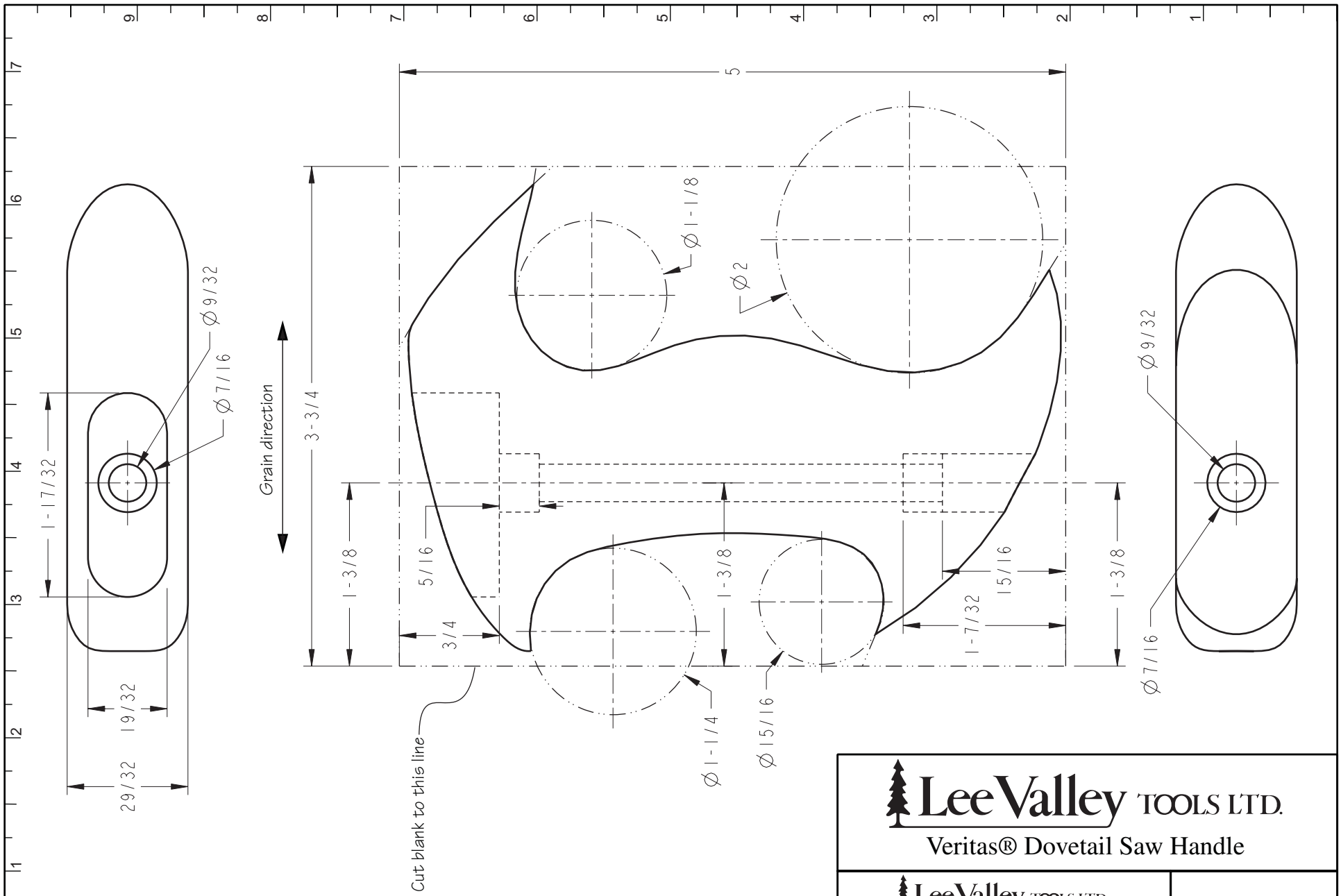

Lee Valley TOOLS LTD.

Veritas® Dovetail Saw Handle

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PLN-044 Rev. 4
Sheet: 1 of 1
Scale: 1:1
Units: Inches

734

Template for Veritas® Dovetail Saw Handle

Instructions

This template can be used to make a replacement handle for the Veritas® Dovetail Saw.

