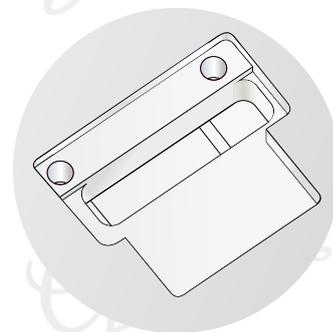


Instructions for using your new Floyd Rose Routing Template Set

Congratulations on acquiring a Guitar Templates Floyd Rose routing template set. Our templates are based on the Original Floyd Rose tremolo design. There are a few Floyd Rose tremolo designs out there and a few non-Floyd variations that may require installation cavities different to the Original Floyd Rose. In due course, Guitar Templates may, if requested, develop template sets for some of these other variants however our current template set is based on the Original Floyd Rose.

NOTE: We have designed this template set for use with a 44-45mm thick body. If you are using a thinner/thicker body blank you will need to consider whether routing depths need to be amended.

The final cavity looks like this on the top:



Zoomed in

There is a shallow ledge in front where the two posts are installed and behind that, a slightly deeper recess that accommodates the bulk of the tremolo's topsides including the fine tuner block. Then there is a thru-body slot to accommodate the spring block.

On the rear of the body, there is a long shallow recess to house the springs however one end of that cavity (where the spring block penetrates) needs to be cut deeper.

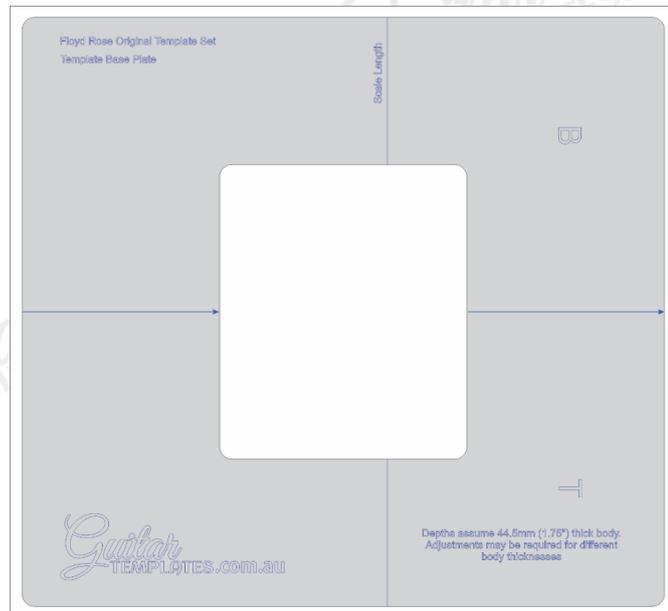
Achieving all these different depths and cavity shapes requires a system of templates that are used in sequence to achieve the result. Here is how to do it.

Routing the Top Cavity

To achieve the correct outcome, we provide you with a base template into which three successive inserts are used to create the necessary top cavity depth and shape.

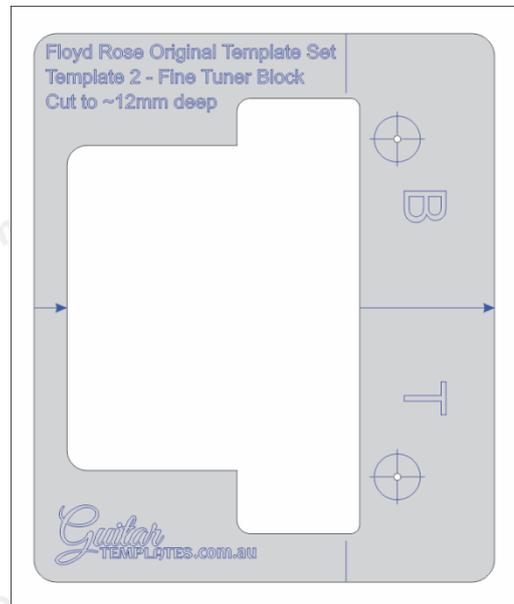
Step 1 – Preparation

- Confirm your scale length: An important criterion for routing the top cavity is getting the cavity positioned accurately for the particular **scale length** of the guitar you are building. Our template set uses the guitar's scale length as a reference line for positioning all the templates. The scale length may be 25.5 inches, 25 inches, 24.75 inches or whatever scale length you are designing for. Where it sits on the body will depend on the location of the fretboard relative to the body and how many frets it will have. If you do not understand scale length and where the scale length line for your guitar sits on the guitar body, then do not proceed until you have resolved this question.
- The *Template Base Plate* (image below) includes a scribed centreline and a crossline which needs to be placed on the guitar scale length line. On the templates, there are arrowheads on the centre line. **The arrows always point towards the headstock of the guitar.**
- **Mark a clear centreline on your guitar body and a transverse line at 90 degrees where the scale length sits.** These lines need to be marked accurately on the back of the guitar as well.
- Attach the base plate firmly to the top of your instrument using high-quality double-sided tape aligning the centreline and the scale length crosshair line with these lines on your guitar body.
- The base plate and each of the inserts have the letters B and T engraved on them. **B** stands for Bass side and **T** stands for Treble side. These are there to assist you in making sure that everything is lined up in the correct position.



Step 2 – Locate and drill the tremolo post holes.

1. Fit *Template 2 - Fine Tuner Block* into the base plate and mark the locations of the two tremolo post holes.
2. Remove Template 2.
3. Drill the post holes – we strongly recommend using a drill press to get the holes vertical. Check the diameter and length of the posts of your bridge however 10mm diameter and 27mm depth is typical.

