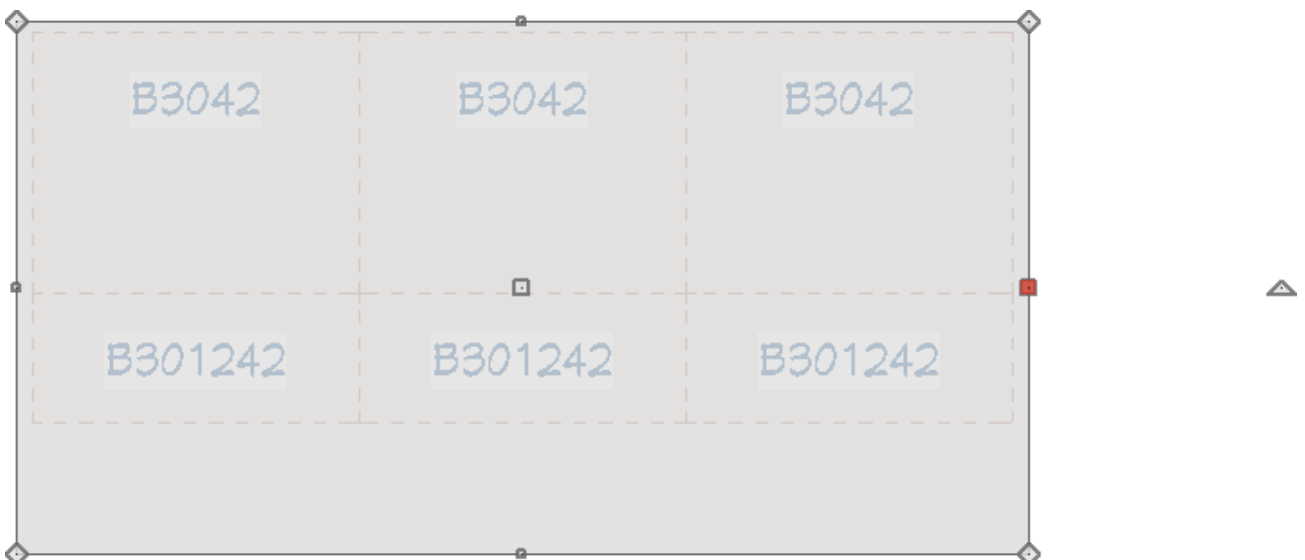
Note: The Countertop's thickness and height will be set based upon the cabinets the countertop is sitting on.

To create waterfall panels automatically*

*Applies to Chief Architect X12 and newer versions.

1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click on an edge of the custom countertop that you would like to add a waterfall edge to.

In the image below, the right side of the countertop is selected.



2. Click the **Open Object**  edit tool.

3. In the **Custom Countertop Specification** dialog that displays, check the **Add Waterfall to Selected Edge** box under the Waterfall Edge section, make any other desired changes to the countertop, then click **OK**.

Custom Countertop Specification

General

Polyline

Selected Line

Moldings

Line Style

Fill Style

Materials

Label

Components

Options

Hole in Countertop

Display Molding Edges

Counter top Thickness

Set Thickness From Cabinet

Thickness: 1 1/2"

Counter top Height

Set Height From Cabinet

Elevation Reference: From Finished Floor

Finished Floor to Top: 42"

Finished Floor to Bottom: 40 1/2"

Waterfall Edge

Add Waterfall to Selected Edge

Mitre All Waterfall Edges

Automatic Height

Height From Counter Bottom: 40 1/2"

