beautiful marinefloors INTERNATIONAL

Templating Guide

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Tools of the trade

In order to template correctly we recommend obtaining a suite of the following items:

Durable, non stretch material that will allow you to trace the area.
(Waxed Kraft paper is ideal/cardboard/lining paper)

High tack double sided tape/sticky tape/straight edge

Permanent Marker Pen/Pencil/scribing block

Sharp knife/scissors

Overview

There are a number of ways to template and a wide range of materials which can be used. This document is a guide to assist in developing skills that works for a range of situations but best practise techniques used may vary from person to person.

Instructions – Case 1

Ensure area to be templated is clear. Cut 5cm pieces of tape and stick down every 60cm or so around the edges of the area to be templated, leaving the backing paper in place for the moment.

Using a sharp knife, roughly cut the templating material to size leaving some overlap at this point.

NOTE– If working on a steel boat do not cut through the painted surface as this will cause rusting – Be aware if you scratch the boat service and the customer changes their mind you may be back to repair scratches.

Lay the templating material over the area to be templated and hold in place with weights if required. If it is a large area the templating material may need to be joined together. To do this use the double sided tape, leaving an overlap of 8-10 cm.

Working around the area to be templated, peel off the backing paper from the tape and stick the template material down, keeping it flat and taut. Once you have worked your way around the area, adjust the template material as required to ensure it is all flat and taut as accuracy in templating is important to the final fit of synthetic teak (See Fig.1).

Fig.1

Using a permanent marker draw an outline of the shape required. Ensure you mark where any existing deck fittings are and whether you would like these to be cut out or if the decking will run underneath these areas (See Fig 2).

Fig.2

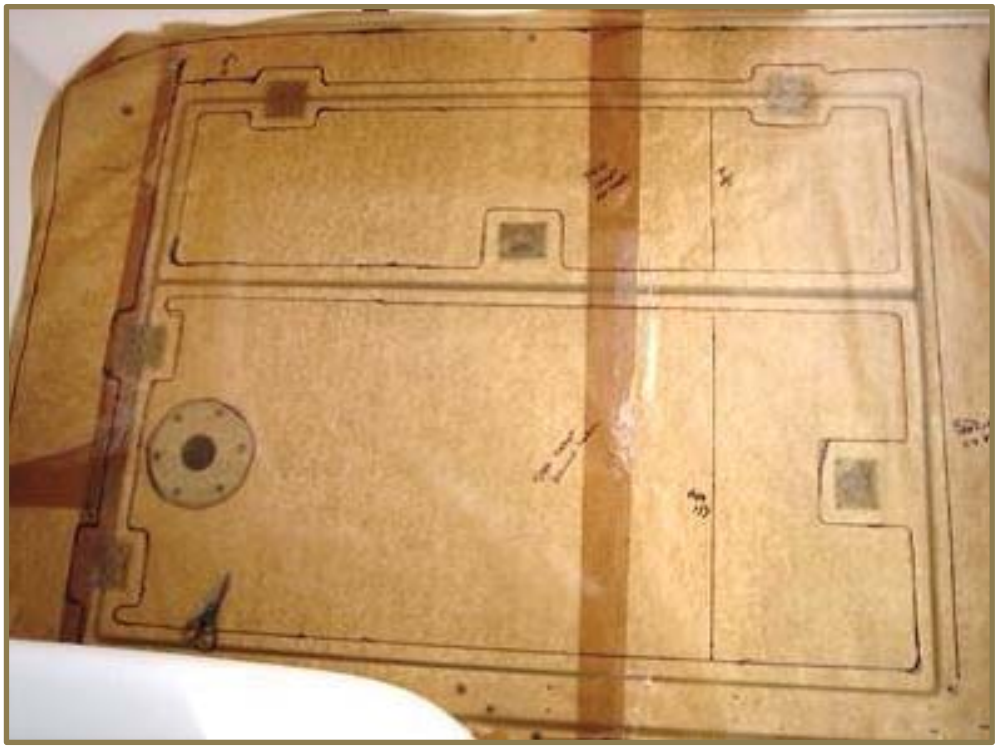
Note - there should always be a reference showing the alignment between the steps and the cockpit sole.

