



'Professional' mixer with spring balanced long powerful spray attachment by Blanco



'Semi-professional' mixer with height adjustable hand-set – by Blanco



Mono block mixer with 500 mm pull-out spray by Astracast



Single lever mixer with pull-out spray by Hansgrohe



Single lever mixer for filtered cold water by Ideal Standard



Single lever mixer for filtered cold water by Astracast



Hydrotap delivers both boiling and chilled filtered water from an under-sink heater and chiller by Zip



Three hole sink mixer by Ideal Standard



Wall-mounted single handle mixer with swivel spout-by Vola



Wall-mounted two handle mixer with swivel spout-by Vola

Sink mixers

Tap holes

Tap holes can be a problem, first and foremost because limescale and grime gathers round the tap base.

It is far better to install a *wall-mounted mixer* leaving the sink-top or countertop free of holes. Unfortunately there are not many wall-mounted models available and accommodating a duct behind the counter is not always possible.

Tap holes in metal sinktops tend to be pre-drilled and it is not always possible to get the desired sink pattern with the right number of holes. This may result in having to use a blank, hand-rinse or soap dispenser to fill an unwanted hole. Sink bowls mounted under solid surface or stone countertops get over this problem as tap holes can be drilled as required.

Tap construction

Most mixers are *dual flow* where hot and cold water is separated within the spout and is only mixed at the spout outlet. This is to avoid the possibility of *backflow* which might contaminate the mains cold water supply.

Where *single flow* mixers are installed, they must be fitted with *double check valves* to conform to WRAS requirements.

Check that mixers specified will operate with the available water pressure. Models can vary from needing a minimum of 0.2 bar up to 0.7 bar (roughly 2 m up to 7 m head of water).

Sink taps are made of brass and come with various finishes:

bright chrome	bronze
satin chrome	brushed nickel
brushed steel	gold plate
polished brass	epoxy powder-coated colours

Sources: Astracast, BGL Rieber, Blanco, Carron, Franke, Hansgrohe, Ideal-Standard, Villeroy & Boch, Vola, Zip