Molding on Selected Edge

Automatic

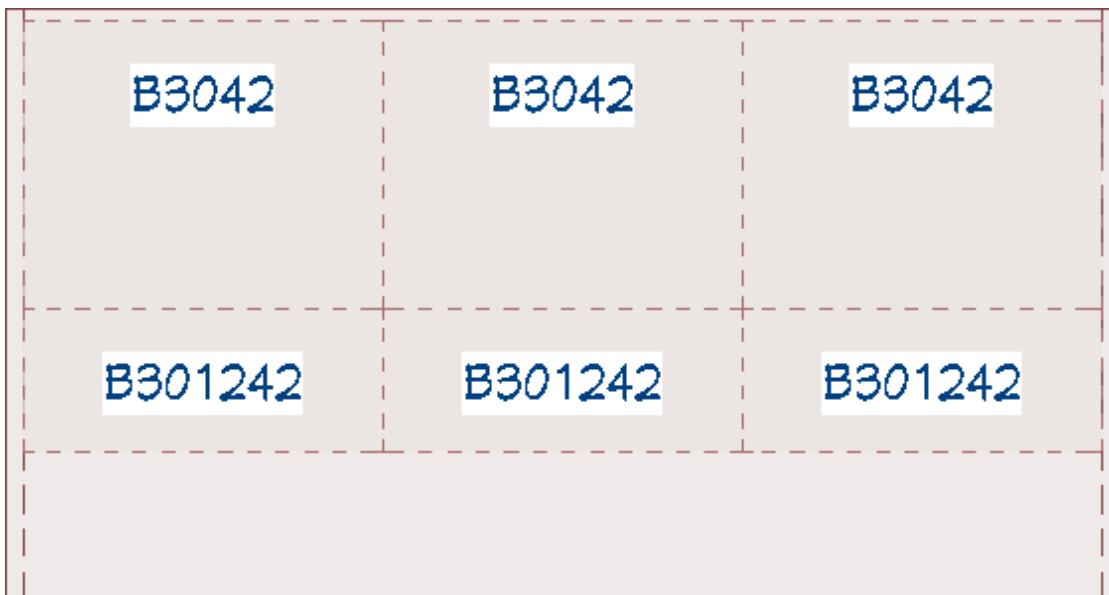
No Molding

Has Molding

Apply to All Edges

4. Perform the same procedure on any additional sides you would a waterfall edge applied to.

You can also use the **Add Waterfall to Selected Edge**  edit tool when an edge of a countertop is selected.

