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STEM Guitar Project's BBT Acoustic Kit

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6-7-2022

BBT Side Mold Assy

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Hemphill, Bill, "BBT Side Mold Assy" (2022). *STEM Guitar Project's BBT Acoustic Kit*. 1. <https://dc.etsu.edu/oer-guitars-acoustic-bbt/1>

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Overview of the CADD/CNC Data Set for the BBT Side Mold Assy & Spreaders for STEM Guitar Project's BBT Acoustic Guitar Kit

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Engineering Technology



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE
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ETSU Guitar Building Project

- For use with the STEM Guitar Project's “BBT” Acoustic Guitar Kit
- Data set provided “as is”
 - No warranty; Use at your own risk
- Licensing Information: [CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/)
 - Preferred Attribution:
BBT Side Mold Assy & Spreaders, CNC Toolpaths, Drill Template, & Layout for CNC designed by Bill Hemphill, ETSU Guitar Building

ETSU Guitar Building Project

- For information regarding specifics of CADD layer naming and such, please refer to the following documentation:

[Design Standards & Best Practices
for CADD/CAM/CNC](#)

Available URL:

https://faculty.etsu.edu/hemphill/pdf/ETSU_Standards-CADD_CAM_CNC-Latest_Rev.pdf



ETSU Guitar Building Project

- Our Primary CNC Lab Equipment:
 - XYZ CNC Router (12' x 5')
 - ToolPath CAM package
 - Default T-Slot Spacing: 6.25 inches
 - 1/2" DIA 2" LOC down cut router bits
 - ULS 75-Watt CO₂ Laser System (2' x 4')
 - Raster Etch: Formatted Font is Arial
 - Templates: 0.08" PETG (transparent)
 - Bracing: 3mm Baltic birch plywood

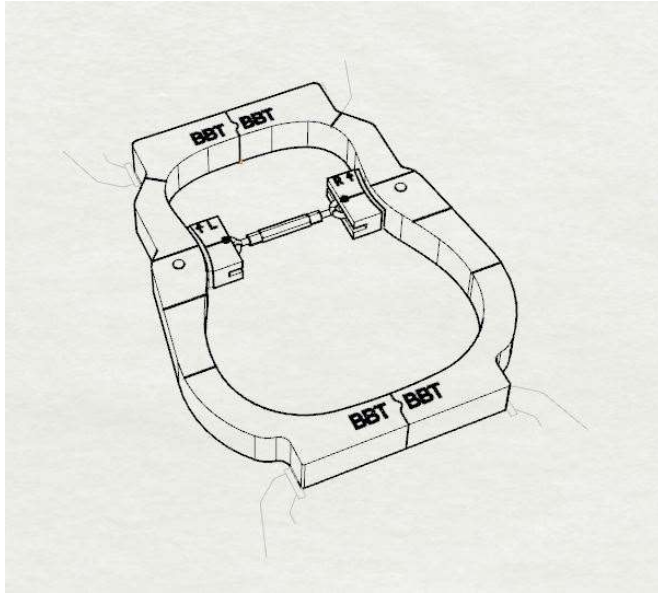


ETSU Guitar Building Project

- Applicable Manual Equipment
 - Table saw
 - Drill press
 - Nominal $\frac{1}{2}$ " DIA holes
 - THRU for mounting the work piece(s)
 - To set depth for $\frac{1}{2}$ " DIA spiral down cut bit
 - Table router
 - $\frac{3}{8}$ " DIA flush cut bit (parts cut out)
 - $\frac{1}{8}$ " Round over bit (edge relief)



