



## #P618 - Footprints Plaque

These words of wisdom combine with stunning fretwork to create an inspirational plaque about our Lord. The unique design allows stack cutting of nearly all parts which can reduce the amount of time to complete.

# GENERAL SCROLLSAW TIPS & TECHNIQUES

The following scrollsaw tips and techniques are intended to get you started and on your way to scrollsaw success. Not only will you find these techniques helpful in completing the this project, you will also find that they can be applied to many other scrollsaw projects as well.

## HARDWOODS VS PLYWOODS

Selecting the type of material you will use is very important for the final outcome of your project. This project has been designed so that hardwoods, plywoods, or a combination can be used to create your work of art.

Hardwoods have their advantages as well as their disadvantages. They come in a variety of species, colors and grain patterns, yet they are more time consuming requiring more sanding, are more likely to warp and are more expensive to use.

Plywoods, on the other hand, are less expensive, require less sanding, and come in a variety of standard thicknesses. They also are less likely to develop cracks or warp. We do, however, recommend that you use a top grade plywood without voids, such as the Baltic and Finnish birches.

## SANDING

For most projects, it is best to sand the work piece prior to applying the paper pattern and cutting the design. Once you've cut the design, and removed the paper pattern, it may be necessary to lightly sand any glue residue remaining, along with any "fuzz" on the bottom side.

## BLADE SELECTION

There are many opinions pertaining to which blade to use with which type and thickness of material, as well as, with how intricate the design in the project is. The more time you put into scrolling, the more your choice of which blade to use will become personal preference. For the beginning scroller we make the following recommendations to get you started:

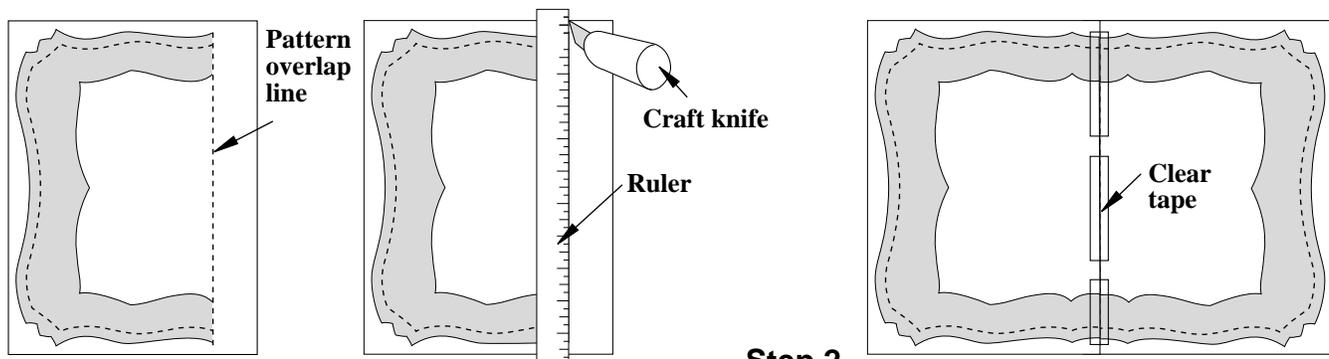
Material Thickness	Blade Size Recommended
1/16" - 1/4"	#2/0 or #2
1/4" - 1/2"	#5 or #7
1/2" - 3/4" or thicker	#7 or #9

## USING THE PATTERNS

Downloadable patterns give you the advantage of printing the patterns on your own printer at your own convenience. Be sure to download all of the file and save it to a disk or your harddrive according to your computer software's instructions.

Once you have printed the number of pattern pieces that you will need to complete your projects, you are ready to apply the pattern to your work pieces.

Apply the repositionable spray adhesive as directed in the next section. If your project requires piecing 2 or more sheets of paper together to make the full-size pattern piece, simply follow the instructions below for accurate alignment.



### Step 1

Using a straightedge and a craft knife, cut on the dashed "Pattern Overlap Lines" to remove the excess paper.

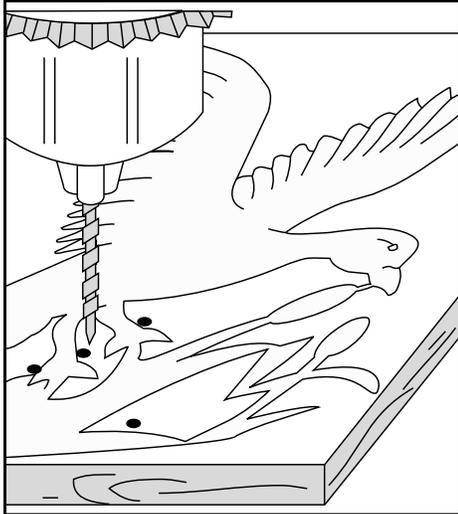
### Step 2

Next, align the sections and secure together with clear tape. Now, apply the repositionable spray adhesive to the backside of the paper pattern as instructed in the next section.

## REPOSITIONABLE SPRAY ADHESIVE

Using a repositionable spray adhesive is the easiest and quickest way to transfer a pattern to your work piece after photo copying it. In a well ventilated area, lightly spray the backside of the paper pattern. Allow it to dry only until tacky - approximately 20 - 30 seconds. Then apply it to the work piece, smoothing any wrinkles if necessary.

Two common problems that sometimes occur when using repositionable spray adhesive for the first time is applying the right amount onto the back of the pattern. Spraying too little may result in the pattern lifting off of the project before you have finished cutting. If this occurs, clear scotch tape can be used to secure the pattern back into position. On the other hand, spraying too much will make it difficult to remove the pattern, If this occurs, simply use a hand held hair dryer to heat the glue, which will loosen the pattern allowing it to be easily removed.