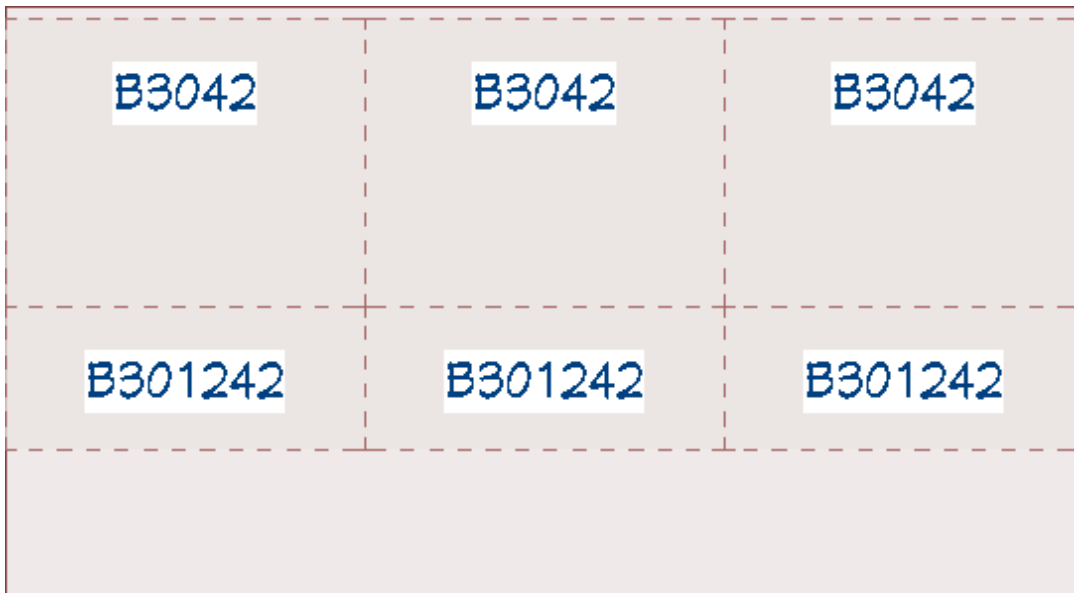



5. Take a **Camera**  view to see the results.

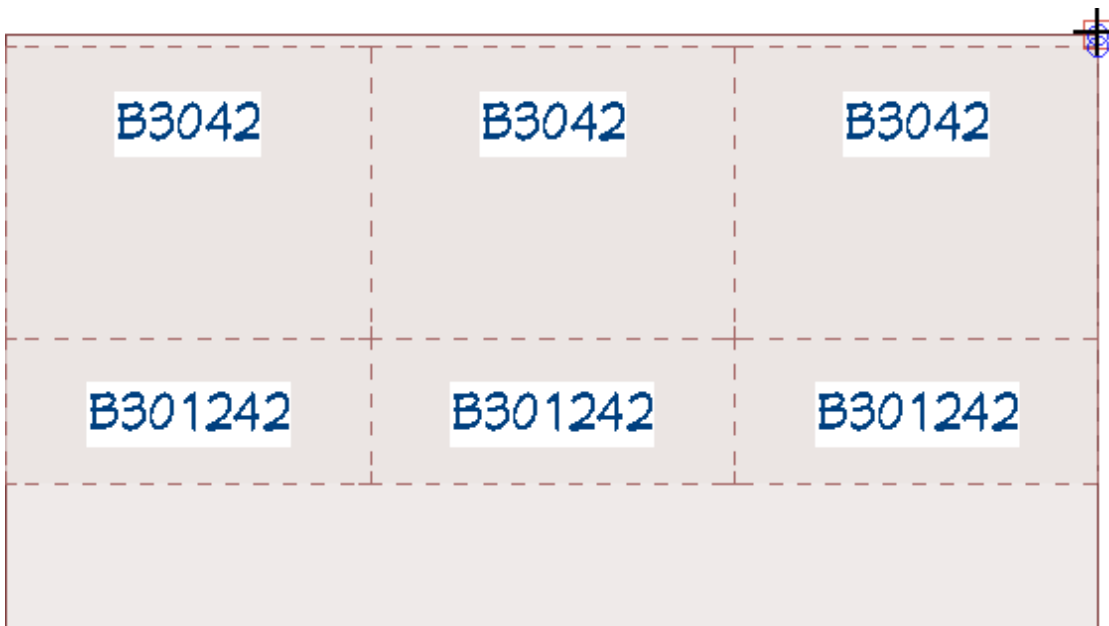


To create waterfall panels manually

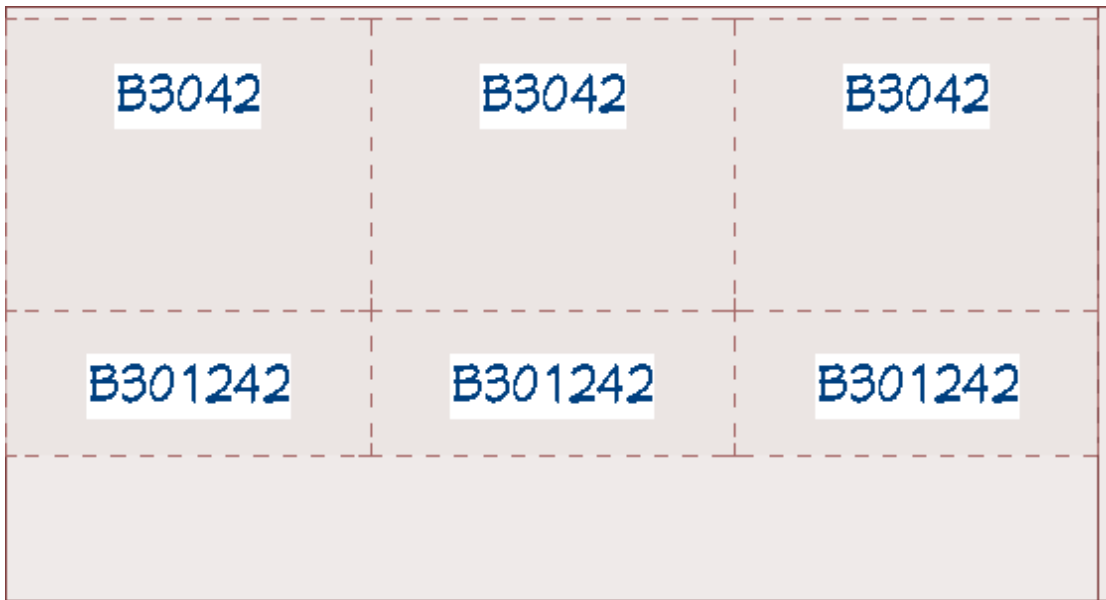
1. Resize the custom countertop so that the left and right sides are flush with the cabinet sides.





