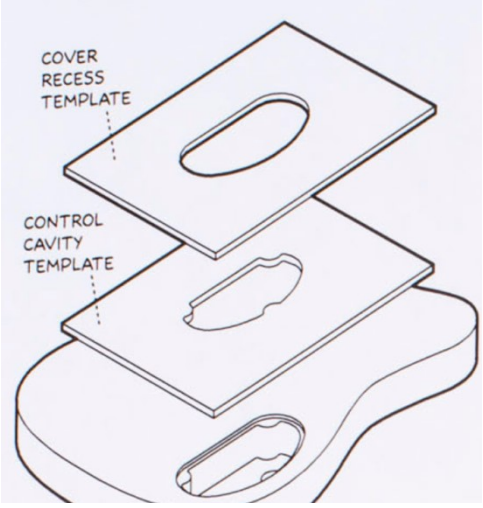
Making a control cavity template



For making a control cavity you need two templates: one for the cavity itself and one for cutting the recess for the cover.

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MAKING A HOLLOWING-OUT TEMPLATE

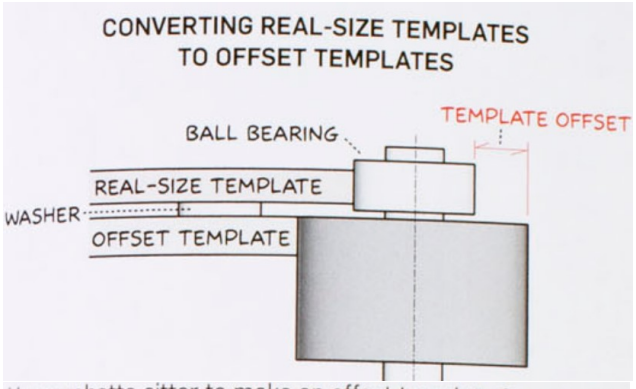
This real-size template was used for hollowing out the lower part of *Pauline's* body .

Rough-cut the f-hole shape then smooth the shape using rasps and files. Remember to mark the neck centerline and make the template a bit wider to make it easier to attach it to the body. The f-hole template shown requires a ½ in. template guide and a 5 mm router bit.

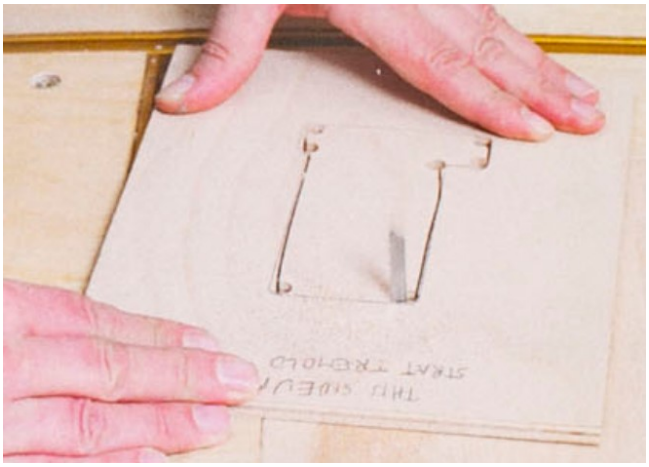
COPYING READY-MADE TEMPLATES

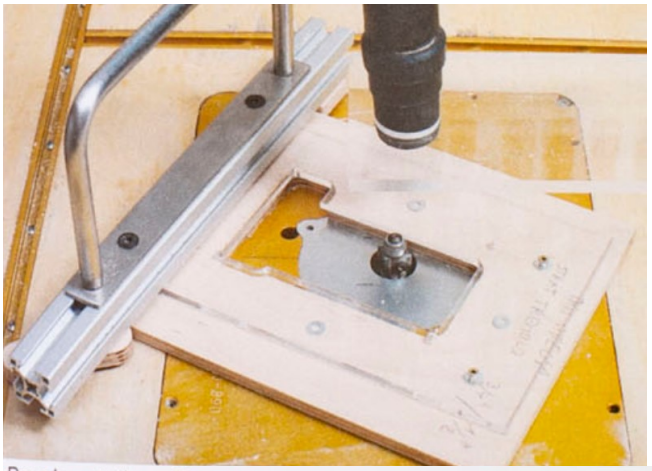
If you buy a ready-made template from a guitar shop suplier, copy it first on the table router and keep the original as a master template in a safe place.

Since ready-made templates are usually quite small, copy the template onto a longer and wider piece of material as bigger templates are easier to align and fasten. Remember to transfer all centering lines from the original template.



Use a rebatte citter to make an offset template from a real-size one. The difference between cutter radius and bearing radius has to equal the desired template offset.





Rough-cut the offset template then put washers between both templates, center the real-size template to the rough-cut offset template and screw it on. Attach a handle to keep your fingers at a safe distance from the bit.