BBT Side Mold Assy Development Overview



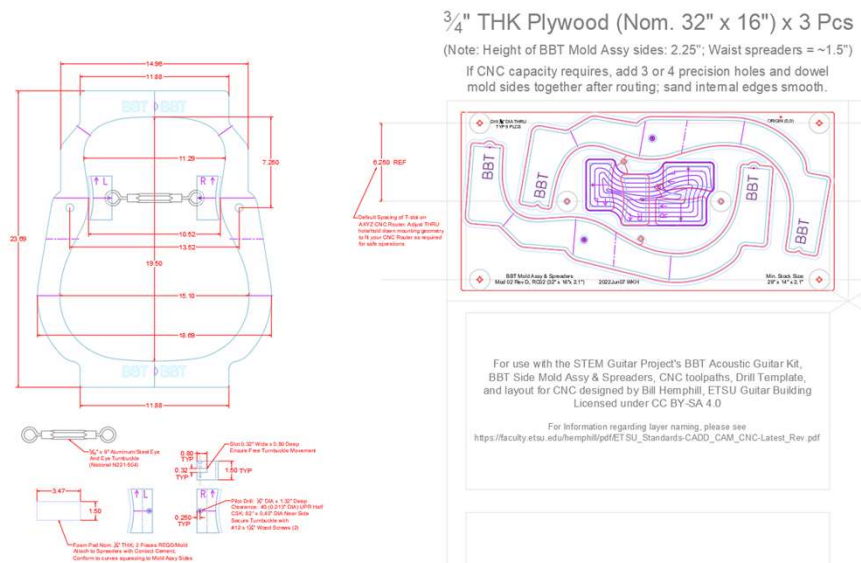
- 3rd Gen. BBT Side Mold Assy Design
 - 32" x 16" x 2¼"
 - 3 Assys per 4'x8' sheet
 - Laminated 'cabinet-grade' ¾" plywood
 - Straps, clamps, or toggles
 - Fits nom 24" x 18" Go-Bar Deck

BBT Mold Assy Master CADD File

Primary or “Parent” 2D CADD data file:

BBT_Mold-M02D-RC02-32_x_16-2022Jun07.dwg

- All layers: edges, centerline tool paths, laser- cut drill templates, origin(s), reference data, stock sizes, etc.
- Saved in AutoCAD 2007 .DWG format
- Includes all “exportable data” in generic and/or ETSU’s “as built” format(s)



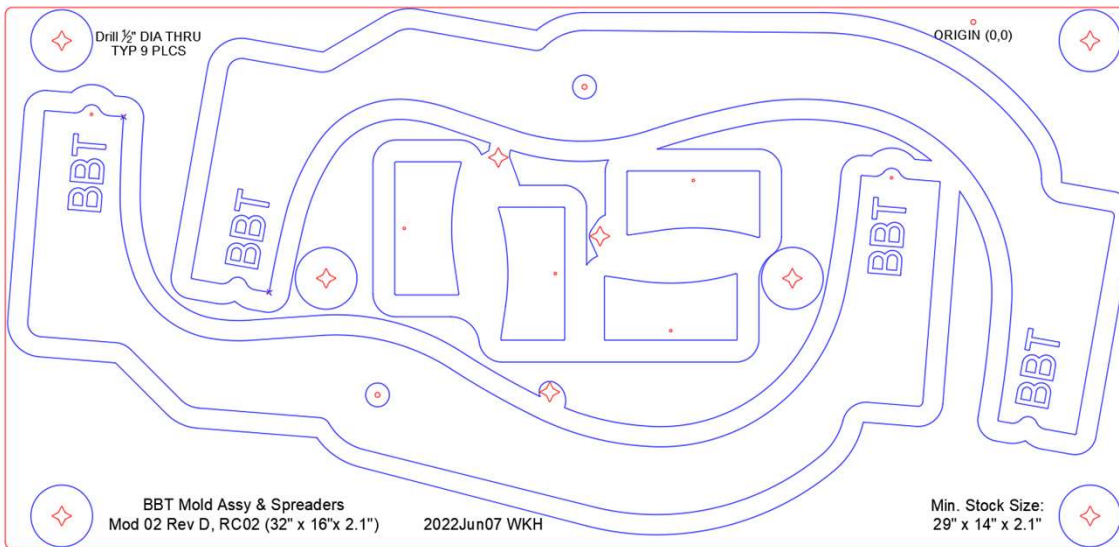
BBT Side Mold Assy Layout & Drill Template

