

Use this plan along with the step by step instruction sheet

Purchased plans printed on quality gloss paper

Baby Dolphin

Free Intarsia pattern



You can make this baby facing left or right. Choose which way after you have cut out the pieces but before you start sanding them.

Note B

Leave sections *1a* and *1b* as one piece until after the initial sanding. See notes for eye and mouth on instruction sheet.

OR

If these pieces are already cut out use double sided sticky tape to hold pieces *1a*, *1b* and *2* on to a plywood template and sand these parts together.

Eye approx. 9mm (3/8inch) diameter.

Note F

Sand the nose/mouth to approx. half the thickness of the body.

Note D

Sand this fin thinner than the rest of the body.

Note G
Sand this area thinner just as your wrist is thinner than your forearm or hand.

MRS

Note C - Double Cutting
The centre joint can be made by overlapping the two pieces of timber and cutting them together. Use double sided sticky tape to hold the pieces in position while cutting. This requires a trial cut first with scrap timber if using a scroll saw.

Note A

You could make the grain direction of this fin the same as the lower body and initially cut them out as one piece. Using a thin blade on your saw, you can then cut the fin from the body. Even if you don't follow the lines exactly the fin will fit back against the body beautifully.

Complicated Timber Selection Guide

Colour Intensity Colour Grain

Colour Intensity	Colour	Grain
L - Light	Y - Yellow	S - Straight
M - Medium	R - Red	
D - Dark		

eg.

LYS = light yellow (ie. cream colour) with straight grain.

MRS = medium reddish with straight grain.

Simple Timber Selection Guide

A lightish timber for the bellies (pine maybe) with something darker for the backs. The eyes can be any dark timber or stain a length of pine dowel.

Timber thickness

Anything between 12mm and 19mm thick is fine.

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Step by step instruction sheet for

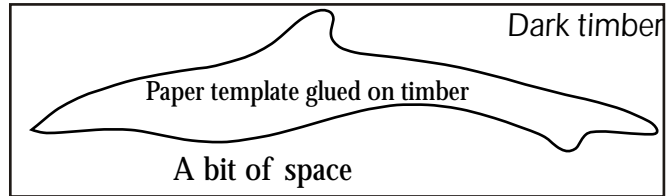
Baby Dolphin



These instructions should be read in conjunction with the *Full Size Plan* included in this kit.
For first timers, the book "[Intarsia Down Under](#)" gives a comprehensive general introduction to Intarsia.
You may wish to follow these steps but not glue up each stage until you are sure the whole thing fits together.

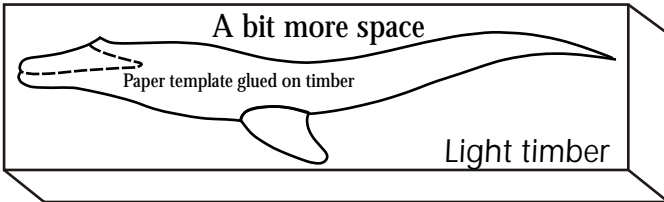
Cutting out

Recommended timber thickness 12mm to 19mm.
Cut out from your photocopy of the plan the top and bottom halves of the baby dolphin and use paper paste to stick them on to your light and dark timber pieces. Leave a bit of space at the bottom of the dark piece and the top of the light piece. If you're not completely confused by now then you haven't been paying attention.



Top half

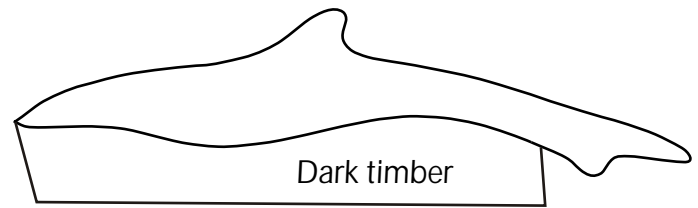
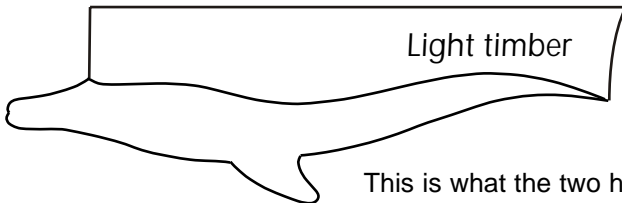
Cut out on your bandsaw or scrollsaw around the top edge of the top piece. Leave that bit of space at the bottom.



Bottom half

You guessed it. Cut around the bottom edge of the bottom piece and leave that bit of space at the top.

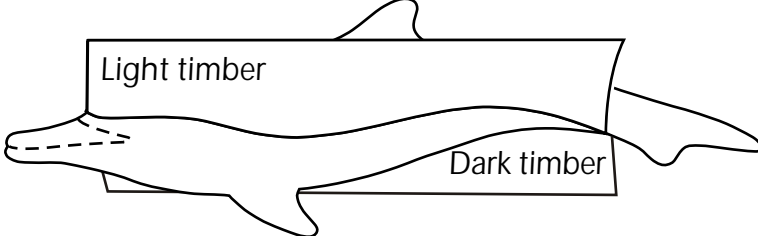
Don't cut those dotted lines for the time being



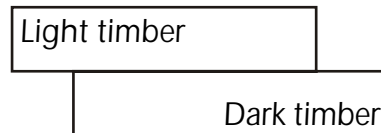
This is what the two halves should look like after your initial cutting out

Making a perfect centre join

Now there came the tricky bit, which is actually quite easy if you know the trick. Overlap the two halves and cut them together. There, I've told you. Hardly rocket science so here goes.



