

**ELKAY**<sup>®</sup>



## Your Dream Sink

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6 things to consider before buying  
a new sink.

# Making Your Every Day Easier ... That's Elkay!

You probably use your sink more than any other fixture or appliance in your home, so you should have the functionality you need and the style you want. The good news is, sinks come in a variety of styles and materials to suit your style — and your lifestyle — perfectly.

Whether you're updating your kitchen, laundry room or entertaining area, your sink is important. Some shoppers mull over every detail of a remodel, then take whatever sink the countertop installer throws in. Chances are, you'll end up paying for this "free" sink daily, because it's louder, less durable and less accommodating than it should be. Worse, you could end up having to replace an expensive new countertop just to change out a sink that isn't doing its job.

As a family-owned business with more than a century in sink manufacturing, Elkay offers the winning combination of high-quality materials and innovation for the way you use your sink. And every Elkay sink is backed by our limited lifetime warranty. When you want your sink to keep delivering for years to come, turn to America's No. 1 selling kitchen sink company — that's Elkay!



ELUHH3017TPD



ELXUFP36201OSM0



ELXHU3322RMT0

# The Six S's of Sink Selection

If you want a sink that meets the needs of you and your family for years to come, remember the sound water makes: SSSSSS, also known as the six S's of sink selection.

# 1

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## Size

Determine bowl size based on your space, your lifestyle and all the tasks that happen at your sink.

# 2

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## Shape

Single bowl, double bowl or a double bowl with Aqua Divide™? Consider how you use your kitchen and your sink.

# 3

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## Structure

Discover how countertop material and installation style work together.

# 4

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## Substance

A look at sink material options and determining your preference.

# 5

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## Strength

Classic stainless steel – navigating gauge and steel type.

# 6

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## Sound

The role of material and quality in enjoying a quieter time at the sink.

# 1

## Size

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### Is a bigger sink better?

The short answer is: it depends on how you use your sink.

Selecting a sink starts with measuring your sink base cabinet. No matter what sink you choose, you'll have to make sure it fits into your cabinet. Wider sinks accommodate more dishes — but also impact your usable counter space, which is critical in smaller kitchens. Some sinks extend beyond the edge of the countertop, allowing you to enjoy a bigger sink without sacrificing usable counter space.

Sink *depth* is another key to how it actually fits your needs.

#### **6-inch depths**

A 6-1/2-inch sink bowl holds less but creates more cabinet space below and provides easier accessibility to dishes. For ADA-compliant installations, 6 inches is the max depth for an undermount and 6-1/2 inches is the max depth for a drop-in sink.

#### **8-inch depths**

In the U.S., an increasingly common option is a slightly deeper sink. An 8-inch depth allows for more and bigger items, like large pots, flower vases or baby bathtubs.



#### **9- or 10-inch depths**

A 9- or 10-inch-deep bowl can contain taller pots, bigger piles of dishes and more splashing water, but it reduces cabinet space below. Reaching into a deeper sink can also require you to bend more.

#### **Specialty depths**

Other depths allow for greater accessibility and usage options, and range from more shallow — including a 5-inch ADA-friendly depth — to as deep as 12 inches for splash-containing laundry sinks.

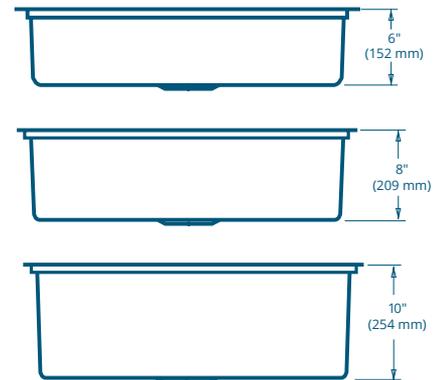


### How to measure for a new sink

It's important to make sure your new sink fits into your sink base cabinet. Here's how to measure for a new sink when using an existing cabinet and countertop.

