

Creating Full-Sized Templates from PDF

My students take the Templates PDF (on large scale paper) to a print service for producing the drawing on large-scale printers. Black & White is fine, no need for color as the cost is high. We find the cost to be about \$4-5 per sheet. If you do take the PDF to a print service, tell them that the drawing is already full-size. They should set Scale to None. Take a tape measure with you to check their output, as they occasionally get it wrong.

I do not make full size templates on plywood or other wood material. To me this requires extra work – sawing & smoothing. I make my templates on thick poster board that I get at a local art store. It may be called backing board and is just shy of 1/16-in. thick. I glue the rough-cut oversized rectangle of printed template to the backing board with regular glue stick. Then I cut the shape of the template with X-acto knife or other knives in my shop. At the art store I buy replacement X-acto No. 11 blades in packs of 50, as they dull quickly.

I've provided videos on my YouTube channel on this process of making templates:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAliLO1mEuw>