

Concealed Sockets : Buying Guide



1 Intro

Concealed sockets are the perfect finishing touch for any kitchen, office or prestigious installation. They are particularly useful for kitchen island units where wall space is at a premium or clean lines are preferred.

Before buying a concealed socket there are a few things you need to consider:

- How much do you want to spend?
- Do you want one that pops up part of the way via a button, or one that is pulled up the entire way?
- How much space do you have under your work top?
- What do you want to plug into it?
- Do you want it to sit flush in your work top or be raised?

2 How much to spend?

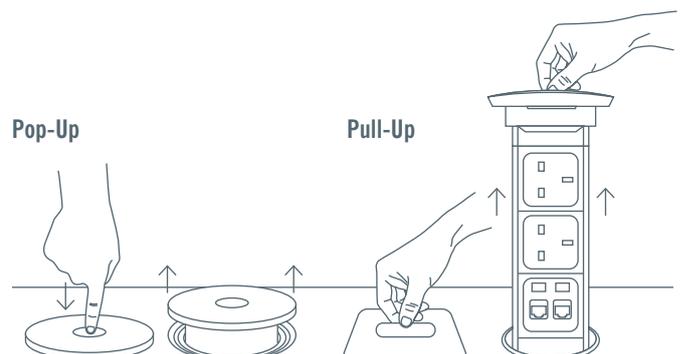
There are a number of factors that determine the overall cost of a concealed power unit, for example the style, the number of power sockets, the extra features and the colour/finish are all key elements that need to be considered. So if you want a high quality unit that has extra features like USB & LED then it would be worth spending that little bit more.

3 Pop-Up or Pull-Up?

This refers to the method of raising the socket from the retracted position in the worktop.

A **Pull-Up** socket performs just as it sounds; it is raised and lowered by pulling the socket up and pushing it down manually, this is common place with most entry level units.

Pop-Up sockets are premium sockets; they can be raised by pressing the central button in the top disc which activates the unit to “Pop-Up” partially from the worktop and can then be raised the rest of the way by hand, to the desired height.



4 How much space will you need?

The key thing to think about here is the space the unit requires under the worktop, not only do you need to consider the height of the unit itself but also you need to allow some extra space below for the wires & cables to run unhindered.

If you are limited for space under the work-top you may be safer looking at a more compact 2-gang option which will be shorter in height and less intrusive on space below.

The other important factor to consider here is the size of the hole required in your worktop, make sure you know the size of hole for the range you are thinking about as they do vary.

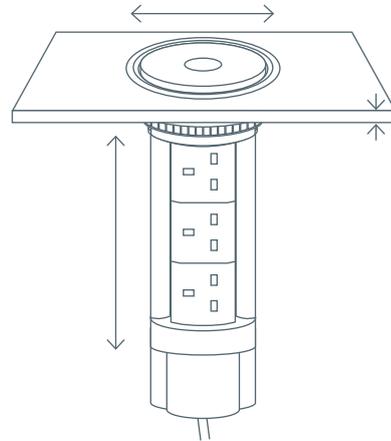
Worktop hole size:

Range	Hole size required	
Cube	80mm	
Pod	92mm	
Milian	101mm - Standard	124mm – Flush Fitting

Space below worktop:

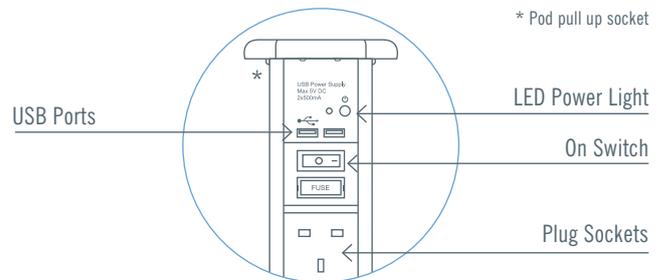
Range	Depth required below worktop*
Cube	340mm
Pod	421mm
Milian	260mm - 380mm (Depending on configuration)

*The depth required is measured from the TOP of the worktop & includes space for the wires/ cables to exit the bottom of the unit, so worktop thickness can be taken off this figure.