- A** Base cabinet: Measure your base cabinet from left to right, as shown above. Your cabinet should always measure 3" longer than the sink bowl.
- B** Sink length: Measure your sink from left to right.
- C** Sink width: Measure sink from front to back to make sure you have enough countertop space between the sink and the backsplash in order to install a faucet and any accessories.
- D** Sink depth: Measure the bowl from top to bottom.
- E** Measure the corner radius to make sure the corners of the new sink will cover the corners cut out of your existing countertop.
- F** If your base cabinet has a tip-out tray, make sure the bowl of your new sink will not interfere with the tray's function.

### Sink depths





## 2 Shape

### Which configuration best fits your needs?

Do you wash large baking pans? Deal with a lot of dishes? Use your sink for many things at once, or share it with another person? You'll want the shape to reflect your personal sink lifestyle.

#### **Single bowl**

A single bowl sink offers uninterrupted space and will easily hold the most large items in it — like large skillet, serving bowls or sheet pans.

### Double bowl

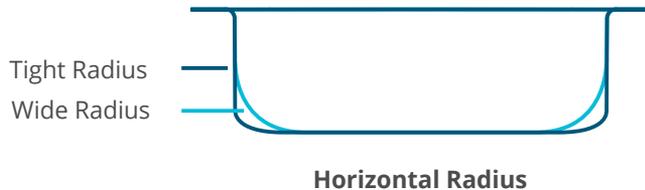
A double bowl sink is a great solution for separating tasks. You can have two bowls of the same size or two bowls of different sizes, based on how you use your sink.

### Double bowl with Aqua Divide™

An Aqua Divide is a low center wall that allows the sink to be used as both a double bowl where you use bowls independently, or you can flood the sink with water and use it as a single bowl. The low wall (*featured on page 7*) allows pan handles to extend over the center and makes it easy to wash large items, like baking sheets, over both bowls.

### Drain placement

A standard sink drain is near the center of the bowl. Offset drains near the back of the sink or near back corners provide more usable workspace inside the bowl. Offset drains also provide more space in the cabinet below because the drain placement puts plumbing at the back.



### Did you know?

Sinks with tight corners and a flat bottom often provide more usable space in the bowl. They generally hold more than sinks with wide corners, and items like wine glasses are less likely to tip over and break.

# 3

## Structure

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### How does the sink integrate with the countertop?

#### Drop-in

A drop-in (also known as a top mount) sink is lowered into the countertop; the counter supports the sink. Drop-in sinks are easy to install, and they're a simple solution if you're replacing a sink but not the countertop. They have a lip that makes it harder to sweep crumbs and water straight into the sink, though some manufacturers have minimized the lip, offering a Slim Rim® design.

#### Undermount

Undermount sinks are attached to the underside of the countertop with special hardware, creating a seamless transition. This allows you to sweep water and food scraps straight into the sink, which is convenient if you do a lot of food prep or dish stacking on the counter. It's worth noting that certain counter materials can't sustain the weight of an undermount sink.

If you decide to go with an undermount sink, keep in mind that the sink you choose is a permanent choice with this style of installation. It often cannot be changed out without changing your counter. You spend a lot



of time at your sink, and you want to make sure it's a choice you don't regret later because you opted for the "free" sink from the builder or countertop fabricator.



### Dual mount

These sinks have a versatile design with a flat rim that allows them to be installed above the counter as a drop-in or below the counter as an undermount.

### Farmhouse

A fourth option is a farmhouse (or apron front) style sink with an exposed front as part of the design, sometimes extending beyond the front edge of the surrounding counter for extra-large bowl space.

### Undermount sink installation styles

There are three basic options for how an undermount sink edge can align with a countertop edge.



# 4 Substance

## What should your sink be made of?

The material and finish of your sink are personal choices based on your unique style. But there are important functional differences too.

### **Stainless steel**

Stainless steel is a timeless classic that can also feel ultramodern. It's durable, easy to clean and disinfect — and can even be recycled. Some stainless steel sink finishes offer scratch forgiveness, where scratches blend into the finish with time.

### **Quartz**

Quartz composite is a very hard material that offers strong durability, plus an organic look and feel. It's heat resistant, naturally quieter and comes in an extraordinary range of hues to complement granite countertops or add a pop of color to your kitchen.



## Fireclay

Stain-resistant fireclay can add a traditional farmhouse look to your kitchen with either a matte or glossy surface. Sinks are baked at high temperatures for a nonporous and extremely durable finish.