## DRILLING STARTER HOLES

When drilling starter holes it is best to drill close to a corner, rather than in the middle of the waste areas, as it will take less time for the blade to reach the pattern line.

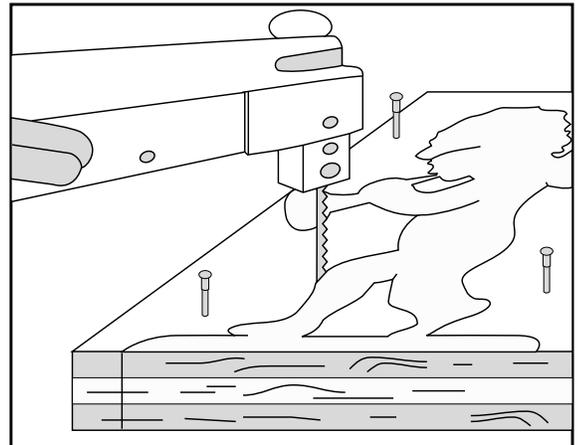
## STACK CUTTING

Stack cutting is fairly simple to do and can save you a lot of time when you have 2 or more identical pieces to cut for a project. If you are fairly new to scrollsawing and stack cutting, we recommend cutting no more than a total thickness of 1/2" for best results.

On projects with fairly simple shapes to cut out, 2 or 3 layers could be held together by double-sided tape, or by using spray glue on paper to sandwich between the work pieces.

On more intricate projects we suggest using #18 wire nails or brads slightly longer than the total thickness of the stack you are cutting. Tack the nails into the waste areas you will cut out, along with a few around the outside of the project. If the nail has gone through the bottom of the work piece, use a hammer to tap it flush, or use coarse sandpaper to sand the points flush with the bottom of the work piece.

If you are stack cutting hardwoods, do not tack the nail too close to the pattern line or it may cause the wood to split. Another option would be to predrill for the nails with a slightly smaller drill bit so the nail will fit snugly and hold the layers together securely.

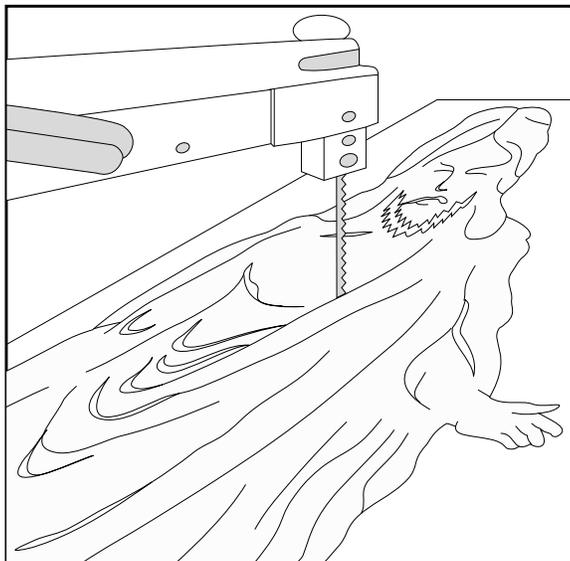


## SAWING THIN WOODS

Occasionally you may find it difficult to control your workpiece when cutting in thin hardwoods or plywoods. The following suggestions should help to eliminate or reduce this problem.

1. If you have a variable speed saw, reduce the speed to 1/2 to 3/4 of high speed.
2. If you do not have a variable speed saw, it will help to stack cut 2 or more layers of your material to keep better control of the workpiece.
3. For cutting any thickness of material it is very beneficial to keep at least one hand, if not both, partially touching the table with your fingers for better control.
4. Using a smaller blade with more teeth per inch helps to slow down how fast the blade is cutting. But keep in mind that if the blade is leaving burn marks you will need to slow the speed down or use a blade with less teeth per inch.

## VEINING



Veining is a simple technique that will bring a lifelike appearance to your project. The veins of a leaf or the folds of clothing will look more realistic when this technique is incorporated. To vein, simply saw all solid black lines as indicated on the pattern. Some areas of the pattern you will be able to vein by sawing inward from the outside edge, while in other areas you will need to drill a tiny starter hole for the blade.

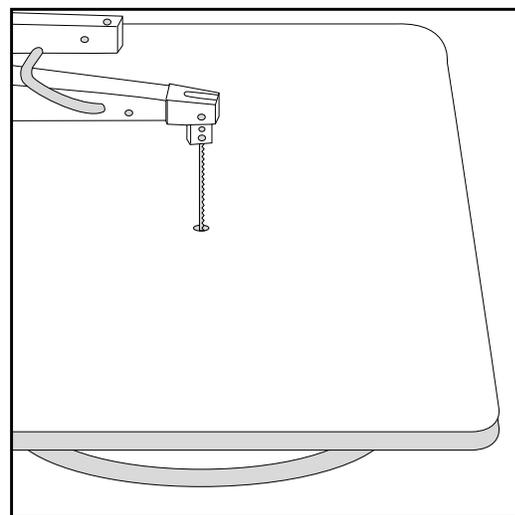
## AUXILIARY TABLE

Most scrollsaws on the market today have an opening in the table around the blade that is much larger than what you really need. This often causes small and delicate fretwork to break off on the downward stroke of the blade. An easy solution is to add a wooden auxiliary table to the top of the metal table on your saw.

To make an auxiliary table, choose a piece of 1/4" - 3/8" plywood similar to the size of your current saw's table. If you choose, you can cut this plywood to the same shape as the metal table on your saw, or any shape or size you prefer. However, we do recommend that you make the table larger than what you think you will need for the size of the projects you will make in the future.

Next, set the auxiliary table on top of the metal table. From the underside of the metal table, use a pencil to mark the location where the blade will feed through. Then turn the auxiliary table over and drill a 1/16" - 1/8" diameter hole, or slightly larger than the blade you will be using.