Stick the two halves together temporarily using double sided sticky tape. Make sure the ends of that centre cut line up pretty closely.



Here the light wood is shown stuck on top of the darker timber. But you could do it the other way round. No problem.

A cross section of the two pieces aped on top of each other ready for that important centre cut

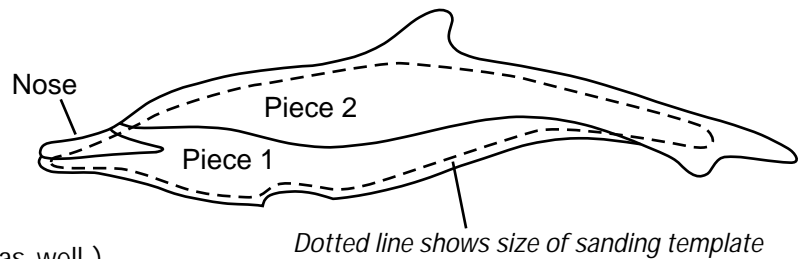
Cut both these pieces of timber along the centre join using your bandsaw or scrollsaw. If you chose 19mm thick wood you will be cutting a total depth of 38mm. A bandsaw will handle this with ease but with a scrollsaw I suggest you use fairly soft timbers or thinner wood. Do a test cut to be on the safe side. The centre join should match almost perfectly, especially if you cut steadily and try not to stop and start.

Now you can cut off the lower fin.



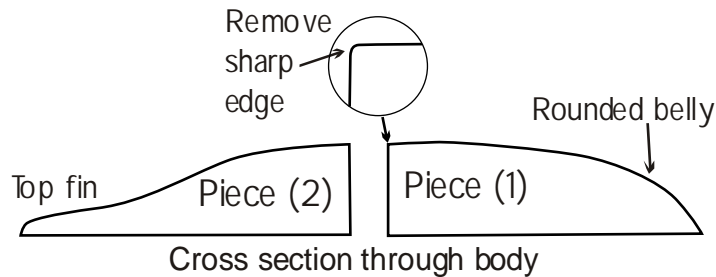
Initial Sanding

You should first sand pieces (1) and (2) together. Attach these 2 pieces onto a sanding template (4mm ply or similar) with double sided sticky tape. (If you bought a kit of precut pieces then the nose has already been cut for you. Just stick this down as well.)



Sanding sequence

Sand the nose to approx. half the thickness of the body. See Note F on the plan.
Sand the top fin to less than half the thickness of the body. See Note D on the plan.
Sand the narrow part of the body just before the tail thinner. See Note G.
Round over the belly and the back.



Remove these pieces from the sanding template. Soften the hard edges along the centre join by stroking them very gently with 180-grit sandpaper. The amount of rounding over of these edges should be hardly noticeable but there should no longer be a sharp edge. This is a remarkably effective procedure for disguising less than perfect joins. It won't, however, make a silk purse out of a sow's whatsit.

Lower fin

Place the unsanded fin up against the sanded body. With a pencil, mark the line of the body onto the fin. Sand the fin to this line. Make the narrow end of the fin quite thin. See Note A.

Mouth and Eye

Drill hole for eye approximately 9mm diameter or the size that matches your plug cutter if you are using one to make the eye. Drilling between 5mm and 10mm deep is fine.

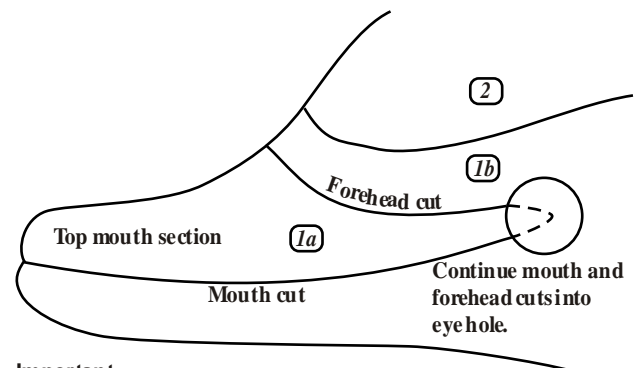
Cut the mouth and forehead lines so they meet up in the eye socket.

The top mouth section (1a) can now be removed to finish sanding the lips.

Glue in your dark plug or dowel for the eye. Sand it down to body level and round over the lips.

The top mouth section should now fit back neatly up against the eye.

When gluing up, close the forehead line and leave the mouth slightly open.



Important
Nobody likes miserable dolphins hanging on their wall.
Make sure you make a smiling mouth cut!

Glue up

Lay the finished pieces together on a sheet of 4mm ply or similar. Draw around the edge. Cut the ply out slightly smaller than this finished size.

Glue your pieces onto this backing board.

Applying a finish

Brush, spray or wipe on the finish of your choice.

Full details our book [Intarsia Down Under](#).



Your next challenge?

If you have enjoyed making this baby dolphin you may like to try our [triple dolphin design](#). You have already made the baby. Mum and dad use exactly the same techniques.