

Assembly Instructions	
Fretboard Caul, oak	
Rev: 3/8/09	Pt# 840

The fretboard caul is used to ensure that the fretboard is glued square (flat) when attached to the neck and fretboard extender.

The caul is profiled to match the shape of the fretboard to enable close alignment of clamps and to facilitate the removal of excess glue that oozes out between the neck and the fretboard.



**Instructions:**

1) We advise using some form of locating pins to ensure that the fretboard maintains its alignment to the neck during gluing. A simple way to proceed is to use round-head brads (eschusion pins) set into the neck - one near the nut and one near the heel of the neck. Drill a hole into the neck (one for each brad) that is the size of the brad's shank. Then tap the brad in place. Next, lay the fretboard on top of the neck in its exact final position and lightly tap on the fretboard to transfer a small dent or mark from the brad into the back of the fretboard. Next drill a small recess into these dents, and now when you place the fretboard onto the neck, it will align properly when the small recesses locate on the heads of the brads.

2) For gluing, make sure the surface of the neck and fretboard extender are clean and free of debris. Lightly coat the surface of the neck and fretboard extender with the glue of your choice (we recommend Franklin Titebond®).

3) To ensure that the fretboard is properly aligned on the neck and doesn't move around during gluing, install two locating brads (one

over the head block and the other near the nut), then tap on fretboard to transfer a dent to bottom of the fretboard, then drill a small recess in the bottom of the fretboard to act as a locating hole.



4) Lightly coat the gluing surface of the fretboard with glue.

5) Place the fretboard on the neck and place the fretboard caul directly onto the frets. Apply clamps along the neck. Use leather cauls between the clamps and the back of the neck. A spring clamp works well to draw the fretboard extender and fretboard together. (It is not necessary to use leather cauls on top of the wood fretboard caul.)

6) Use Q-Tips® to remove excess glue from around the edge of the fretboard and place the assembly aside until the glue cures.