## Copper

Like steel, copper is durable and easy to clean. It also carries extra antimicrobial properties that help with clean food prep. The metal naturally changes color, developing a self-healing patina that restores itself from exposure to acidic foods, abrasive cleaners and pots and pans.

## Cast iron

Cast iron sinks are typically covered with a porcelain enamel and are offered in colors. They're easy to clean, resistant to water streaking and hold heat for a long time, which is great for washing dishes in warm water. However, the material can chip if you drop a heavy pan inside while working at the sink. Additionally, the sinks themselves are heavy, which means careful installation into sturdy cabinets and countertops is a must.



## Did you know?

Elkay Lustertone® sinks have a unique forgiving finish that stands up to everyday use. Light scratches blend into the finish with time. Deeper scratches are repairable with an Elkay stainless steel restoration kit (model LK34).





# 5 Strength

## How sturdy should your sink be?

A sink needs to be strong enough for how you plan to use it. Its sturdiness depends on what it's made of, as well as the quality of the material. The thickness of a stainless steel sink is measured in gauges. The lower the gauge, the thicker the metal. Fireclay and quartz sinks are very strong. Fireclay is fired at high temperatures for long-lasting durability, while quartz sinks are molded from natural quartz sand, the hardest component of granite.

### 16 gauge: thicker

A lower gauge sink is a smart choice for minimum noise and denting; meaning your sink is going to stay strong, smooth and silent for years to come. Chefs and foodies often prefer a sturdier sink because it's going to see a lot of action.

### 18 gauge: the standard

The standard thickness for most American metal sinks is 18 gauge. It's durable and easily supports garbage disposals. It's also quieter than thinner sinks, which you'll appreciate when dropping other metal things into it. When it comes to stainless sinks and undermount installation consider going with a sink that's 18 gauge or lower for durability.

### 20-22 gauge: thinner

Higher gauge sinks are a cost-saving option but are more susceptible to dings and dents and are louder when pots hit them. Thinner sinks can also vibrate a lot and, consequently, struggle to support garbage disposals. If you like the clean look of an undermount sink, consider upgrading to a 16- or 18-gauge sink, as undermount sinks are very hard to replace, if you can find someone to replace them at all.

### Type 304 stainless steel

Your sink's steel type — meaning the exact composition of metals — is just as important as its gauge. The 300 series of stainless steel (most commonly Type 304) typically comes in 18/8 grade, which means it contains 18% chromium and 8% nickel, great for maximum durability and stain resistance.



# 6 Sound

## Your sink has volume, but does it have to be loud?

The sound of a kitchen sink is not the first thing buyers think about, but if you're going to spend a lot of time at or near the sink, you should. There are some key choices that will make it clear that a sink doesn't have to be loud at all.

### **Material matters**

Materials like quartz and fireclay are naturally less noisy, and with stainless steel or other metal sinks, a thicker gauge generally means a quieter time at the sink.

### **... so does insulation**

Many sink manufacturers don't include this, but sound-deadening pads on a stainless steel sink will greatly help muffle the sound of running water and clattering silverware.





## Did you know?

Garbage disposals can be noisy. Selecting a thicker gauge sink with sound-deadening pads can help to muffle noise when the disposal is in use.



SWUF3320WH

## Elkay Exclusive Interchangeable Apron

## What if you want stainless steel today, but fireclay on the weekend?

Here's a look at some Elkay innovation to add even more style and convenience to your kitchen. Take a fun twist on a typically permanent decision: farmhouse sinks with an interchangeable apron. This Elkay exclusive feature actually lets you change the color or material of your sink apron from day to night, seasonally or whenever the mood hits you. Champagne or Sapphire in stainless? Glacier in fireclay? Yes, yes and oh definitely yes.



**Glacier (GL)**

CTXAFCGL



**Champagne (CP)**

CTXACP



**Graphite (GT)**

CTXAGT



**Platinum (PL)**

CTXAPL



**Sapphire (SP)**

CTXASP



**Scarlet (SC)**

CTXASC



**Sunset (SN)**

CTXASN



## Elkay Exclusive Perfect Drain®

### All drains are not created equal.

We've all spent time cleaning food out of a drain. Here's an ingenious and elegant solution for a cleaner sink: drains that are built into the bowl with no gap whatsoever, so your sink is easier to clean and more hygienic. Even better news if you have a garbage disposal unit; there's nowhere else for crumbs to go but down and out.