Finally, apply a couple of strips of double-sided carpet tape to the metal table on each side of the blade. Then, firmly press the auxiliary table onto the double-sided carpet tape, making sure that the blade is centered in the hole.

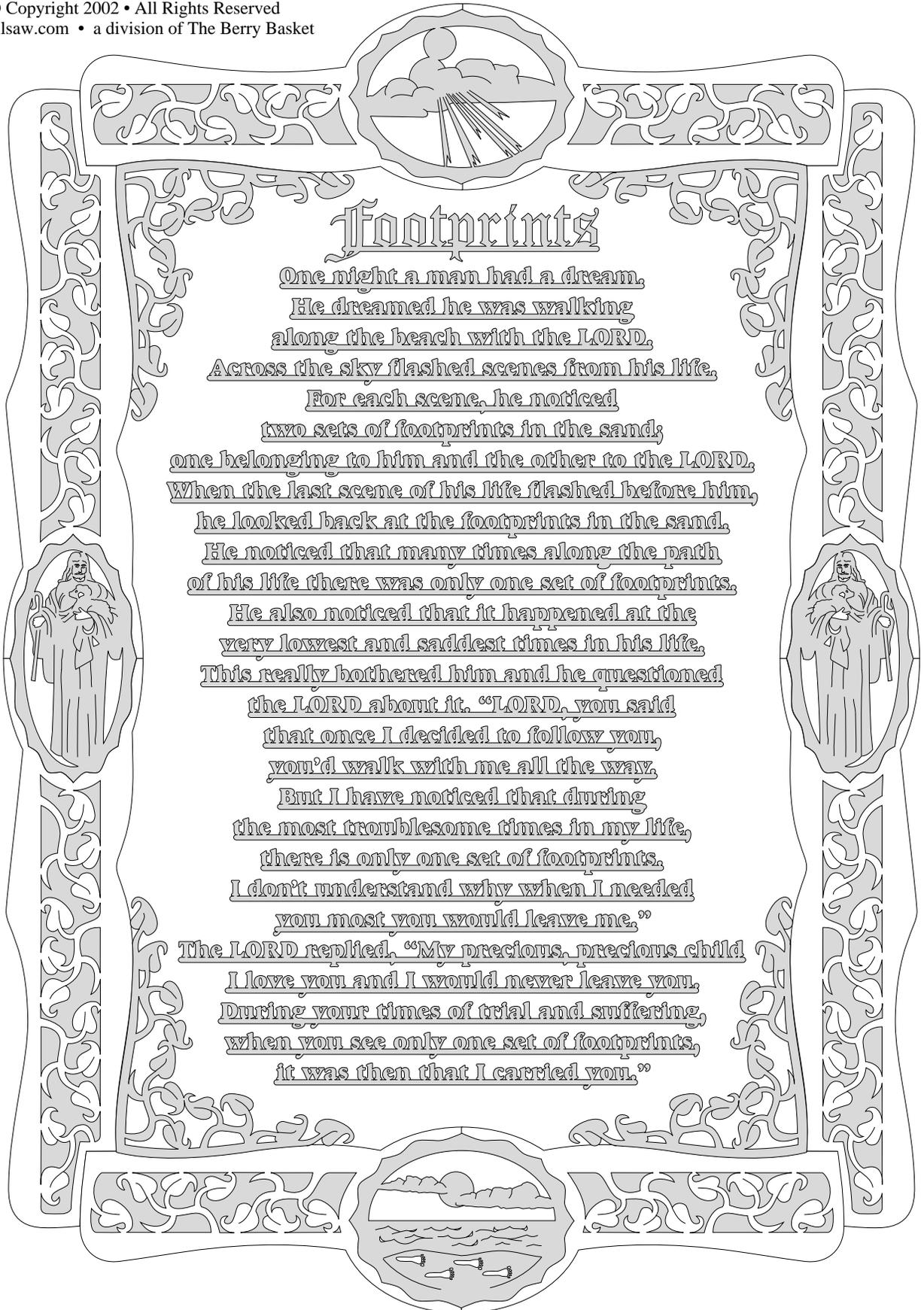


## FINISHING TECHNIQUES

If you've made your project from hardwood, we recommend dipping your project in a dishpan type of container that contains a penetrating oil such as Watco, Tung, or others. After dipping, allow the excess oil to drain back into the pan and then follow the manufacturer's instructions.

If you have chosen to use plywood, such as Baltic Birch, you can use any of the wide variety of wood stains available on the market. We do, however, recommend sanding the surface thoroughly, in order for the plywood to accept the stain more evenly.

As a final finish step, we highly recommend using a clear varathane type spray for a protective coating.



## Footprints

One night a man had a dream,  
He dreamed he was walking  
along the beach with the LORD,  
Across the sky flashed scenes from his life,  
For each scene, he noticed  
two sets of footprints in the sand;  
one belonging to him and the other to the LORD,  
When the last scene of his life flashed before him,  
he looked back at the footprints in the sand,  
He noticed that many times along the path  
of his life there was only one set of footprints,  
He also noticed that it happened at the  
very lowest and saddest times in his life,  
This really bothered him and he questioned  
the LORD about it. "LORD, you said  
that once I decided to follow you,  
you'd walk with me all the way,  
But I have noticed that during  
the most troublesome times in my life,  
there is only one set of footprints,  
I don't understand why when I needed  
you most you would leave me."  
The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child  
I love you and I would never leave you,  
During your times of trial and suffering,  
when you see only one set of footprints,  
it was then that I carried you."

