

# Router Inlay Kit

The CMT Inlay Kit consists of 1 template guide, 1 bushing and 1 locking ring. For best results, use either a 1/8" CMT straight bit item #812.032.11 or CMT spiral router bit item #192.001.11. The Inlay Kit is designed for internal or external pattern routing and requires the operator to make and/or follow a pattern for a perfect match.

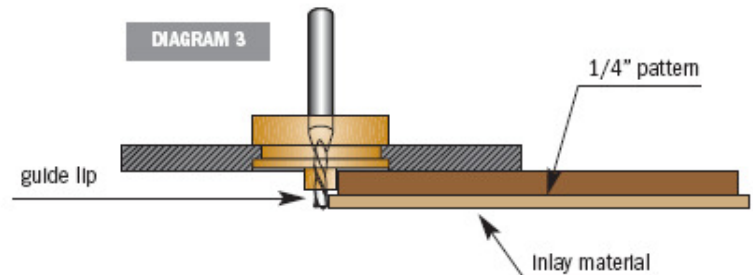
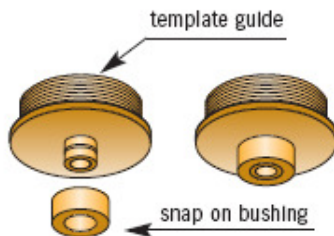
## MAKE A PATTERN

Make a pattern of the desired shape out of 1/4" thick material. **See diagram 1** Masonite or similar material is recommended to provide a smooth surface for the template to run against during the cutting operation. Make the pattern with 3" - 5" of excess material around the perimeter to allow for clamping and to support the router base when designing the pattern. Remember to make the opening large enough to accommodate the 9/16" bushing. Also remember that patterns with a square corner or tight radius will require slight modification of the piece to be inlayed. Instructions for using the internal pattern style are given below. If you choose the external pattern, reverse the procedure for installing and removing the bushing. Cut the external pattern so you preserve the image or design as shown in diagram 2.

## INSTALLATION

Attach the two-piece brass inlay guide to your base plate with the locking ring. Ensure that the guide lip extends below the router base, and tighten the locking ring until snug. Set the cutting depth of the router to the equivalent thickness of the inlay material (not to exceed 1/8").

**See diagram 3**



**NOTE:** This inlay template is designed to fit Porter-Cable style base holes and your router may require an additional adapter available from the manufacturer.

## ROUTING THE WORK

Clamp the internal pattern to the workpiece and ensure neither will slip. **See diagram 4**

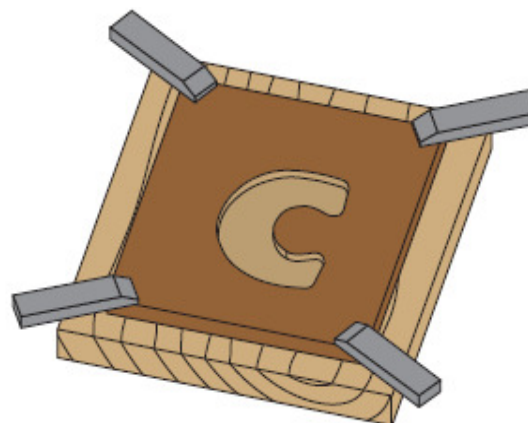
Place the bushing onto the template guide, previously installed on the router.

Carefully lower or plunge the cutter into the workpiece, with the bushing rubbing against the edge of the pattern.

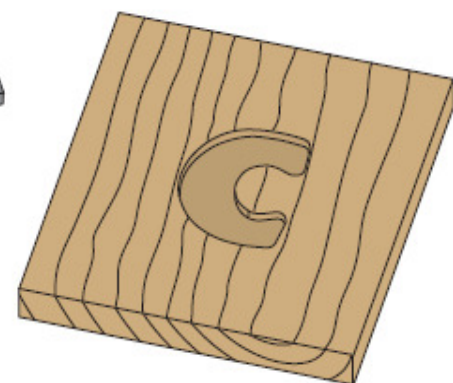
Run the router clockwise around the inside of the pattern. This will produce an outline of your pattern and the start of the recess to receive the inlay.

See diagram 5 The remaining material must be routed out by moving the router back and forth.

Some slight clean-up of any high spots may be done with a chisel.

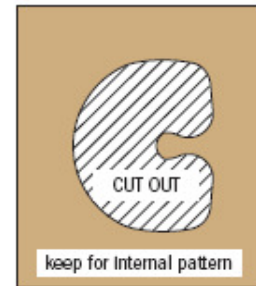


**DIAGRAM 4**  
Internal pattern clamped to workpiece



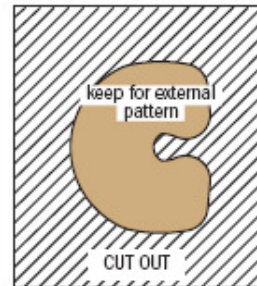
**DIAGRAM 5**  
Routed workpiece: the workpiece has the area routed out 1/8" deep or less and is ready to receive the inlay.