Filename:

Laser-Template-BBT_Mold-M02D-RC02-32_x_16-2022Jun07.dwg

- Formatted for ULS print/plot

- Recommended template material: transparent 80 mil PETG
- Optimized for nominal 32" x 16" x 3/4" sheet stock;
Waist Spreaders (2 pair) inside 3/4" deep pocket (i.e., ~1 1/2" tall to fit inside sound box)
 - Designed to be removed through sound hole after sound box is buttoned up



Layer properties

(in ULS run order):

- Black: Raster Etch
 - Font Style: Arial
- Blue: Vector Etch
- Red: Vector Cut

CNC Data for the BBT Side Mold Assy

- “As Built” Generic & AXYZ-specific formatted CNC files
 - Centerline tool paths provided (Optimized)
 - Generic CADD data in both .DWG and .DXF R12 formats
 - .DXF R12-formatted files (2) have original layer names and shortened filenames for use with AXYZ ToolPath CAM app
 - MS/DOS-based system; Filename length max. 8 characters



Spreadsheet for XYZ 'Tool Path' CAM App

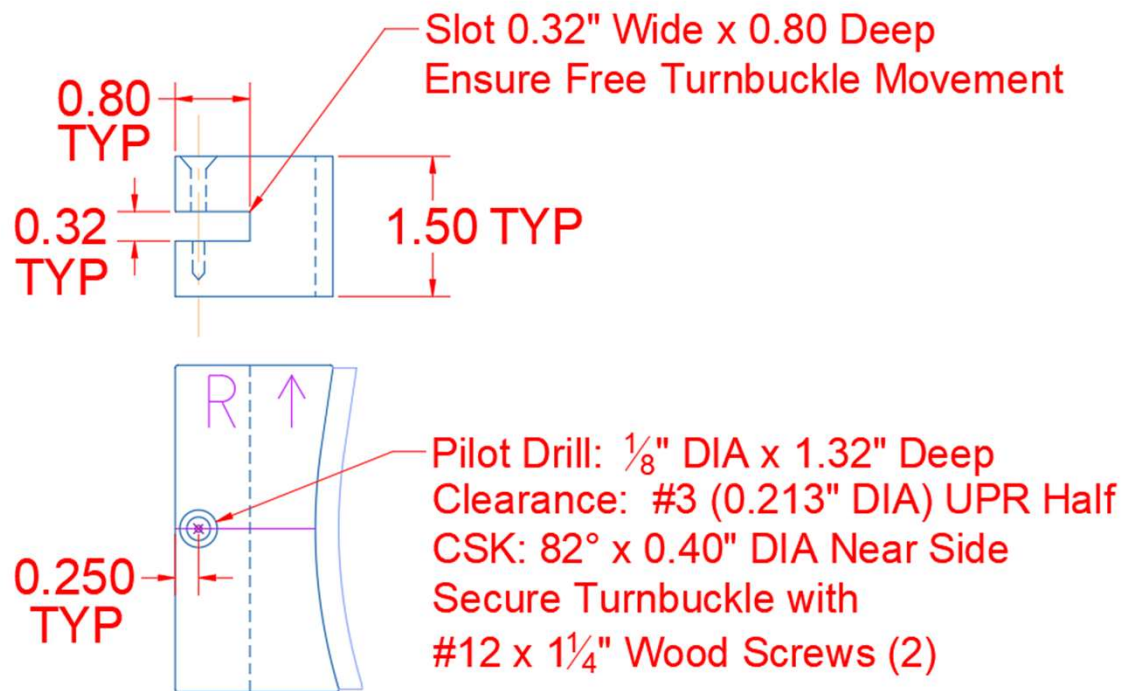
- BBT_Side_Mold_Assy-M02D_RC02-32_x_16-2022Jun07 Router bits, depths, feeds & speeds, & multi-pass data
- Formatted specifically for XYZ ToolPath CAM app
 - Three (3) worksheets (two programs & a tool list)
 - Excel (.XLS) and PDF-formatted files provided