# #P618 - FOOTPRINTS

Description	item	Qty	Size
Top & Bottom	A	2 each	1/8" - 1/4"T x 5 1/4"W x 10 1/2"L
Side	B	4	1/8" - 1/4"T x 4"W x 15 5/8"L
Corner	C	4	1/8" - 1/4"T x 6 3/4"W x 7 1/4"L
Top Overlay	D	1	1/16" - 1/8"T x 5"W x 6 3/8"L
Side Overlay	E	2	1/16" - 1/8"T x 3 3/4"W x 7"L
Bottom Overlay	F	1	1/16" - 1/8"T x 5"W x 6 3/8"L
Text	G	1 each	1/16" - 1/8"T x cut as needed
Back	*	1	1/4"T x 25 1/2"W x 36 1/2"L

\* No pattern given - instructions tell how to cut / shape the Back.

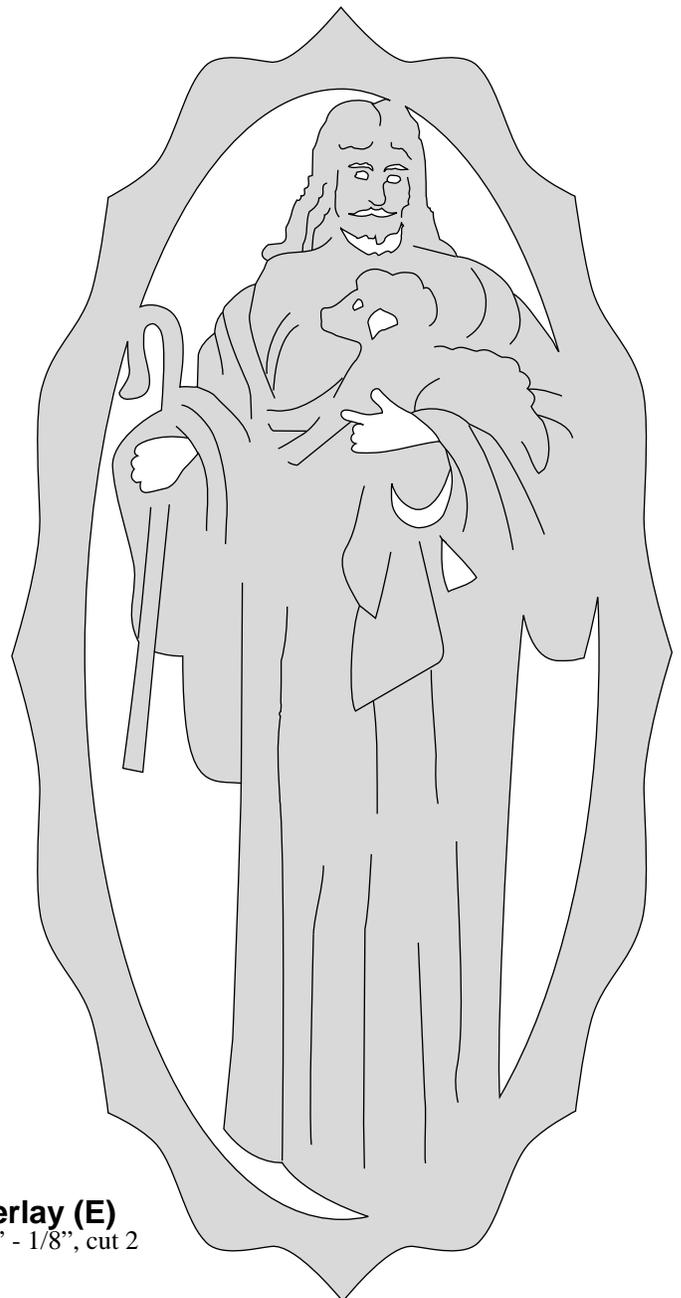
## #P618 - Assembly Instructions

1. Select your material from a variety of hardwoods or solid core plywood.
2. Measure each pattern piece and cut the work pieces to size accordingly. Sand as necessary.
3. Make all pattern pieces by adhering the paper patterns to the work pieces with a repositionable spray adhesive. Cut the outer shapes and any interior designs. And drill where indicated.
4. Remove all paper patterns. Sand where needed. The edges can be rounded by sanding or using a small roundover router bit if desired.
5. Assemble by first gluing the 2 Top halves together. Then attach the Overlay, if required. Follow the same procedure for attaching the left and right Sides together, if necessary, and the Bottom.

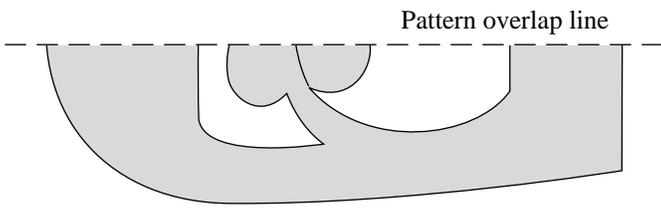
Now, align the Top with the left and right Sides. And then align the Bottom. Be sure all pieces fit flush before gluing together. If they do not fit flush; adjust by sanding or cutting where necessary.

Next, position the pieces onto the Back workpieces, and tape or clamp to secure. Trace around the outer edges of the framing. Remove the pieces and cut the Back. Stain or finish all pieces before assembling.

Now, reposition the framing pieces onto the Back and secure with glue. To get the proper spacing for the lines of Text on the plaque, place the paper pattern onto the Back. Use a push pin or sharp nail point to mark the ends of each line of Text. The lines of Text on the paper pattern are spaced properly. Remove the paper pattern, and glue the Text lines into place. A magnifier light will help you see the pin holes easier.