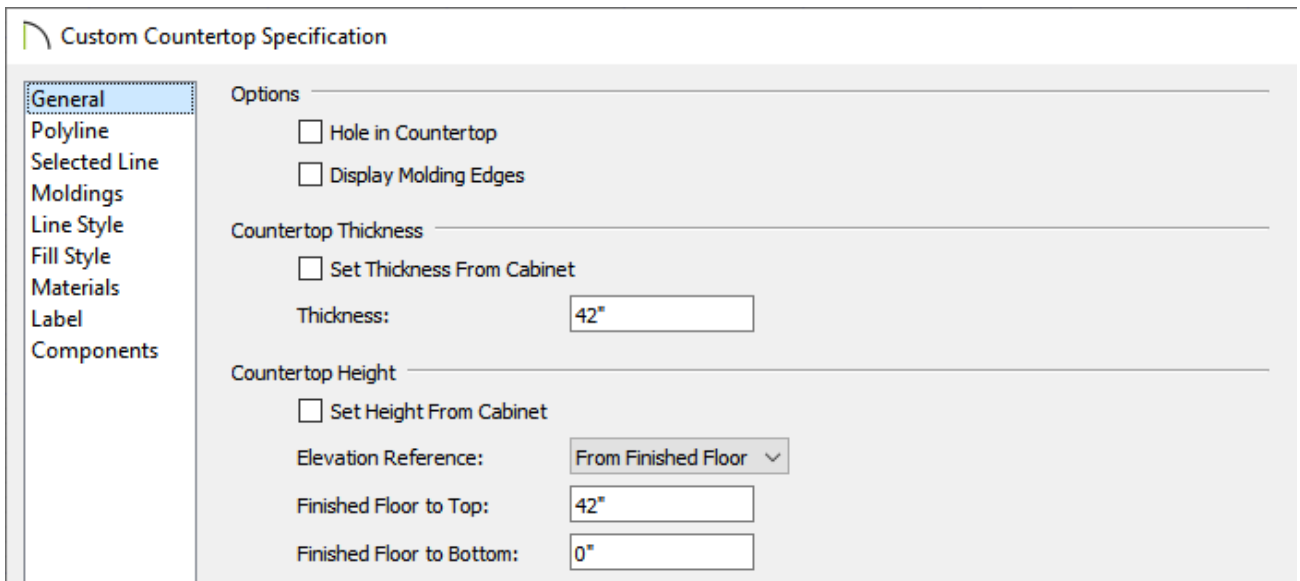
2. Select **Build> Cabinet> Custom Countertop**  from the menu.
3. Click and drag a rectangle beside the group of cabinets to create a waterfall panel.



4. Resize the panel to your liking.



5. With the **Select Objects**  tool, select the panel and then click **Open Object** .
6. In the **Custom Countertop Specification** dialog that opens:





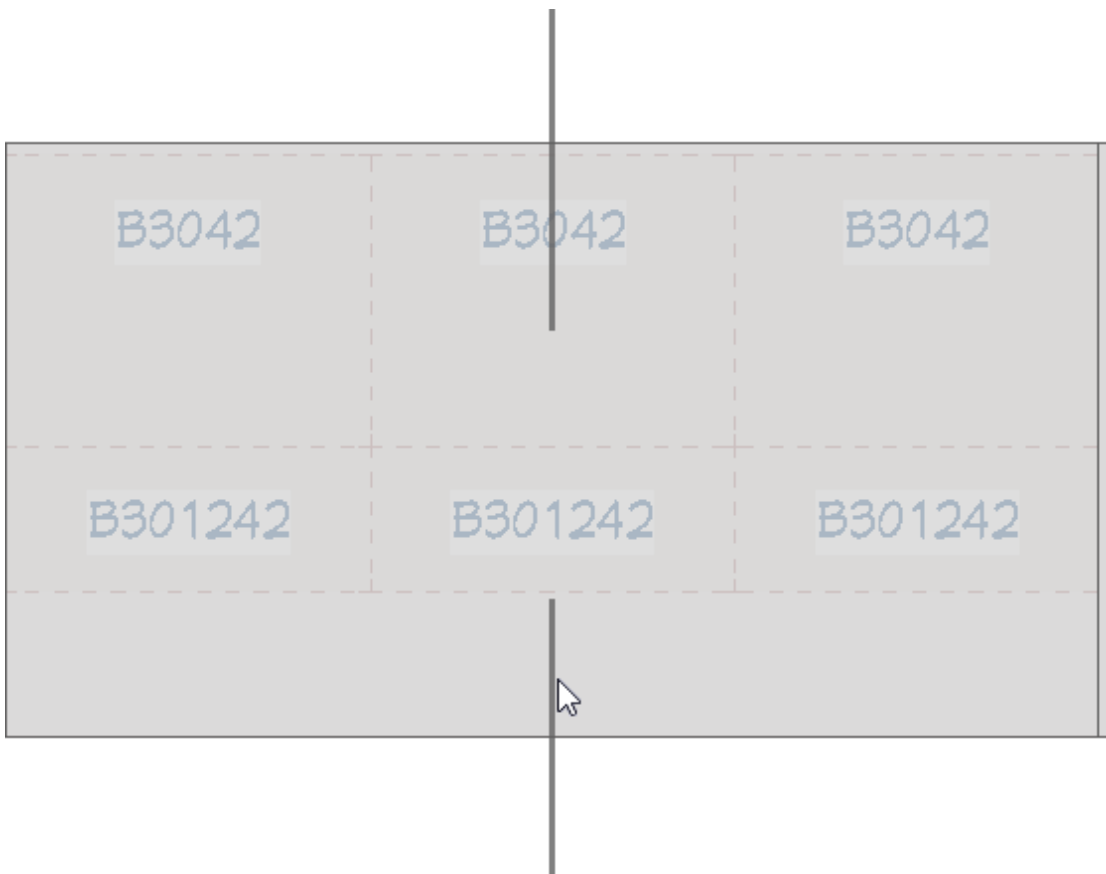
- Remove the check from the **Set Thickness From Cabinet** box and specify a value in the **Thickness** box.

