Designing an Inline Head Stock

Inline Head Stocks are popular. Fender, Ibanez, Gibson, have all had them.

1. **Design Concept.** As Straight a pull on the strings as possible.

2. **General design concepts**
   1. Locate design area (here is 3 ¼” x 9”)
   2. Layout the neck and scarf joint areas (See A)
   3. Graphic B on the next page deals with Layout, straight line and string pull.
      1. Layout your proposed turnout (about an inch for turn out) above the nut/scarf area. We will adjusting these “turn out” lines. Next add your straight “inline”
      2. I have drawn the “inline” line, with three lines to show you how string pull and tuner placement will be impacted by the position of this design element.
      3. Project your outside strings up the Head Stock (red lines) for straight pull. I set my strings 3/16”-1/4” from edge. **Rule of Thumb:** The more vertical the line, the more room you have for tuners and right side design.

3. **Completing your design.** Copy someone or create your own (see C)
   1. **Free hand (as I did for this example).** Just draw it.
   2. Or use templates. Circles, French curves, coffee cup. Anything that will allow you to reproduce the same line when you are ready.
   3. Use you graph boxes to count from a central point so you will get the design you want.
   4. **MY DESIGN CAN BE ADJUSTED BUT AS YOU CAN SEE IN THE GRAPHIC, I GOT MY STRAIGHT STRING PULL.**

5. Transfer to the graph on the right. Make a copy, cut out the copy to give you a template. Lay out your design on your practice piece and practice cutting out your design. Superimposed it over your neck. If you like, cut it out. If not, go back and change what does not look right to you.

The Neck is under this part of the Head Stock. Do not alter this area.

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