**Side Overlay (E)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 2

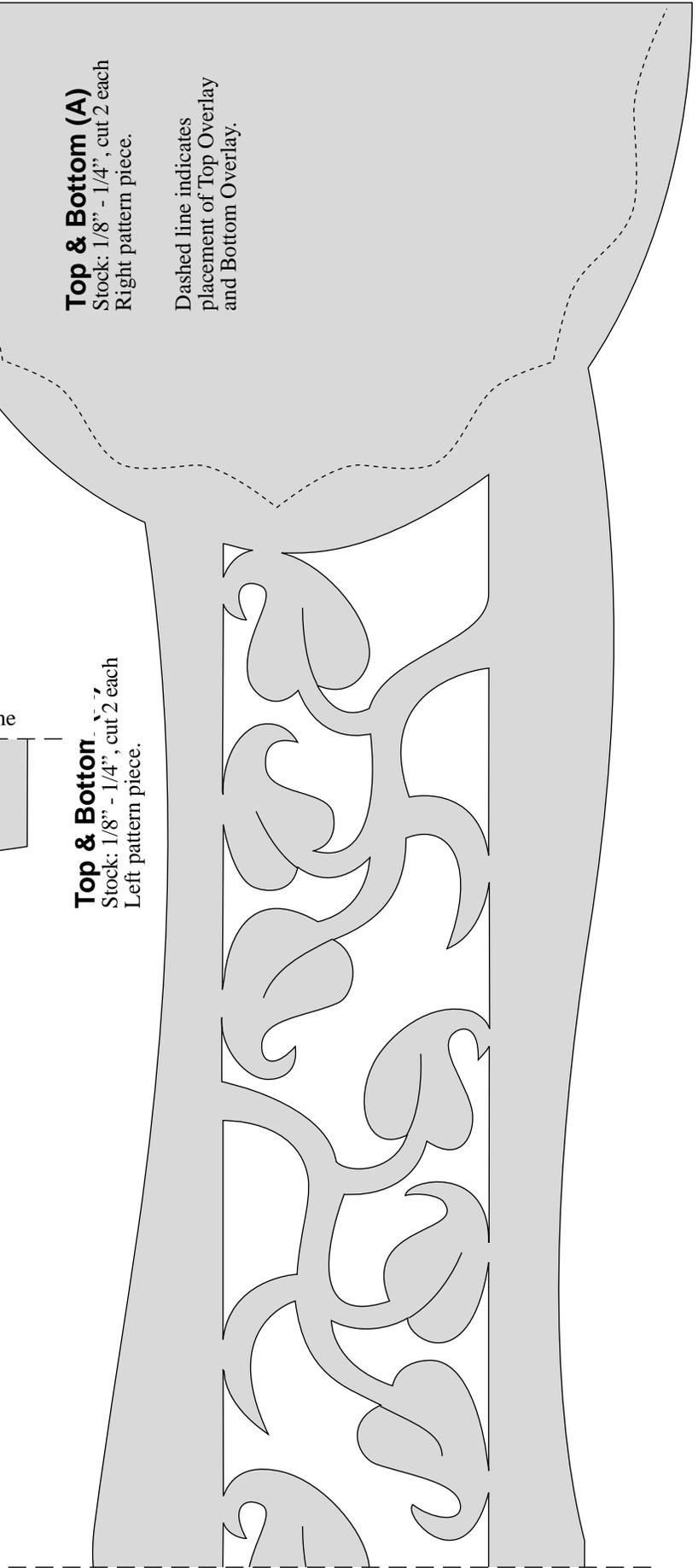


Pattern overlap line

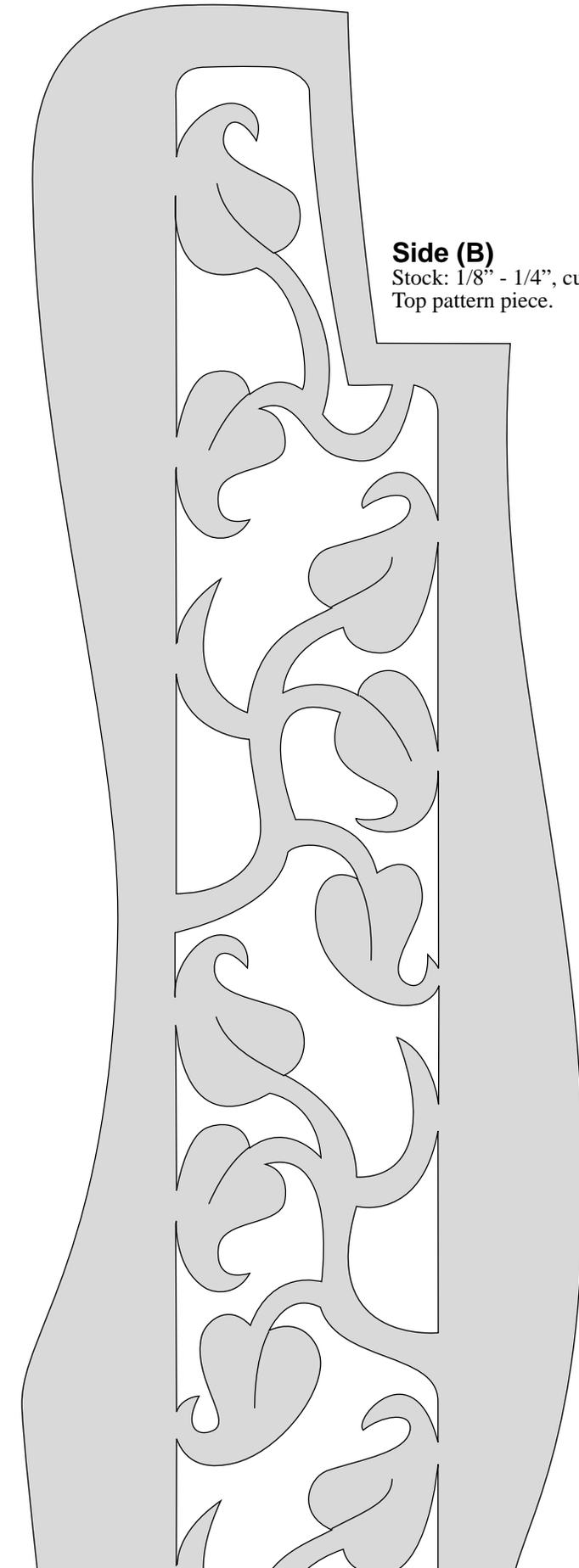
**Top & Bottom**  
Stock: 1/8" - 1/4", cut 2 each  
Left pattern piece.

