Designing a Symmetrical Head Stock

1. **Layout your design**
   1. Locate design area (here is 3 ¼” x 9”)
      1. Layout the neck and scarf joint areas (See A)
      2. Allow about an inch for turn out (see B) above the nut/scarf area. We will talk about adjusting these “turn out” lines. Begin laying out your design in light pencil.

2. **Start at top**
   1. Create your top design. Copy someone or create your own.
      1. Free hand. Just draw it.
      2. Use templates. Circles (See B &C), French curves, coffee cup. Anything that will allow you to reproduce the same line on the opposite side.
      3. Use you graph boxes to count from a central point so you will get the symmetry that you are after.
   2. Create bottom design. Your scarf joint from the neck will fit under (possibly over) Either way, you have to account for the joint area.
      1. Time to customize your green lines at the bottom. This is personal. As you begin designing, use a 1 – 1 ½” turnout. (See C) Adjust to your preference later.
   3. Connect your top and bottom with a line (See D). Again, freehand, French curves, or any curved surface.
   4. Remove your aids to drawing, and darken your pencil lines with ink or marker (See E).
   5. Transfer to your practice piece and practice cutting out your design in anything other than you Head Stock. Cut it out and look it over superimposed over your neck. If you like, cut it out. If not, go back and change what does not look right to you.

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