before you start

Take particular care when handling the delivery and the parts of your unit. Individual parts may be heavy and/or cumbersome to handle and lift, and some things may be heavier and/or more cumbersome than they appear. Take the usual precautions appropriate for handling and lifting. Read through the instructions first before you start, and if you have any questions then call us on 01227 833333 or email sales@jali.co.uk

what's in the delivery?

Your unit will arrive in more than one parcel unless it’s very small - but if you’ve ordered more than one thing from us, you’ll probably have many more parcels as well. To avoid getting confused you should only unpack the parcels for one unit at a time: check the 4-inch square label with your address on it to see what’s inside each parcel.

Once you’ve unpacked the relevant boxes you should find a bag of fixings and two A3 sheets. One sheet shows a picture of your finished design; the other shows a flat diagram of all the components arranged roughly as they go together. If you’ve got space it’ll help to lay out all the components in the same way as in the diagram. The list in the corner of the page will tell you the size of the components: use this to help distinguish between components of similar shapes and sizes.

fixings

We use a few different fixings to help assemble our furniture. They’re listed in the corner of the main A3 drawing. Here’s how they work:

**Cams and bolts** for fixing two components at right-angles to each other.

1. Screw the metal bolts into the 5mm holes in one component...
2. ...and push the white cams into the holes along the edge of the other component.
3. Then push the two components together so that the metal cam bolts disappear into the middle of the white cams...
4. ...and tighten them with a screwdriver. Tilt the screwdriver back at a slight angle as shown - about 20 degrees should do it.

N.B. In the picture to the right, the cams are tightened with a half turn clockwise. But if you’re tightening the cams from the reverse side (through the little 5mm hole), turn the screwdriver a half turn *anticlockwise* instead.

**Screws** to secure pieces in place. We use various different lengths and they have three different sorts of head:

- **Countersunk**
  - These have flat heads which taper into the screw thread underneath.
- **Panhead**
  - These have domed heads but are flat underneath where they join the screw thread.
- **Washer head**
  - These have domed heads and then a flat disc (like a washer) just underneath.
- **Bolt**
  - These have flat ends (rather than points) opposite the heads.
getting going

You’re now ready to start assembly. As you’ll see in the following guidelines, we normally recommend starting with the left-hand side of the unit and working left-to-right. However, these are only guidelines: because every design is different and there are many different fitting situations (along walls, in corners, into alcoves etc) then you may find that a different assembly method suits you better. The following method works well in most situations though.

i. attach the drawer runners to the left- and right-hand sides of the unit

You’ll have lots of long white metal pieces: these are the drawer runners, and you’ll have four pieces for each drawer. If you look along the length of them, half of them will be C-shaped and the others zig-zagged. Take the C-shaped ones and ignore the others for the moment.

The C-shaped ones are the ones that go on the sides themselves. (The others go on the drawers but we’ll deal with them later.) They fit as follows:

Position the runners so that the front of the runner is 25mm (1”) back from the front of the side panel. The front of the runner is the end with the wheel on it, and the front of the side panel is the flat edge opposite the groove. The back of the runner should be slightly angled downwards (towards the bottom of the side panel).

We’ve drilled three holes in the sides for each drawer runner (or, if your drawer unit is particularly deep, four or five). The runners themselves have more holes in, but you only need to use the ones that match the holes in the sides. Use the 10mm long flat-ended bolts to fix them in, and make sure that the bolts go all the way in (so their heads are flush with the surface of the metal).

If you’ve got more than one section in your design, you’ll need to do the same for the mid divider(s) between each section - except that you’ll need to fit runners on both sides of each divider.

ii. fix the base shelf to the left-hand side

Now the drawer runners are in place we can start with the real assembly. Refer to the A3 component layout sheet, and find the base shelf and the left-hand side.

Push two white cams (or three, if your unit is very deep) into the holes in the left-hand end of the base shelf.

