

# Templates

## A. Reasons to make a template-

1. Consistency-  
It is important that you be able to reproduce the same design consistently.
2. Proportions & Symmetry-  
Templates increase your ability to produce carvings that are more proportional & Symmetrical.
3. Speed-  
By doing some of the work in advance, actual carving time is reduced.

## B. Key Factors-

1. Start with a good quality image-  
Correct proportions, Good Silhouette.
2. Enlarge the design-  
Using one of the methods listed below.
3. Transfer the design-  
Use the template to transfer the design onto the ice.

## C. Styles of Templates-

1. Opaque Projection Method-
  - a. Find a good image using one of the following sources-  
Hand draw it yourself.  
Find an image online (google images).  
Find a proven design in the Knowledge Center.
  - b. Tape template paper to a wall.
  - c. Place the image in an opaque projector.
  - d. Move the projector to properly size the design on the paper.
  - e. Trace the design with a marker.
  - f. Substituting an overhead projector requires transferring the design to transparency paper. The rest of the steps remain the same.
  - g. Using water, stick the template on the ice.
  - h. Trace the design on using a die grinder.
2. Copy Store Method-
  - a. Draw an image in an 5" x 10" rectangle.
  - b. Take it to the copy store and have it enlarged by 400%.
  - c. Using water, stick the template on the ice.
  - d. Trace the design on using a die grinder.
3. Printing Method-
  - a. Create your image in Corel Draw or Adobe illustrator.
  - b. Modify a plotter to accept template paper.
  - c. Using a plotter, print your design on template paper.
  - d. Using water, stick the template on the ice.
  - e. Trace the design on using a die grinder.
4. Hard Template-
  - a. Draw your design on a piece of 1/4" plastic that is 20" x 40".
  - b. Cut out the design using a jigsaw.
  - c. Hold the template up to the ice.
  - d. Trace the design on with an ice pick.

Fun fact- Every NICA National Champion has used a template to help win the title.