**Top & Bottom (A)**  
Stock: 1/8" - 1/4", cut 2 each  
Right pattern piece.

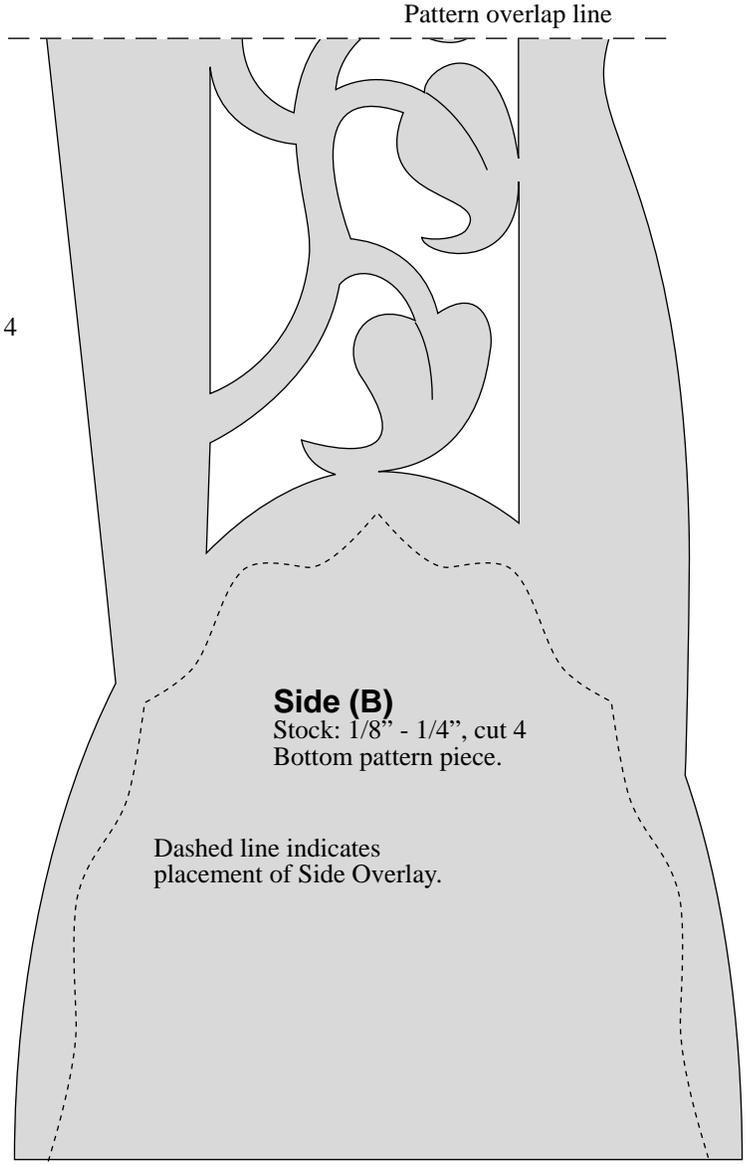
Dashed line indicates  
placement of Top Overlay  
and Bottom Overlay.



