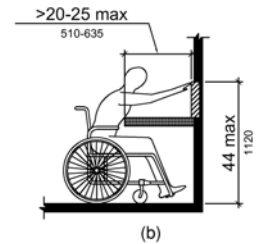


How Tall Can My Counter Be?

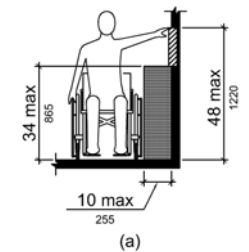
Accessibility | Solutions

Under the prior standard, common area counters such as those found in a break room or conference area, had a maximum height between 28" - 34" AFF (Above Finish Floor) for a minimum of 36" in length. Today, with our new standards, there is no specific counter height requirement, however, items provided at the counter must be within the reach range requirements.

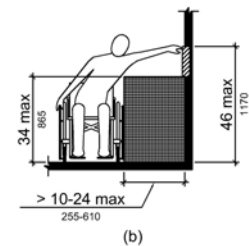
For a forward approach at a counter that is open below such as a table or desk is pretty simple. With a 20" maximum counter depth the control is still at 48". With a 25" counter depth the control lowers to 44" AFF maximum to the top.



For a side reach over an obstruction, the control may be located at 48" AFF when the obstruction is 10" maximum from the face of the wall. The counter surface is then a maximum of 34" AFF. Where an object extends from the wall greater than 10" to a maximum of 24" in depth, the reach range lowers to 46" AFF to the top of the control with the counter surface is a maximum of 34" AFF.



As you can see, reach ranges dictate the height of the counter. There are also other elements which will also dictate the counter height. For example, a sink must have a maximum of 34" AFF to either the counter surface or sink rim, whichever is higher. In the case of a break room or conference room, the rest of the counter surface may be taller if there are not any controls which must be accessible. If a work surface is adjacent as in the case of a lab table, the work surface must be 28" - 34" AFF and have knee and toe clearance.



If the counter is a sales or service counter it must be a minimum 36" in width with a maximum 36" AFF for a side approach and 30" in length, maximum 36" AFF for a forward approach.

We are always here to assist you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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