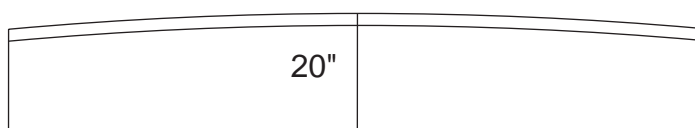
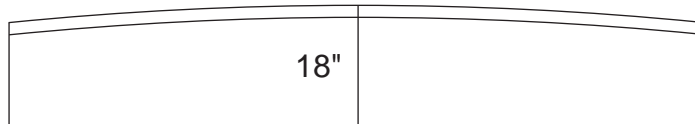
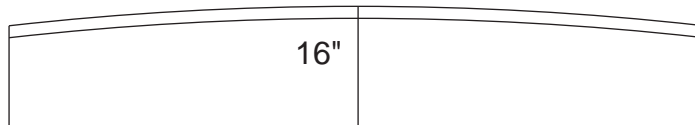
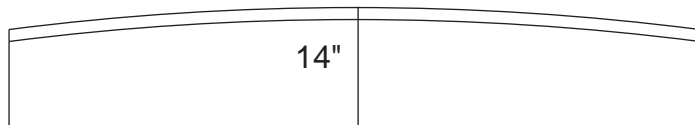
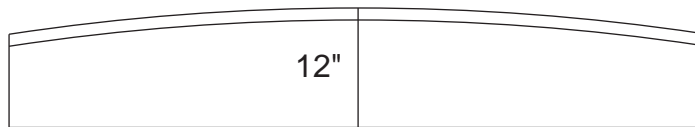
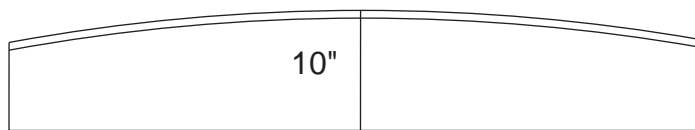
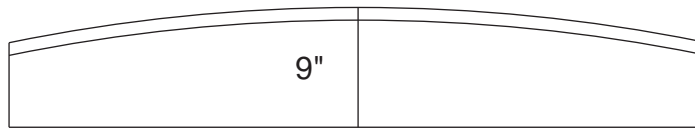
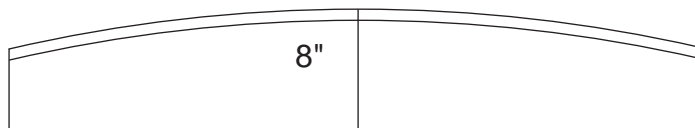
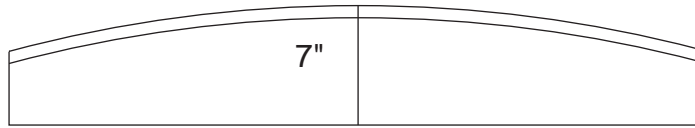
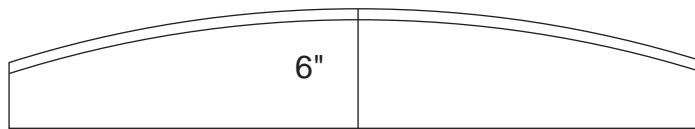


Banjo Bridges by Bart - <http://banjobridge.com>

Bridge Radius



When ordering radiused bridges the height you specify is the height at the center of the bridge. Meaning of course, you need to take into account that the outer strings will be sitting lower by approximately 1/16" for a 6 inch radius. Getting too low on the outer strings will make your strings buzz against the fretboard.

If you're not too sure about what radius your bridge is then the simplest way is to use lay your bridge on these templates to see which one matches your curve. If you don't want to remove the bridge from your banjo you can cut out the templates and hold them against the bridge on the banjo itself. The latter is a bit clumsier as the string will get in the way. No need to get too scientific, close enough simply is close enough.

If you don't have the original bridge, or if you want to match the radius of the bridge to the radius of the fretboard then use these same templates but now hold them against the wide end of the fretboard:

$$\text{neck radius} + 2 = \text{bridge radius}$$

Example: a 10 inch radius neck takes a 12 inch radius bridge, a 7/12 compound radiused neck takes a 14 inch radius bridge.

Unlike other bridges with a flat top and only a radiused topping, I make my radiused bridges as shown in these illustrations: the bridge itself is radiused and the topping follows the contour of the radius. Some people refer to this as a double radius - the topping is the same thickness along its entire length to ensure properly balanced sound and tonal properties that let you enjoy your instrument's optimum performance.

You'll notice when the radius gets bigger than 10 inches I skip the uneven numbers as most fingers cannot appreciate that small a change in the curve. Of course, if your fingers disagree, you bet I can make any radius you require.