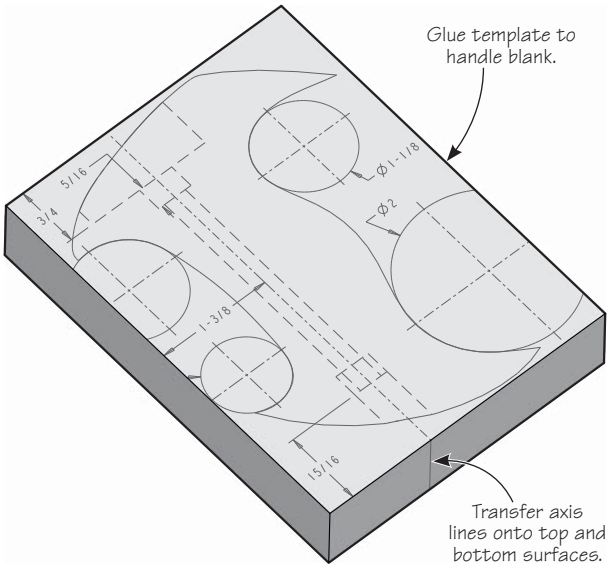
The shape shown is that used on the standard production saw. Providing the critical dimensions (i.e., handle rod holes and associated mortises and the surface where the handle mates to the spine) are maintained, the outer shape can be modified to suit the user. The template has a 1/4″ scale printed along both edges of the sheet. These should be checked against an accurate rule to ensure that the template is at full scale before it is used. There are many reasons that a printed template may be off scale, including printer accuracy and humidity (like wood, paper moves with moisture content). In most cases, scale the output from the printer, or use a scaling photocopier to make any necessary adjustments. Also, **do not** print the template until you are ready to use it.

Start by cutting a blank to slightly larger than the dimensions shown on the template (5 1/16″ × 3 13/16″). Note the correct grain direction. The thickness shown is that of a stock handle, but feel free to make any adjustments to suit your grip.

Cut out the template along the outer box lines and paste it to the handle blank. Spray adhesive is suitable for this. Avoid using white or carpenter's glues, as their moisture content will deform the template.

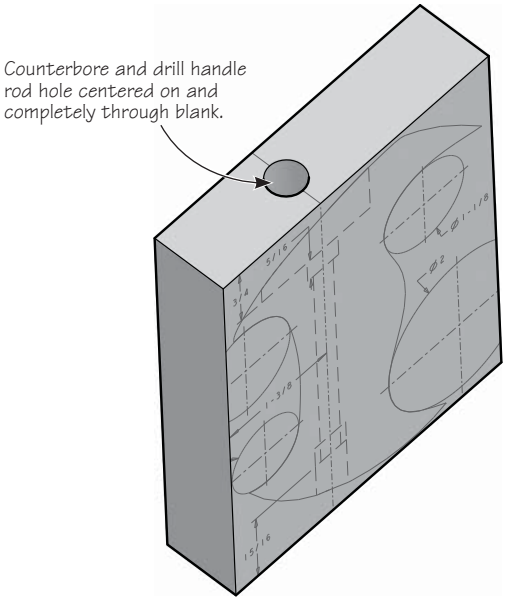
Trim the blank to match the outer template.

Transfer the handle rod hole axis onto the top and bottom edges of the blank and mark the center point.

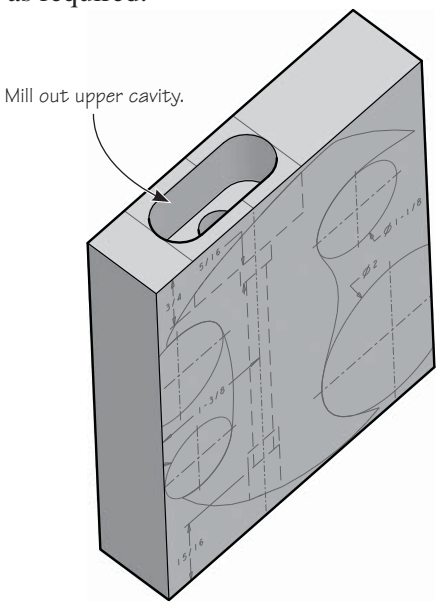


Counterbore and drill out the handle rod hole. Long narrow holes can sometimes be a problem to keep aligned. It may be easier to bore halfway through from either end of the blank, providing the blank is perfectly parallel and carefully aligned in the drill press.

