

## *Installing Your Butcher Block*

Hard maple butcher block tops respond to changes in temperature and humidity by expanding and contracting. Butcher block top dimensions will change slightly with the seasons. It is important to allow for this natural expansion and contraction when installing and securing the butcher block tops to your island.

When installing butcher block tops, a hole  $\frac{3}{8}$ " larger in diameter than the screw should be drilled in the cabinets or mounting brackets to allow for expansion. Install the screws with large washers to allow the top to move on the screws. Do not screw the top down without the ability to move. This will cause cracking, splitting, and warping. Remember that an edge grain block will flex in the width only and an end grain block will flex in both width and length.