**Note:** An external pattern is much more difficult to clamp. Double-sided tape may also be used to secure the patterns to the workpiece.



**DIAGRAM 1**

For internal patterns, cut with a scroll saw. You should end up with a one piece pattern as shown in diagram 1. Preserve the exterior part.



**DIAGRAM 2**

For external patterns

## ROUTING THE INLAY

The area from which the inlay will be cut should be secured to a piece of scrap wood using two-sided adhesive tape. This will prevent the inlay from chipping or flying out when the cut is completed.

Place the same pattern over the material from which the inlay will be cut and clamp securely. See diagram 6. Remove the small bushing and carefully route clockwise around the pattern. Ensure that you stay tight to the perimeter of the pattern, as any deviation will show up in the finished work.

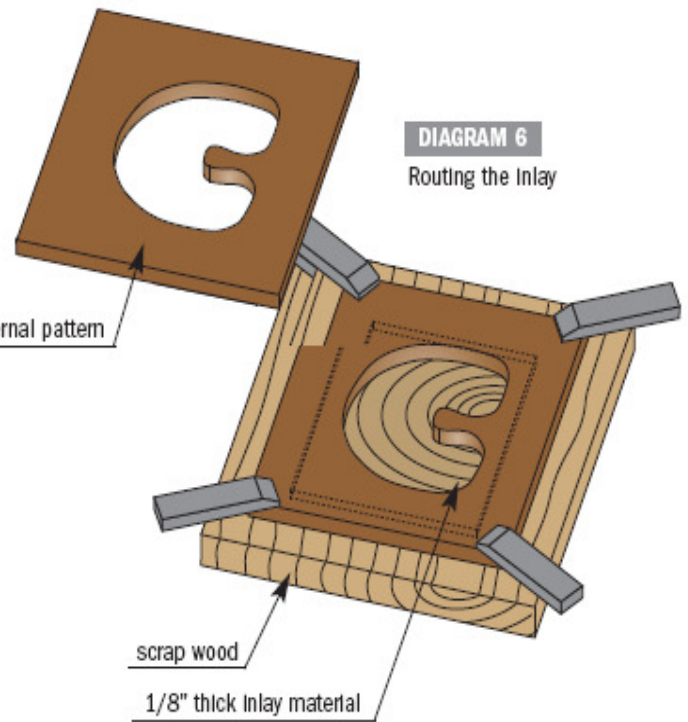
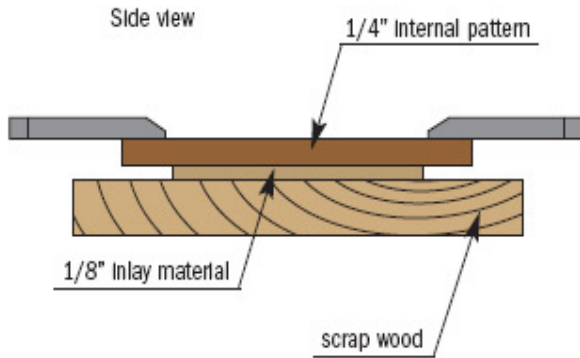


DIAGRAM 6  
Routing the Inlay

## INSERTING THE INLAY

Check the fit by partially inserting the inlay stock into the workpiece recess. It will likely be necessary to sand the edges and corners of the inlay to provide an exact fit into the recess. You will have a tight fit and care must be taken not to over-sand, which would result in a poor fit. Difficulty in insertion will likely be in a corner or small radius so trim there first. Do not press the inlay completely into position unless you intend for it to stay. Once inserted it is very difficult to get out, even without glue.

When ready for final assembly, apply a small amount of the appropriate adhesive to both mates. Take a small scrap of wood and, with a hammer or your hand, gently tap the scrap to drive the inlay into position.

See diagram 7  
Your desired effect will be evident and if the recess is cut to a depth equal to the thickness of the inlay it will be flush with the surface.

Of course, you may sand either the workpiece or the inlay to achieve that effect. This is also designed to permit the inlay to stand proud of the surface or be slightly recessed.

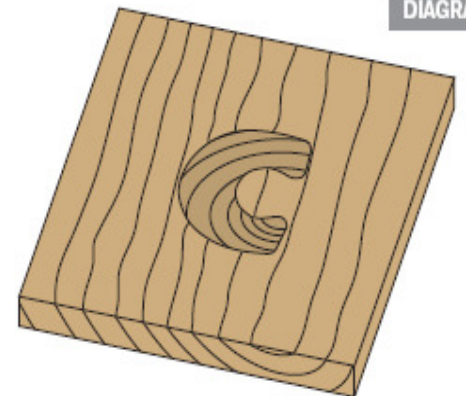


DIAGRAM 7