Pattern overlap line

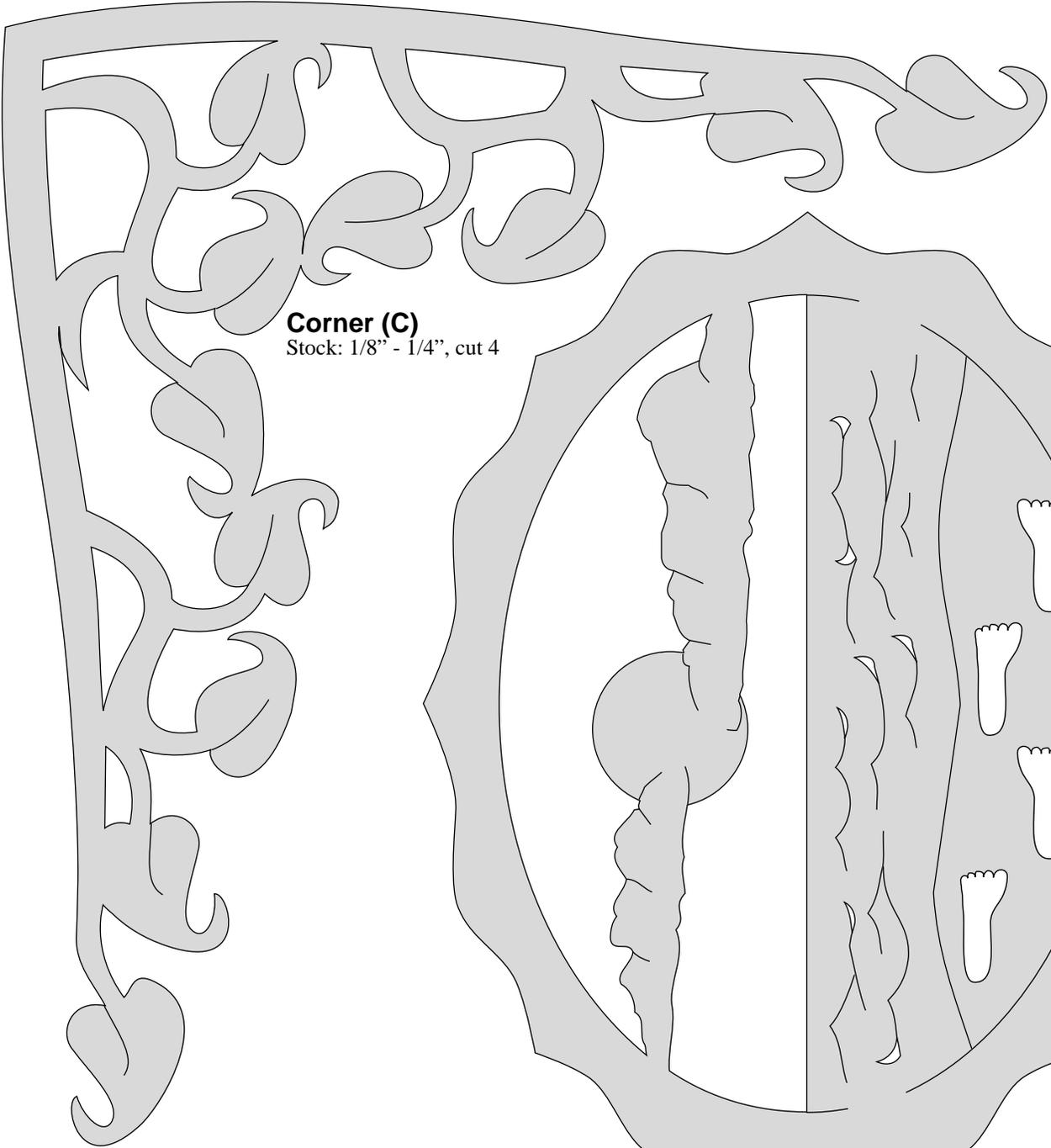


**Side (B)**  
Stock: 1/8" - 1/4", cut 4  
Top pattern piece.

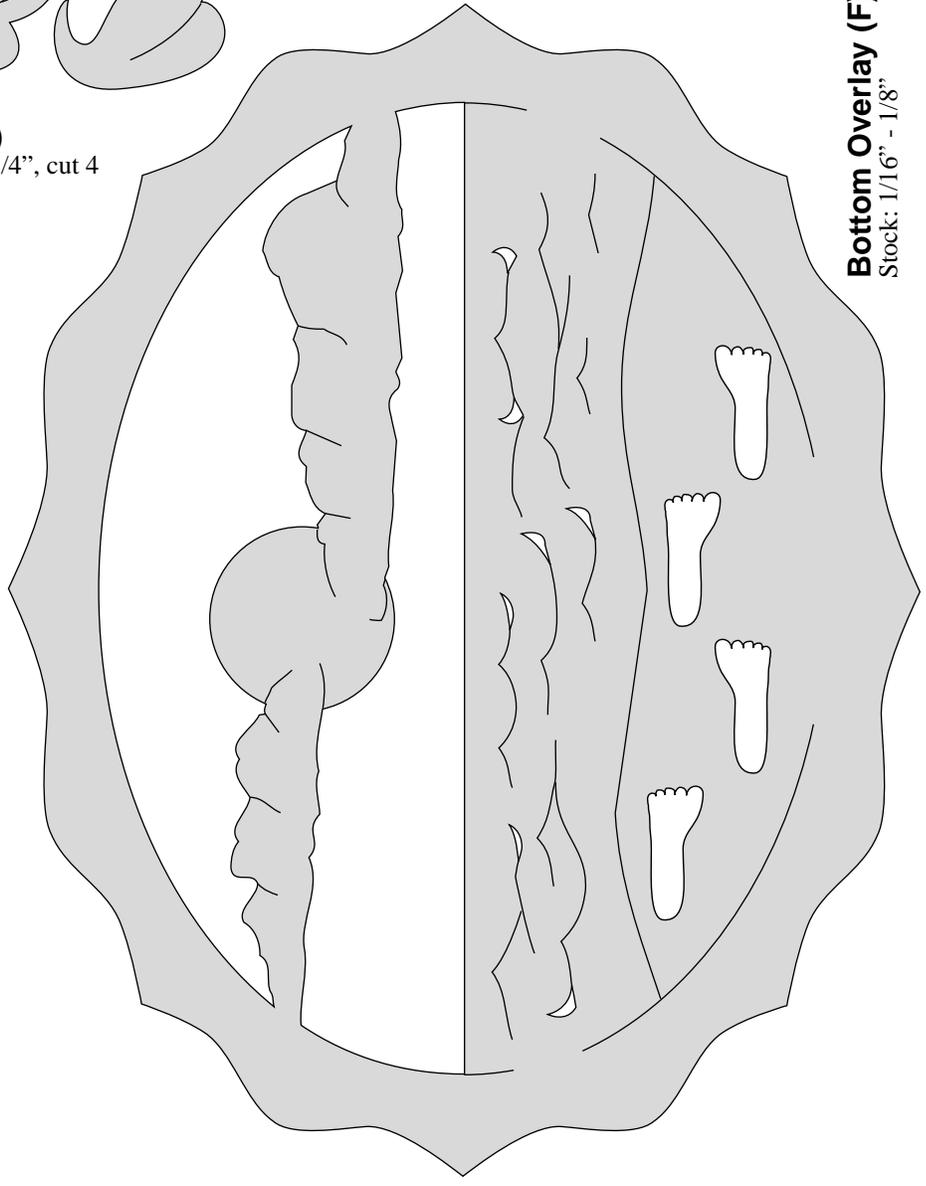


**Side (B)**  
Stock: 1/8" - 1/4", cut 4  
Bottom pattern piece.

Dashed line indicates  
placement of Side Overlay.



**Corner (C)**  
Stock: 1/8" - 1/4", cut 4



**Bottom Overlay (F)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8"

Dashed lines indicate position of Top.

