

Making your own Templates

For the 1204 SpiroCrafter or 1207 Design/InlayKit from Milescraft

Recommended tools you will need:

- A) A Piece of wood, or plastic 5/16 inch thick and at least 8 ½ x 8 ½ inches square.
- B) 1 of the template parts from the products listed above.
- C) Pencil and the pencil guide from your kit.
- D) Drill and ¼ - 3/8 inch bit. (depends on the saw blade size used later to cut the design)
- E) Jig saw, Scroll saw, Coping saw and/or hand saw that will allow you to make small, rounded, and precise cuts.
- F) A wood file and sand paper to smooth the saw cut edges.
- G) A piece of paper with the shape desired either drawn or printed on it. (this may be a design found on the web, your own design, a tracing, or copy of a shape or object)
 - a. Please note: Milescraft can not be held responsible for the improper use of copyrighted or licensed materials or designs for this or any other applications.

Now you are ready to begin.

- 1) Place one of the template plates provided in your kit, on top of the piece of 5/16 inch thick material.
- 2) Using your pencil, trace around the outside of the template.
 - a. Hint: While you are at it.... trace the circle in the center of the template too. This may be helpful later when you are placing and tracing your design.
- 3) Cut out the tracing you made using the saw.
 - a. You can cut off all but 1 of the small “tabs” that hang out around the template. This 1 “tab” will allow you to position your new template in the kit’s base, later.
- 4) Using your file and sand paper, size your new template part so that it fits nicely into your kit’s base.
 - a. You should be able to put in and take it out with out too much trouble but you do not want a “sloppy” fit.
- 5) Now, trace or draw the design you have drawn or printed on a piece of paper onto the template plate you just created.
 - a. The design on your paper should be the actual size (or close to it) of the design you want to end up with when routing it out later.
 - b. If you are making a shape that will be repeated in a circular pattern to create the final design, place the shape at the appropriate distance from the center of the template pattern. (this is where, tracing the center hole at the beginning, comes in handy.)
 - c. If doing a “circular” pattern, trace the pattern around a center point, on another piece of paper before placing it on your template. This will help you get the proper spacing first.
- 6) Using your pencil and pencil guide, trace around the design you just drew on the template with the pencil in the guide, keeping the side of the 17mm diameter of the pencil guide on the outside of your design line.
 - a. Buy doing this, you are creating a cut line that is “off-set” from the desired, finished shape. Later, when you use your template to route out the design, the 17mm guide bushing on the router, will be positioning your router bit back to the size and shape of your original design.
- 7) Using the Drill and Drill Bit, drill a hole in the middle of the design you just drew.
- 8) Cut out the design using the outer, “off-set” line you drew using the pencil guide.
 - a. This process will be different, depending on the saw you are using. You need to be able to “thread” the saw blade through the drilled hole. (A power “scroll saw” or manual “coping saw” work best for this.)

- 9) Now, again, using your file and sand paper... smooth out the line of the pattern you just cut out.
 - a. Hint: Remember that the router guide bushing will be following this surface so, the smoother your edge is the smoother your cut design will be when routing.
- 10) **Congratulations!** Now, you are ready to begin using your new pattern!
 - a. As with the original kit patterns, we always recommend you use the pencil guide and a piece of paper to draw your desired pattern first.. BEFORE you cut your work piece with the router. This way you can be sure you will get what you want.
 - b. Make adjustments to your pattern as needed.

We hope this is helpful to you and allows you to be even more creative with your Milescraft design kits! Please consider sending us pictures of your design and inlay work. We always enjoy seeing what our customers can do!

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