

The Neat Elite Slim Lock - fitting instructions

The world's best box lock

(Test with scrap first – minimum box thickness 12mm)

Fit your hinges first and double check that when the lid is closed there is no gap at the front (which could mean your hinges are in too deep or the lid was not flat on the base to begin with) and sides line up!

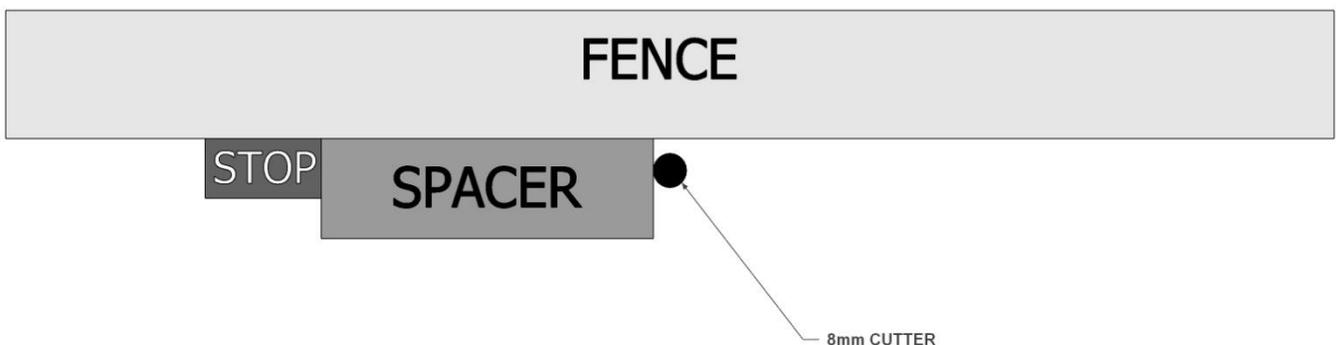
Fit an 8mm downcut spiral cutter in your router table or an 8mm straight cutter. Measure the box thickness and subtract 8mm from it – set the distance between your bit and fence to half this. Set the depth of cut to the thickness of your lock plate (**this is very important** - if you go too deep you can always add some tape to the underneath to bring it to the correct height).

To setup each stop use the following method for the **correct spacer width**.

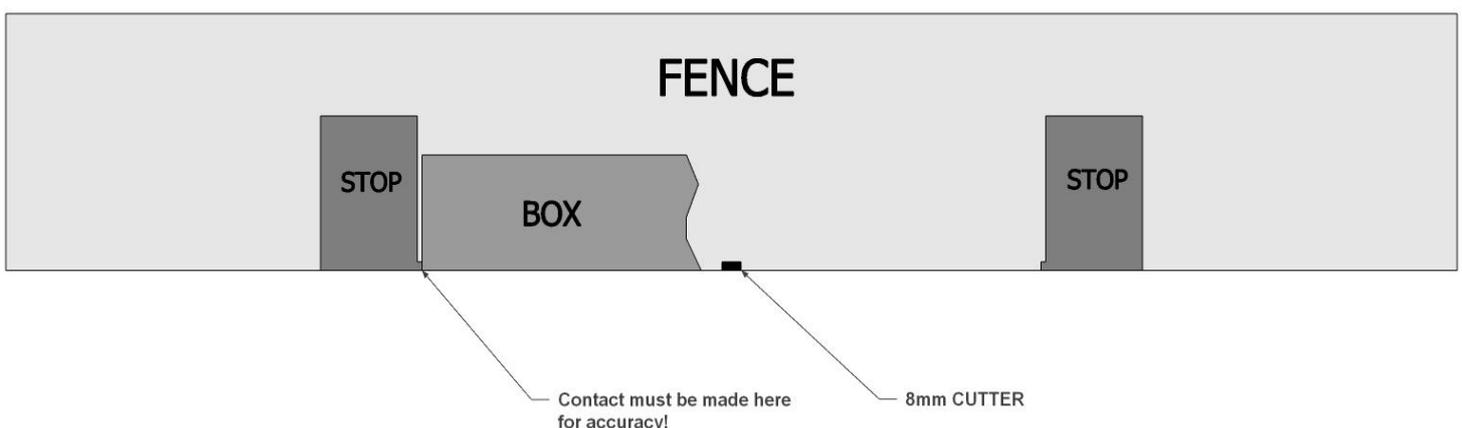
1. Measure the exact **length of your box**.
2. Add the **length of your lock 76mm** (eg if your box measures 300mm, adding 76 mm for the lock gives 376mm).
3. **Divide the total by 2** (eg $376/2 = 188\text{mm}$).
4. **Subtract the cutter diameter** of 8mm to find the spacer width (eg $188\text{mm} - 8\text{mm} = 180\text{mm}$).
5. cut a piece of mdf to create the **exact spacer width**.