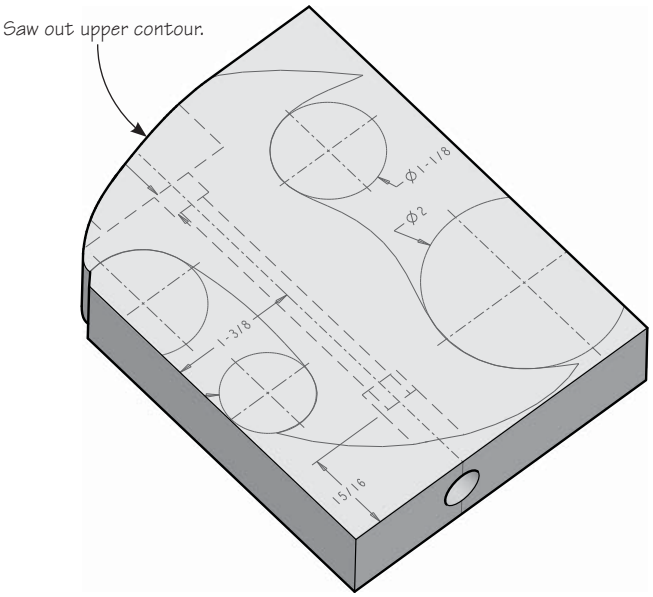
Note: *Early production saws had a shallower lower counterbore to fit a smaller handle nut. Measure your handle nut; if it is 1/2" long, then the saw is first-run production and the bottom counterbore should be 15/16" deep. If the nut is 3/4" long, the saw is newer production and the lower counterbore should be 1 7/32" deep.*



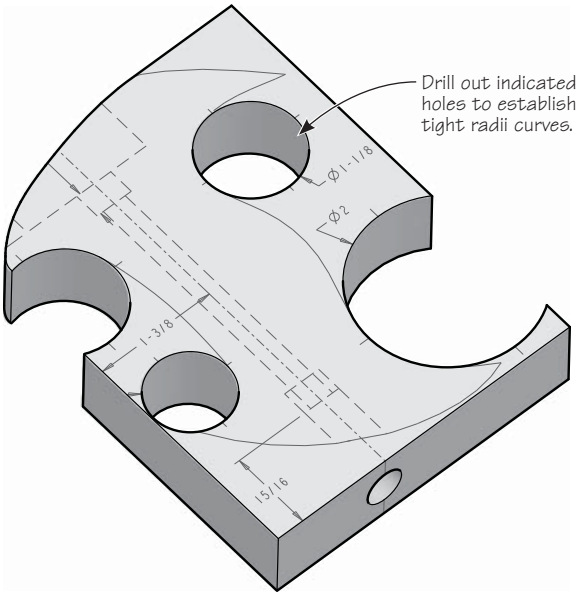
Transfer the layout lines for the upper mortise and mill it out as required.



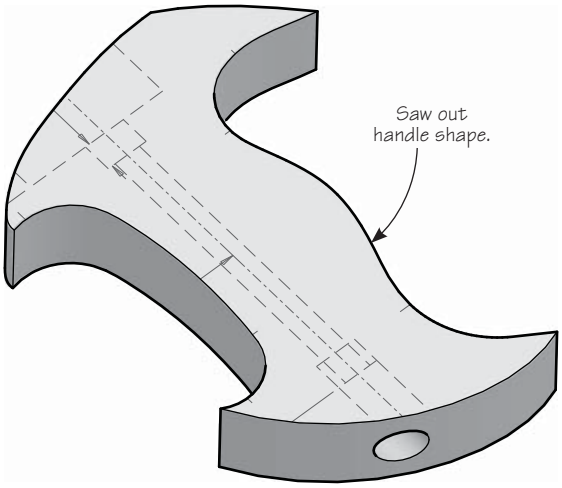
Trim the upper contour to the line on the template. At this point, it should be possible to do a trial fit to the saw to ensure the internal details of the handle are correct. Any errors are easier to correct while the blank still has flat reference surfaces. Also, if the error is not correctable, the minimum amount of work has been wasted.



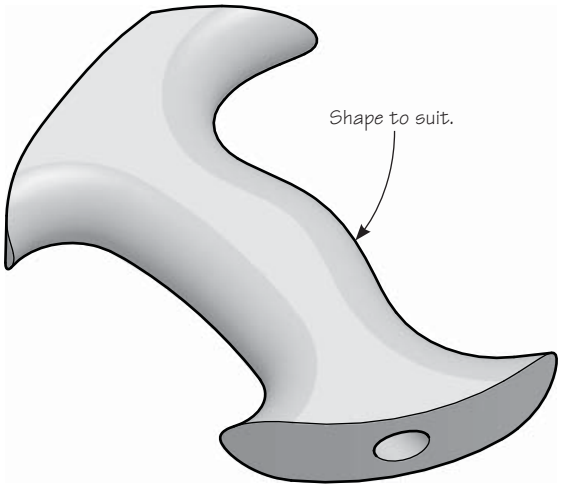
Bore out the holes that form the tightly curved parts of the handle contour.



Trim the workpiece to the front, back and bottom contours. Depending on the final shaping method, it may be worthwhile to cut the contours slightly oversize.



Final shaping can be done with a combination of round-over router bits, rasps, carving tools, sandpaper, etc. Proceed carefully, testing the grip often to ensure a comfortable handle. Sand the final shape smooth and finish as desired.



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