In this example, the Thickness can be seen as the overall height of the panel that we are creating. We specified a value of 42".

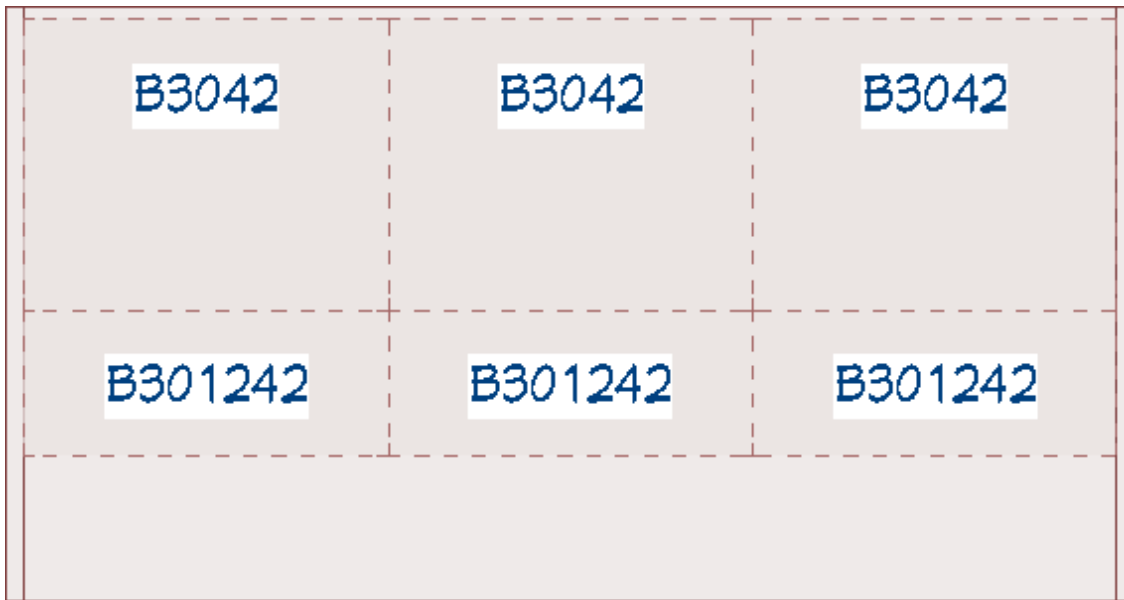
- Remove the check from **Set Height From Cabinet** box and specify a value in the **Finished Floor to Top/Bottom** box.

In this example a value of 42" is specified in the Finished Floor to Top field.

- Make any other desired changes, then click **OK**.
7. With the waterfall panel still selected, click the **Copy/Paste**  edit button, then click the **Reflect About Object**  edit button.
 8. Move the cursor so the reflect about line is centered on the group of cabinets, and then click to create a reflected copy of the panel.



9. The waterfall countertop will now display on both sides of this kitchen island.



Related Articles

[📄 Adding Cabinet Back and Side Panels \(/support/article/KB-03028/adding-cabinet-back-and-side-panels.html\)](/support/article/KB-03028/adding-cabinet-back-and-side-panels.html)



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