XYZ-ToolPath Programming Worksheet & Processes Checklist											
Project Name:		BBT M02 RevD Side Mold Assy (32x16)			Date:		2022Jun07		Name(s):		Hemphill
Project Description: BBT (NCME/STEM Guitar Project Kit) Side Mold Assy & Spreaders Mod02 RevD Assy (29" x 14" min Stock)											
File Info:		BBT_Mold-M02D-RC02-32_x_16-2022Jun07.DWG			BBTM2D21		.DXF		BBTM2D21		.RDY
Material Info:		Material:		Plywood		THK:		2.250		Stock Size: 32 x 16 x (3 x 3/4" THK)	
Note: Cells for user input are in green; cells with data from other cells is in red; calculated &/or copied values is in blue font											
Group	Tool	Multi-Pass	Feeds (ipm)	CADD Layer Name(s)		Comments					
Sequene	Color	Tool #	DIA (in)	Depth	# Steps	Depth	Horiz	Plunge			
1	White										
2	Blue	1	0.250	0.985	6	0.165	60	20	CPT_0250-1_Sanding_Holder		
3	Green	5	0.500	0.752	2	0.377	85	20	CPT_0500-1_Spreaders_Pocket Final Spreader Height = ~1.5"		
4	Yellow	8	0.125	0.042	2	0.028	20	20	CPT_0125-1_BBT_Lettering		
5	Red	10	90°V	0.050			2	20	CPT_090V-1_Mold_SPOT		
6	Magenta	10	90°V	0.040	2	0.038	40	20	CPT_090V-1_Mold_Align Run twice to clear channel		
7	Cyan	10	90°V	0.802			2	20	CPT_090V-1_Spreaders_SPOT		
8	Gray	10	90°V	0.792	2	0.790	40	20	CPT_090V-1_Spreaders_Align Run twice to clear channel		
Programming Process Checklist					Sketches, Notes &/ or Comments						
Layout -> CADD Origin:											
Analyze -> Dimension Error:											

- Layers/"Groups" are typically run in the order listed in spreadsheet
- Toolpath CAM app has eight (8) group max. limit per file... so there are multiple CNC .DXF files