In Fig. 2 despite datum lines being detailed on the two steps they cannot be accurately aligned with the deck.

Corresponding datum lines always need to be correctly recorded.

Generally if a fitting is more than 5mm in height it should be cut around and if less than 5mm in height it should be fitted on top of the synthetic teak. However, if a fixture is load bearing e.g. a bollard, it should be fitted to the deck and cut around.

It is important to mark the direction of the planking and particularly how any individual panels will sit together. This is to allow the planking to be aligned over the whole area and these can be labelled as appropriate. Also label edges with 'Straight' edge or 'Margin' whichever is preferred and also label any corners 'Round' or 'Mitre' whichever is preferred (Fig. 3)



Note – The alignment between the two hatches can be seen.

Provided these are not cut out of the sheet, alignment to the main deck is fine, but this needs to be extended through.

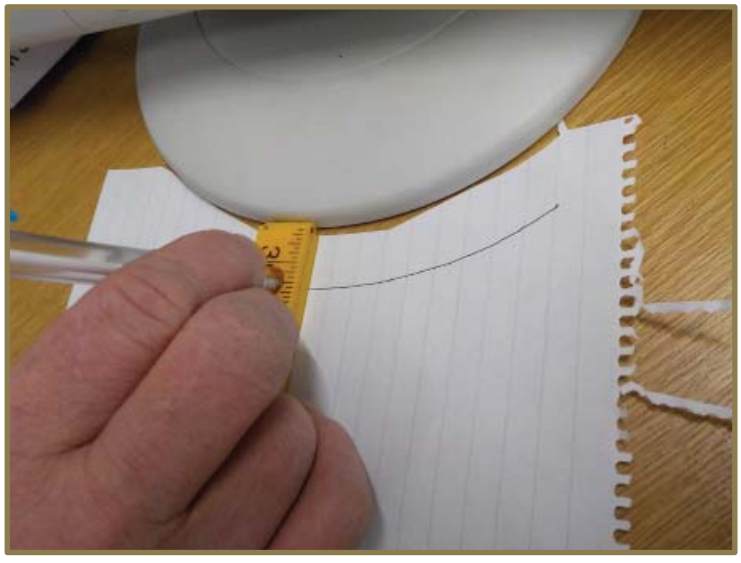
Fig.3

When templating side decks please ensure that the template is marked 'Port' or 'Starboard'.

Instructions – Case 2

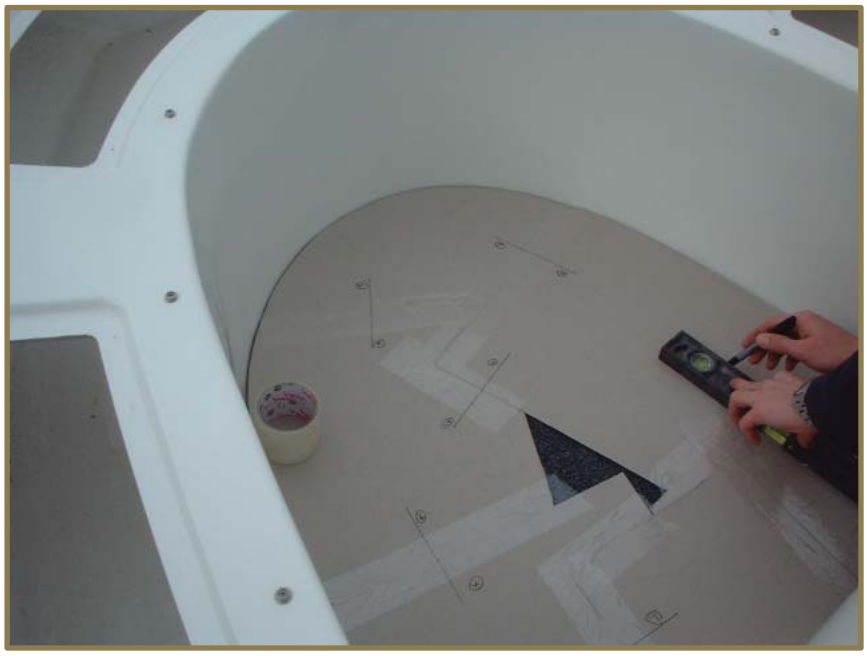
In this situation it is a tight area so a series of small cardboard sections have been used and then joined together.