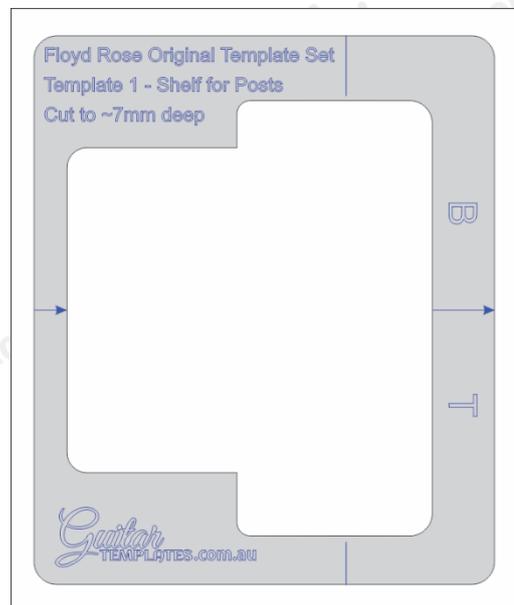


Step 3 – Rout the shelf where the posts are located.

1. Fit *Template 1 - Shelf for Posts* into the base plate
2. Using a short (10-12mm long) flush trim router bit, rout the first step to a depth of ~7mm from the top surface of the guitar.

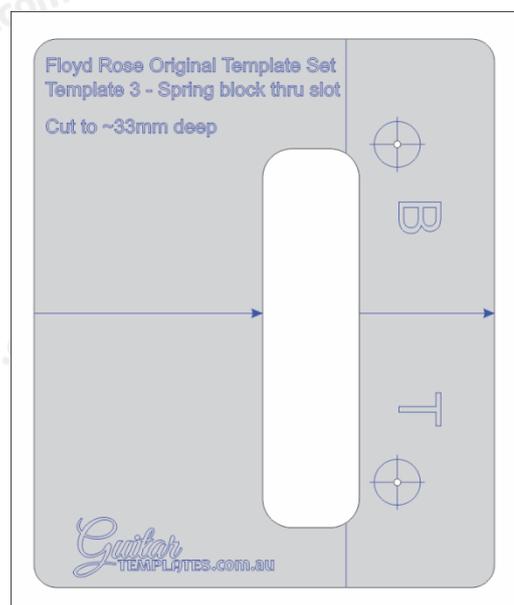
Step 4 – Rout the cavity for the fine tuner block.

1. Fit *Template 2 - Fine Tuner Block* into the base plate.
2. Using a short (10-12mm long) flush trim router bit, rout the second step to a depth of ~12mm from the top surface of the guitar..



Step 5 – Rout the cavity for the spring block.

1. Fit *Template 3 - Spring Block Thru Slot* into the base plate
2. Using a longer flush trim router bit, rout the thru slot to a depth of ~33mm from the top surface of the guitar..



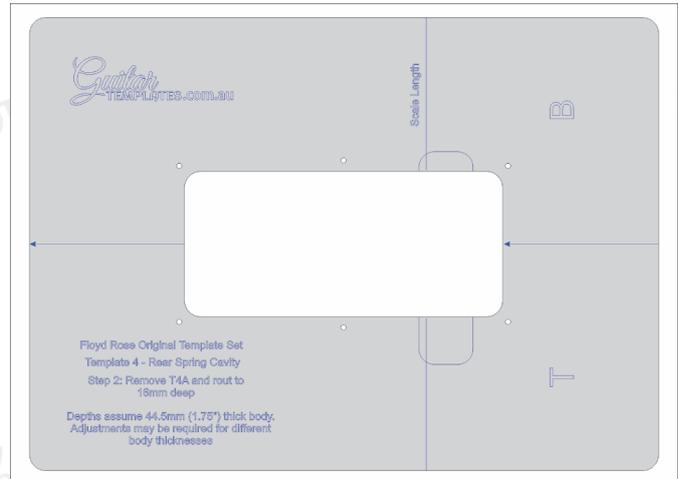
Routing the Rear Spring Cavity

Step 6 – Mark out the centreline and scale length lines on the back

If not done at Step 1, accurately mark the centreline and the scale length transverse line exactly opposite the lines on the topside.

Step 7 – Rout the rear cavity.

1. Attach *Template 4 – Rear Spring Cavity* to the back of the guitar body aligning to the centreline and scale length lines. Again, pay attention to the arrows pointing toward the neck end and the **B** and **T** side indicators.
2. Now fit *Template 4A – Rear Spring Cavity* **inside** Template 4. This is to create a deeper section of the rear cavity at the spring block end.
3. Using a long (25mm) flush trim bit, rout this cavity to 28mm deep.
4. Remove Template 4A and rout the remainder of the spring cavity to a depth of 16mm.



Making a Rear Cavity Cover

The final step is to make a cover for the rear cavity. *Template 5 – Rear Spring Cavity Cover* is for this purpose.

The cover is designed to sit on the surface of the body rather than be recessed into the body. This template allows you to make a cover from any suitable material to fit with the design aesthetic of your guitar.



Take a break and celebrate.

That's it. You're all done. Now you can take a break and contemplate your lutherie skills before moving on to the next step in your guitar build. If you have any questions or require parts – we can supply replacement templates if the gremlins manage to get into your workshop and mess up any templates - please email:

Email: info@guitartemplates.com.au

The Guitar Templates Team