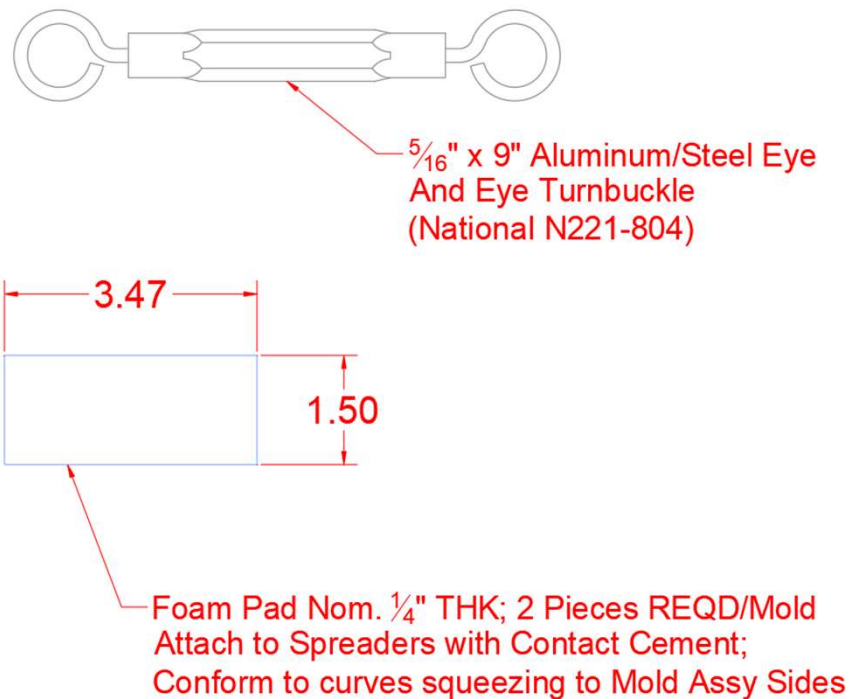
BBT Side Mold Spreaders

- Design makes two (2) spreader pairs



- Use table saw to cut slot.
 - Resize as required to fit turnbuckle
- Use spacer when drilling pilot hole.

BBT Side Mold Assy Hardware



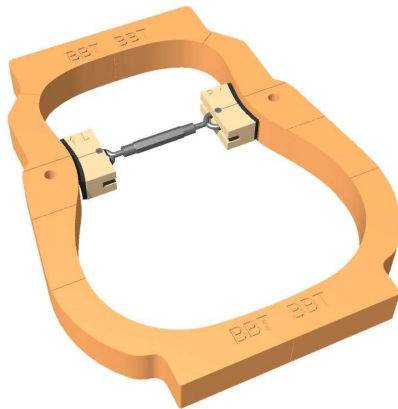
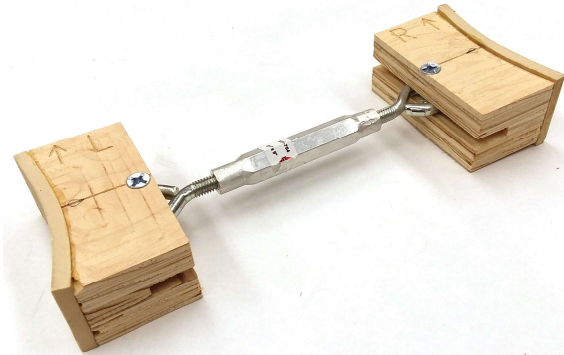
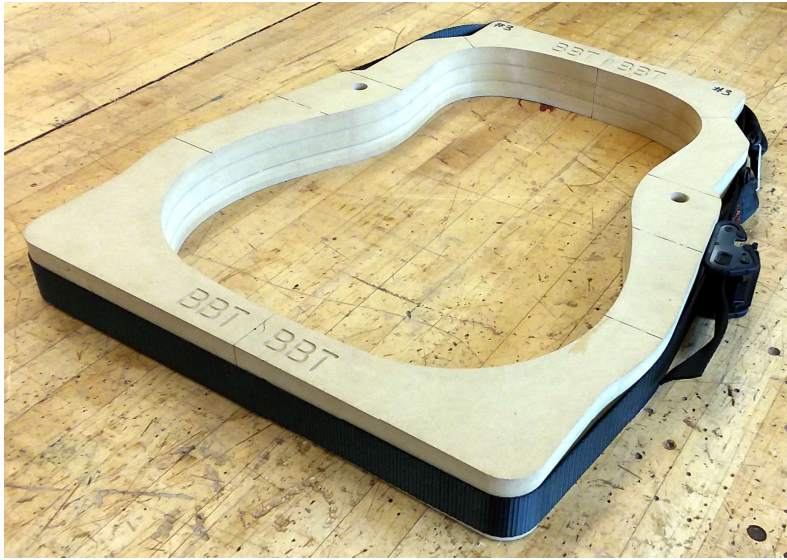
- Turnbuckle:
 - 5/16" x 9 'Eye-to-Eye'
 - National P/N: N221-804
 - Lowe's
- Elastomer Pad
 - 1/8" to 1/4" THK
 - Attach with contact cement
- #12 x 1 1/4" Wood Screws (2)