5 What features do you want? What features do you need?

There are an increasing variety of features and configurations with concealed sockets now so it's important to know about the differences so you can select the right one for you. You want the unit that is going to do what you need it to do and not waste your money on features that won't be utilised.

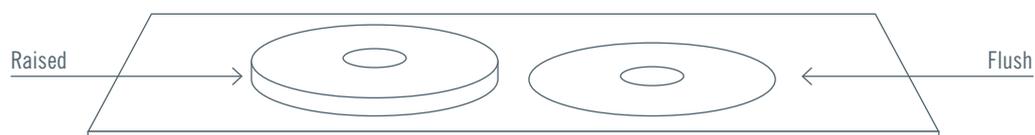


Feature	Description
3 or 2 Gang	This is simply a choice between the number of sockets on the unit, if you have a more compact kitchen or less appliances, there is probably little need to have a 3 gang unit. However if you do have the room and budget, many people find it worthwhile to have the option of a 3rd socket.
USB	Many concealed units now offer a USB connection as standard so you can plug in smartphones or tablets directly, a highly convenient feature of any modern home. USB is available in certain models in the POD and Milian ranges.
LED	You can now get concealed sockets that have a built in LED light on which indicates the unit is on or off, they also provide a unique look that will really stand out and add a wow factor.
Data	Thinking of a concealed socket for the office? With many of the ranges available you will find configurations that feature "Data". The Data ports, typically CAT5 or CAT6, are designed to allow an extension from an internet router so you could just pop in your Ethernet cable to the concealed socket to gain instant access to a network. Perfect for any office / home office environment. Especially where wireless access isn't an option.
Operational when retracted	Some concealed sockets offer the functionality to operate with plugs in the sockets while in the stowed away position, providing extra convenience to the user. This feature is only available in our POD range of sockets.

6 Flush fitting or raised?

One option you may want to consider is to have the concealed socket sit flush when retracted into the worktop. As standard most concealed sockets when retracted have the top raised out of the worktop by around 7mm. But certain concealed sockets, like our Milan units include the option to be fitted completely flush into the worktop when retracted.

All of the units in our "Milan" range come with a flush fit adaptor as standard which provides the option to install the unit flush into the worktop. The flush fit adaptor, like the Milan units, is available in either Bright or Matt chrome to match the unit it comes boxed with. Please note: if installing a Milan unit with the flush fit adaptor you will need a hole diameter of 124mm as opposed to 101mm when installing without.



Concealed Sockets : Comparison Chart



Cube
Pull-Up Range



Pod
Pull-Up Range



Milan
Pop-Up Range

Socket Options	2 or 3	3	2 or 3
Power & Data	✓	✓	✓
Power & USB	✗	✓	✓
Power, Data & USB	✗	✗	✓
LED Light Option	✗	✓	✓
Finishes Available	Plastic Top: Sprayed Silver	Plastic Top: Sprayed Aluminium Metal Top: Polished Brass Metal Top: Brushed Steel Metal Top: Bright Chrome Metal Top: Black Nickel	Main Body & Top Disc: Bright / Matt Chrome Top Button Colour: Black (Standard Units) White (LED units)
Hole Size Required	80mm	92mm	101mm / 124mm* *for flush fitting installation
Depth Required - Including the worktop	340mm	421mm	260mm - 380mm (Depending on configuration)
Flush Fitting Option?	✗	✗	✓
Description	Our most economical unit, the Cube features a unique square profile top and fits into a standard 80mm hole, the size many desktop cable grommets are already.	Our mid-range unit is the only one that remains functional even when stowed away. Also the Pod range offers 5 different finishes and the option to have USB or Data sockets as standard	Our Premium range, the Milan features a stylish design and is the only socket we offer that can be fitted flush into a worktop. In addition the Milan range offers the option to have an LED light, a USB socket and/or Data sockets
Price Range**	£40.41 - £69.92	£41.69 - £98.61	£73.16 - £190.49