

## Making A Grip Tracing

Even the same make and model of a handgun can have different shape or size grips from other examples of the same gun, because of manufacturing changes, tolerances, use of different grip frames on the same basic gun, and undocumented production changes.



This makes it impossible to guess the exact size and shape of grips that

might fit YOUR example of that gun. You can either measure your gun's grip frame and compare to the published dimensions of various similar shaped grips, or you can make grip tracing and send it, by mail, so that variations in the same general shape can be held up to it and compared.



To make a tracing of grips that have two separate panels, remove the grips from the gun and place each panel back-side down on a  $3 \times 5$  index card. Trace around each panel while holding it so it can't move, using a sharp pencil. Trace the location of any mounting holes. It helps to indicate the hole diameters and whether the screws go all the way through, or thread into the frame on each side.

Write your name, address, email and your order number from the web store on each of the cards. The order number is especially useful as it quickly allows the other information to be located. If you have not yet placed an order, please write "no order pending" so that time won't be wasted trying to locate your name in the pending order file (which

usually runs to hundreds of jobs and can be very time consuming to search without an order number).

Place the index cards in standard letter envelope and mail it to...

Tombstone Gun Grips PO Box 2171 White city, OR 97503 (USA)



It is NOT necessary to send the index card tracings in a costly padded or priority mail envelope, as they will arrive just as well in a normal 1st class letter. Faxed or emailed images, or photocopier images, are not accurate enough due to the distortion caused by electro-mechanical reproduction. Only an actual tracing, physically sent, is accurate enough.

The index card material is ideal for use as a template, so that when your letter arrives the tracing can be cut out and held up to various molds to determine how well they match. Even if the mold that matches best is different from the model of grip you ordered, the tracing assures that you will receive a size and shape that matches.

If the grip is a 1-piece style, remove it and use the gun frame to make the tracing, placing the corner of the card into the top front edge and tracing the back, bottom, and front edge up to the point where the frame intercepts them. It helps to trace through the frame around the location of the hammer spring and inside of the frame (to get the spacer size correct).