Find the corresponding holes in the left-hand side and screw metal cams into them. If you’ve designed a unit with skirting, the holes will be just above the rectangular cutout in the corner of the side; for units without skirting they’re along the bottom edge of the side panel.

Before you fit them together, make sure they’re the right way round. The edge of the base shelf with the mortices on it (the 3cm long lumps) should go next to the edge of the left-hand side that has the groove along it. Also, you want the white cams in the base shelf to point towards the bottom of the side panel (which is where the rectangular cutout is).

Push the two pieces together and tighten the cams according to the diagram on page 1.
iii. stand the combined piece on the floor

Put the left-hand side and base shelf on the floor, face down, so that the tenons in the base shelf and the groove along the back of the side panel are both uppermost.

iv. fit the mid divider (2+ sections)

If your drawer unit has only one column of drawers, skip this stage.

If your design has a skirting board, the base shelf and the mid divider will both have a long slot cut halfway into them; without a skirting, the mid divider will have tenons along the bottom which will plug into the holes in the base shelf.

Fit the two together at right-angles so that the top of the mid divider is level with the top of the left-hand side. If you've got three (or more) sections, you'll have two (or more) mid dividers: fit them all in.

There are no fixings to apply at this stage.

v. fit the right-hand side

Now fit the right-hand side to the other end of the base shelf in the same way as you fitted the left-hand side.

vi. fit the back panel

Fit the back panel in place. There are notches along the bottom edge of the back panel which will fit over the tenons in the back of the base shelf; the left and right sides of the back will fit between the grooves in the left- and right-hand sides; and, if your design has more than one section, there will also be notches to fit over the tenons in the mid divider.

The top of the back panel will project about 1cm (about ½ inch) above the tops of the sides. This is intentional: it will fit into another groove at the back of the top of the whole unit (when we come to it).

Making sure that the back panel is square, use the 25mm long washer screws to screw through the holes in the back.

vii. assemble the drawers

Tips: assemble them dry to start with until you get the hang of it, then use small dabs of glue to help fix them together once you’re happy with how they fit. If you’ve opted for graduated drawers, start with the smallest one.

Find the drawer back and two drawer sides - they’re all 6mm (¼”) thick. Push the sides onto the ends of the back, then push the combined unit into the drawer base (with the cam holes at the front of the drawer base on the opposite side). Finally, push the drawer front onto the whole thing and use cams to hold it in position.

Take two opposite S-shaped drawer runners and place them so that the larger ends are pushed up against the back of the drawer front as shown in the side view here. (The runners won’t necessarily reach the backs of the drawers.) Screw the runners up into the underside of the drawer through the holes on the bottom of the runners. You’ll need the 17mm long countersunk screws for this, which have slightly larger heads than the other screws.
viii. lift up

Lift the unit up onto its feet. Be careful: it might be heavier than you think!

ix. insert the drawers

Push the drawers into their runners, starting at the bottom and working upwards.

x. attach the top board

Fix the top board in place using cams and bolts at the top of the side panels (and the mid divider(s) if your design includes them).

Put the last few 25mm washer screws in through the top of the back panel into the top board.

xi. fit the skirting boards (if you have them)

If you’ve designed a unit with skirting boards, fit them in place. How you do this depends on where the unit is located: if it’s going in an alcove you may wish to fit them in a different way than if it’s just going along a wall. Here’s one way to do it:

The front skirting board fits to the uprights with cams and bolts. You can either reach underneath the unit from the back to turn the cams or, depending on the size of the unit and the height of its skirting, you may find it easier overall if you turn the unit on its front again. If you do this then remember to take the drawers out first!

The side skirtings locate in place using the dowels. We recommend screwing them in place (from the inside, through the side panel into the backs of the side skirtings); alternatively, you may wish to glue them in place.

Alternatively, you can just screw the skirtings in place from the outside, although you’ll have to use a bit of filler to cover the screw head before the final coat of paint.

xii. move into position

Congratulations: your drawer unit should now be fully assembled. You can now move it into its final position. Be careful when moving it: it’s probably heavy!