**Text (G)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Top left pattern pieces.

Pattern  
overlap  
line A

Suggested  
space between  
headline and  
first text line.

Too

Suggested space  
between text lines.  
A Spacer block  
can be used.

One night a

He dreamed

along the beach

Across the sky flashed

For each scene

two sets of footprints

one belonging to him

When the last scene of

he looked back at the

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Top middle pattern pieces.

Small dashed line indicates  
center of text.

Footprints

A man had a dream.

That he was walking

in step with the LORD.

He had scenes from his

past scene, he noticed

footprints in the sand;

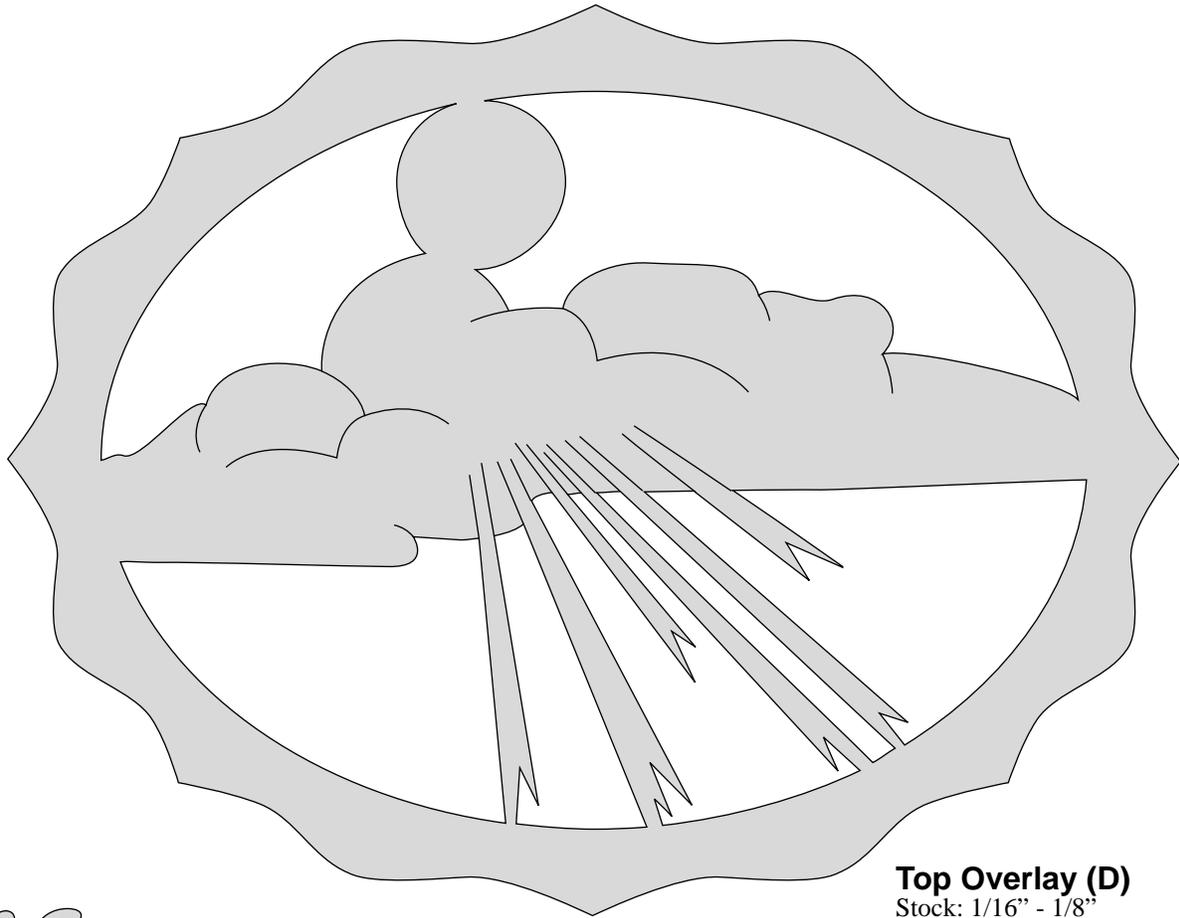
and the other to the

beginning of his life flashed before

his eyes. He saw the footprints in the sand.

Pattern overlap line A

Pattern overlap line B



**Top Overlay (D)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8"

Pattern overlap line B

life,

**Text (G)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Top right pattern pieces.

LORD,

ore him,

sand,

**Text (G)**  
Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Middle right pattern pieces.

s child

Pattern overlap line D

ou,

ng,

ts,

Pattern overlap line C

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Middle left pattern pieces.

You most you

The LORD replied, "N

I love you and I v

During your time

When you see onl

it was then th

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Middle center pattern pieces.

Small dashed line indicates  
center of text.

would leave me.”

ly precious, precious

would never leave you

s of trial and sufferin

y one set of footprin

hat I carried you.”

Pattern overlap line D

Pattern overlap line C

He noticed that man  
of his life there was a

He also noticed that  
very lowest and said

This really bothered  
the LORD about

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Bottom left pattern pieces.

that once I decided

you'd walk with me

But I have no

the most troubles

there is only one

I don't understand

Pattern overlap line E

any times along the  
only one set of footp  
hat it happened at t  
addest times in his l  
d him and he questio  
t it. "LORD, you said  
ecided to follow you,  
with me all the way.  
noticed that during  
some times in my lif  
ne set of footprints.  
nd why when I neede

Small dashed line indicates  
center of text.

Pattern overlap line E

Pattern overlap line F

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Bottom center pattern piece.

path

prints,

he

life,

oned

!

Pattern overlap line F

**Text (G)**

Stock: 1/16" - 1/8", cut 1 each  
Bottom right pattern pieces.

ie

ed