DEALING WITH UNEVEN SURFACES

Preparation is the most important part of the installation process!

- Mark layout (appliances, doors, windows, plumbing, electrical, bases and wall cabinets)
- Inspect walls and floors for uneven parts with levels (laser or conventional tool) prior to installing cabinets
- Identify high points on the floor and bowing on the wall and mark them for reference
- Please note, uneven surfaces are common in all construction so it’s best to have wood shims available and ready for use

WALL CABINETS:

- If you encounter a minor bowing wall, position a shim behind the wall cabinet until level and plumb
- If bowing is extreme, fasten shim to the stud, then hang wall cabinet
- When installing a filler piece between walls and cabinets measure top and bottom pieces to cut to desired width (top and bottom measurement will differ if hanging on an uneven wall)

RIGHT

Proper shimming will allow the cabinet boxes to be aligned along a flat plane. Door fascia can then be adjusted within acceptable tolerances.

WRONG

Correcting for a “Bowed In” or “Bellied” wall condition

Boxes are at an angle to each other

Box faces are not aligned
BASE CABINETS:
Depending on the flooring, there will be different ways to level cabinets:

FLOORS:
• If cabinets will be installed prior to finished floor, cut plywood strips to the thickness of the floor and underlayment
• If you encounter an uneven surface, position shim under strips to a level position
• If cabinets will be installed after finished floor, shim until the base cabinets are level.

Locate the highpoint on the floors.
Measure 34 1/2" from the level line and mark another level line.
This will be the top of the base cabinets.

UNEVEN WALLS:
• If you encounter minor bowing on the wall, position shim behind the base cabinet until level and plumb
• If bowing is extreme, multiple shims may be required.

Please note:
• All Hampton Bay kitchen wall and base cabinets include full installation manuals.
• This is a reference guide for troubleshooting. Methods described here are recommendations only, and are based on commonly used installations. It is the installer’s responsibility to ensure proper installation of the product. AWC does not warrant the installation of this product.