BBT Side Mold Assy Clamping

- Multiple Choices:
 - 1” ‘Endless’ Ratchet Strap
 - Min. 7’ (84”) length
 - usaratchet.com -> P/N: USA-RGH2910E
 - “Squeeze” Clamps (12” at ends)
 - Toggle Clamps, Adjustable U-bolt, Quick Release (2 per Mold Assy)
 - 700 lbs or greater recommended
 - Not recommended for MDF



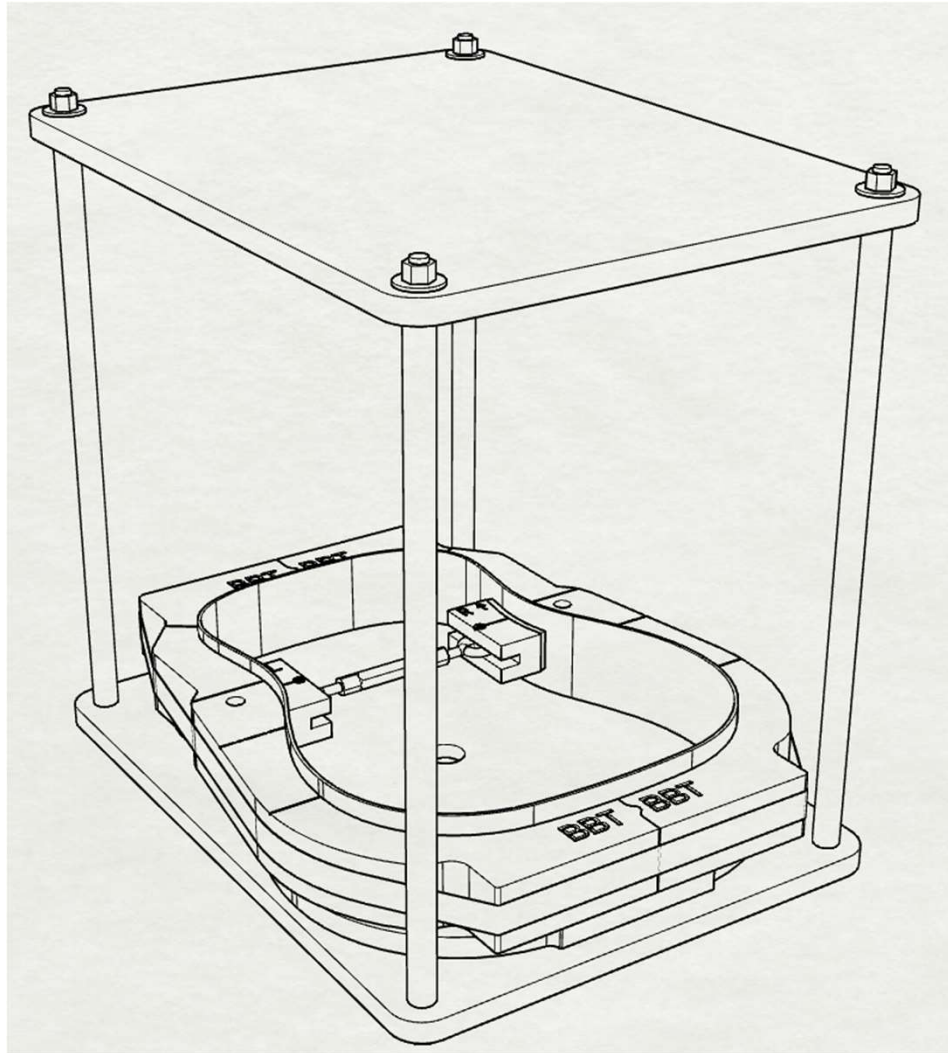
BBT Side Mold Assy & Spreaders



BBT Side Mold Assy & Spreaders



BBT Side Mold Assy & Spreaders



Final Thoughts:

- Use the alignment geometry for placing the spreaders
- Do not over-tighten the turnbuckle
 - Avoid ‘opening up’ the mold seams

For more information:

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ETSU Guitar Building's
Social Media Site:

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