Using cardboard in sections the shape is initially rough cut with scissors. Then using a scribing block the exact shape and contour of the curve can be drawn on the cardboard. Once drawn this can be cut with scissors and tested fitted as shown.



This process is repeated around the vessel creating over lapping small accurate edges around the desired shape. This is not a quick process but in tight areas or where there are multiple curves this is sometime the best way.

The pieces are then taped together from the top with straight reference lines between the various pieces being drawn on to ensure each piece remains in the same position when lifted out of the boat.



The final stage is to tape the back as well to give a stable template that can be work from on the work bench as shown below.

Rounded & Square Edges

This seems a small detail but saves time and problems when on site.

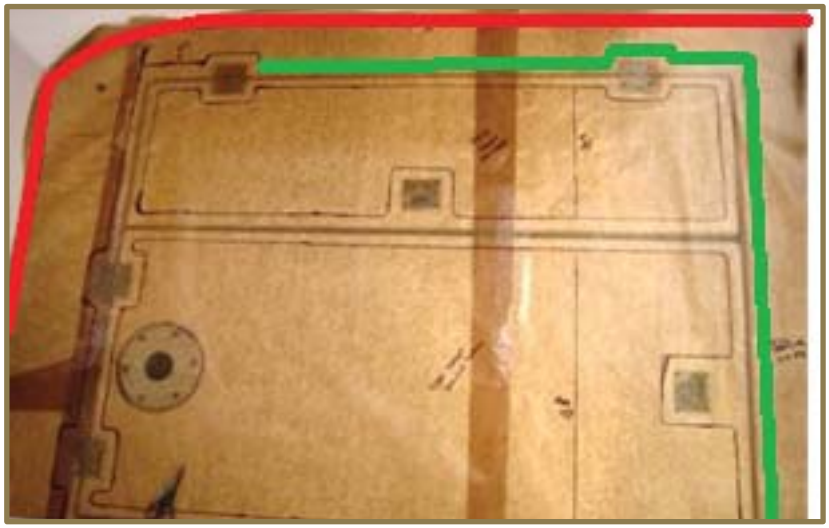
Square Edge Finish

Rounded Edge Finish

Square Edge – This normally used where the panel is going hard against a vertical bulk head or where it is dropping in to a rebate.

Rounded Edge – This is where the edge of the panel is exposed and the client down not want the edges caulked around the perimeter. This edge is not available on straight laid mats the grooving on the mat ends can be seen.

In the example below this template will have a combination of edges:-



Some of the Rounded edges have been highlighted in Green and would be marked on the template as RE with the Square Edge shown in Red and marked as SE

Hints & Tips

- Takephotos of the boat, with the templates laid in place and/or of the boat areas to be decked.
- Referencelines between templates is a must if you want caulking lines to join up.
- If using multiple cross-referencing lines, ensure they are labelled clearly.
- If in doubt double check.
- Make sure you mark which is the top face of panel.
- Mark the location of the panel (Port/Starboard) - boats are often not symmetrical.
- All edges need to be marked to say if they are square edge or rounded and sanded.
- Mark the direction of caulking lines on all templates.
- If a mixture of margin styles is requiremed, mark each panel.
- If you are joining panels with tape on one side put two lines at different angles across the a joining edge, this way when the underside is taped or the panel is removed alignment can be checked.

Common Problems

- Do not use clear thin plastic unless it has a reinforcing fiber as this stretches out of shape.
- The accuracy of a panel fitting once manufactured is only as good at the template.
- Direction of Caulking lines not marked.
- Templates sometimes move during marking out so check before leaving the boat the accuracy on all edges.
- If templates relate to each other are there datum lines between these panels to work to?