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## **NAPCO Inlay Template Measuring Instructions**

An inlay fixes cracks best when it covers as much of the bathtub or shower floor as possible, because it distributes weight over the largest possible surface area. Making an inlay too small can lead to further cracking and damage on the bathtub or shower floor.

When making an inlay template, it is very important to choose the right type of paper. Use dark colored paper for your template, so that NAPCO's computer aided design program can easily "read" your template. We strongly recommend that you use red rosin paper. This paper is inexpensive and is readily available at many large home improvement stores, like Home Depot. Red rosin paper is also available at NAPCO. You should never use newspaper, white paper or light colored paper to make a template, as NAPCO's design program cannot read these types of paper.

Make sure the template paper is large enough to cover the entire floor of the bathtub or shower. When you are finished, your template should be one solid piece of paper. Do not tape pieces of paper together when making your template, as the computer design program cannot read templates that are taped together.

Begin making your template by applying the paper to the floor of the bathtub (or shower). Make sure the paper goes up the sides about an inch or so. Attach the masking paper to the sides of the tub or shower unit with masking tape, so the paper will not move around. Make sure the masking paper fits perfectly flat against the bathtub or shower bottom everywhere. Pay extra attention to the corners, as it is harder to get the paper flat in those areas.

Before you begin drawing the template, feel the bottom of the bathtub or shower floor with your fingers to determine where the floor just begins to curve up the sides. You do not want to draw your template too large. If you draw the lines for the template exactly where the tub or shower begins to curve, you run the risk of making your inlay too large. If the inlay is too large, it cannot sit flat on the bathtub or shower floor. Because the inlay is rigid, it will not bend into the corners when you apply it and your inlay will not fit. To avoid making your inlay too large, draw the lines of your template approximately 1/4" away from where the floor begins to curve.

Using a pencil and a ruler, go around the bathtub or shower floor, drawing out your template. Make sure that the paper stays flat and stay in place while you are drawing. Never use magic marker, a felt tip pen or an ink pen when drawing your template, as these types of marks interfere with the computer aided design program at NAPCO.

For shower units, draw a circle around the drain to ensure that the drain area is cut out of the inlay at the proper place. When making your template around the drain area, please note that some tubs and showers dip down at different spots around the drain. Press on the template paper with your fingers to feel where the tub or shower floor starts to dip down into the drain and draw the lines of the circle ¼” away from where it begins to dip.

For bathtubs, you can choose to have a rectangular style inlay that stops in front of the drain or a “drain wrap” style inlay that wraps around both sides of the drain and has a cut out for the drain area. When you are making a drain wrap template, feel along the drain and lightly mark dots on both sides and underneath the drain with your pencil ¼” away from where the drain dips. You can then just connect the dots to make the smoothest and best possible looking u-shape around the drain. You can do the same “connect the dots” approach for the “ears” on either side of the drain.

Remove the paper from the tub or shower floor and lightly write the word "bottom" on the bottom side of the paper with pencil (no pens or markers). Please use a separate sheet of paper to indicate what color template you would like to order or for writing any other instructions. Never write notes on the template paper, as this interferes with the computer aided design program at NAPCO.

Do not cut the template out. Just fold the template paper and send it to NAPCO. NAPCO will use special cutting tools to cut out your template, so that your inlay will have the smoothest possible outlines.

If you must send NAPCO a template that is made of newspaper, white paper or light colored paper or if your template has marker lines or notes written on it or is already cut out, NAPCO can redraw your template for an additional \$15 fee.

Once we receive your template, it will take one to two days to manufacture. Please note that we round the corners of all inlays, unless otherwise specified by you.

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