ELUHH3017TPD



### Advantages of Elkay's Perfect Drain vs. a regular drain

- Gap around drain has been eliminated
- Easy to clean because food has nowhere to go but down the drain
- Easy to install
- Save time with assembly that's 25% faster than standard drain installation
- Garbage disposal installs from underneath sink



## Elkay Exclusive Workstation Sinks

### Want your sink to work even harder?

If you like the idea of having a meal prep center near your sink or you have limited space in your kitchen, a workstation sink with a built-in ledge for accessories can make your sink work so much harder for you.

The ledge allows custom accessories, like a wood cutting board, to fit inside the sink and slide along the top, letting you work directly over your sink. Elkay workstation sinks are available in stainless steel, quartz and fireclay, so you can have the convenience you want in the material you love.



ECTRU30169RTWC



## Elkay Exclusive Dart Canyon™

The perfect sink should be  
within everyone's reach.

The first of its kind, Dart Canyon™ is a testament to Elkay's passion for ingenuity. This dynamic sink is thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of everyone, from the little ones who want to help clean up after snack time to people looking to the future and aging in place.



ELDSSF33279DBG



### Dual-depth design

This sink was engineered with a work shelf in the front for keeping kitchen tools organized and within reach, and then opens to a 9"-deep bowl with plenty of room to stack dishes and fill stockpots.

### Workstation functionality

Elkay innovation doesn't stop there. Custom-sized accessories\* slide along the sink top and work shelf, allowing you to prep meals right over the sink, and a reversible grid functions as a standard bottom grid or can be flipped to elevate with the work shelf. And it's all wrapped up in an attractive farmhouse design that's ADA-compliant when properly installed.

*\*Select accessories sold separately.*



*\*Under-sink plumbing cover not included.*



# The Six S's of Sink Selection

## Size (pages 5-6)

Determine bowl size based on your space, your lifestyle and all the tasks that happen at your sink.

## Shape (pages 7-8)

Single bowl, double bowl or a double bowl with a low center wall? Consider how you use your kitchen and your sink.

## Structure (pages 9-10)

Discover how countertop materials and installation style work together.

## Substance (pages 11-12)

A look at sink material options and determining your preference.

## Strength (pages 13-14)

Classic stainless steel – navigating gauge and steel type.

## Sound (pages 15-16)

The role of material and quality in enjoying a quieter time at the sink.

# Shopping Checklist

Fill out this list based on what you need in a sink to make your shopping experience easier.

## 1 Size

Length: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Width: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Depth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Min. cabinet size: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Shape

- Single bowl
- Double bowl
- Size ratio (ex: equal, 60/40 split, etc.):* \_\_\_\_\_
- Straight sidewalls

## 3 Structure

- Drop-in
- Undermount
- Dual mount
- Farmhouse/Apron

## 4 Substance

- Stainless steel
- Quartz
- Fireclay

## 5 Strength

- Choose thickness if stainless steel*
- 16 gauge (*thicker*)
  - 18 gauge (*standard*)
  - 20 gauge (*thin*)
  - 22 gauge (*thinner*)

## 6 Sound

- Sound-deadening pads  
*(NOTE: Substance and strength will contribute to this as well.)*

## Elkay Exclusives

- Interchangeable Apron  
*(On select farmhouse sinks)*
- Perfect Drain
- ADA sink
- Workstation sink



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### About Elkay

For more than 100 years, Elkay® Manufacturing has been making innovative products and providing exceptional customer care. Like your family, Elkay has values and traditions that endure. We take pride in offering reliable products that inspire change and leave the world a better place for generations to come.

Headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois, Elkay is American owned and operated, providing thousands of jobs that support our families and communities. We are proud to be America's No. 1 selling kitchen sink company, as well as a leading manufacturer of award-winning water delivery products, including the ezH2O® bottle filling station.

**ELKAY**

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