

Assembly Instructions	
Backboards	
Rev: 2/19/09	Pt# (various)

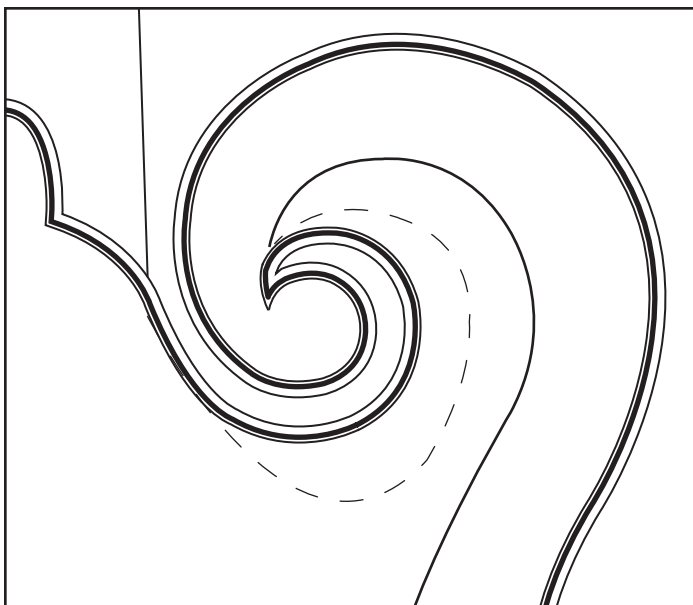
For ease of handling, we recommend final shaping of the scroll volutes (peaks) after the backboard has been attached to the rim.

**NOTE:**

- For A5 backboards, disregard instructions about fitting and carving the scroll.

- Our backboards are precision carved to very high tolerances. The graduation and arching measurements were taken from original F5 and F4 mandolins, and other than sanding, require little adjustment or shaping.
- In addition to pattern carving the inside and outside faces of the backboard, we pattern-shape the outer edges and the opening into the scroll to the precise contour. Do not alter this shape until after both the soundboard and backboard have been attached to the rim. Any +/- difference between backboard and rim size/shape can be adjusted when routing for binding.

- Our ProSeries Drawings and those in *The Ultimate Bluegrass Mandolin Construction Manual* show the scroll's opening coming to an end at a sharp corner. This sharp corner is actually the inside connection of the binding. The opening in



The dotted area in drawing above indicates where the carver could not reach. Remove this area by hand.

the scroll ends in a rounded corner that results from hand shaping the opening.

Also, the walls of the opening are somewhat rounded due to the shaping and matching (soundboard to backboard) process.



- The binding notch is routed after the soundboard and backboard are attached to the rim.
- Note that the volute begins in a sharp peak in the tight part of the scroll, and the peak rounds as it continues to the body where it vanishes.
- The scroll opening in our mahogany headblocks is cut about 1/32" smaller than the scroll openings in the soundboard and backboard. In this way the headblock can be more easily shaped to match the soundboard and backboard after the body is glued together.
- To facilitate the routing of the binding notch, we machine the edges of our backboards to a flattened height of 3/16". We suggest that you attach the backboard and rout for binding BEFORE sanding the backboard's minimum area (recurve) up to the binding edge. This will ensure a more accurate mating of the minimum area (recurve) to the binding. (Note: The edging tool we use may darken the edges of the backboard. This area will be sanded away.)