Correct Spacer Width = $(\text{box length} + \text{lock length}) - \text{minus cutter diameter}$
Divide by 2

Once you have your spacer, rotate your cutter so its outermost cutting edge is towards the side you are going to setup, then take the spacer which has now been cut to the correct size using the above method, and set this stop. (Ensure your stop makes contact with the part of your box that is closest to the table. See image at bottom of page). Proceed by setting the opposing side with the same spacer.

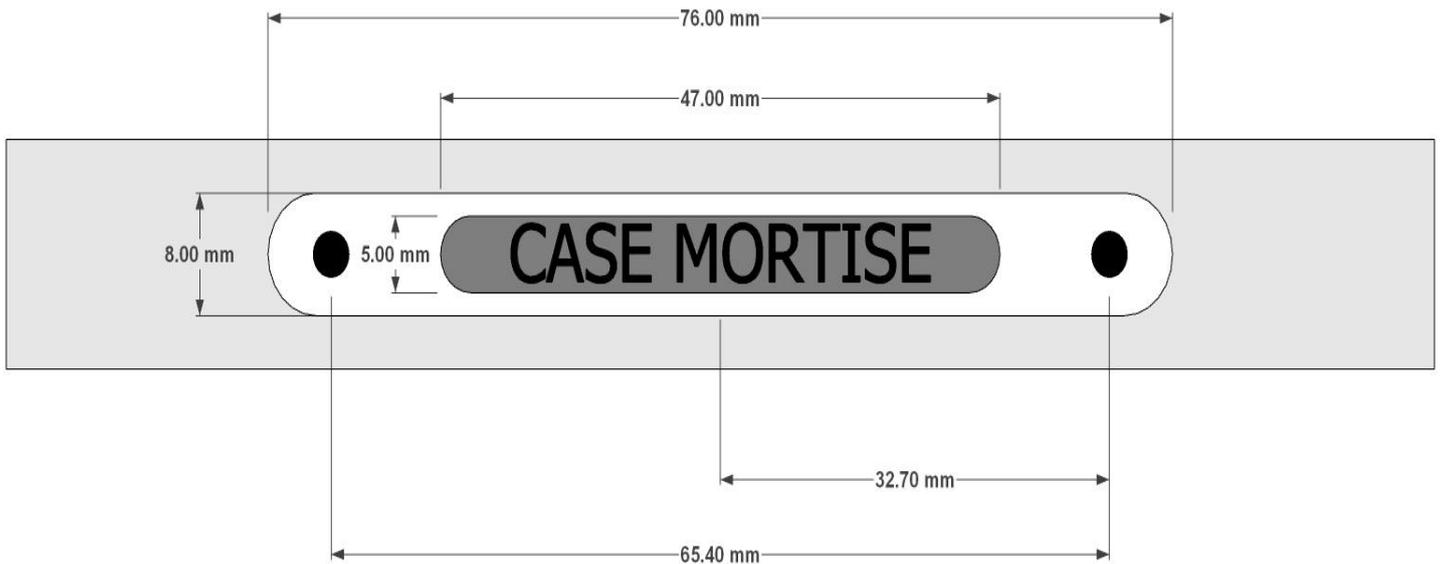


Now cut a piece of scrap MDF to the exact length as your box and make a test cut. If everything is carried out correctly the lock should be a great fit. From this test cut you can also check the router bit depth of cut fitting your lock plate in and ensure that it is perfectly flush - and that the fence is the correct distance from the bit. Now cut the mortises for top and bottom.



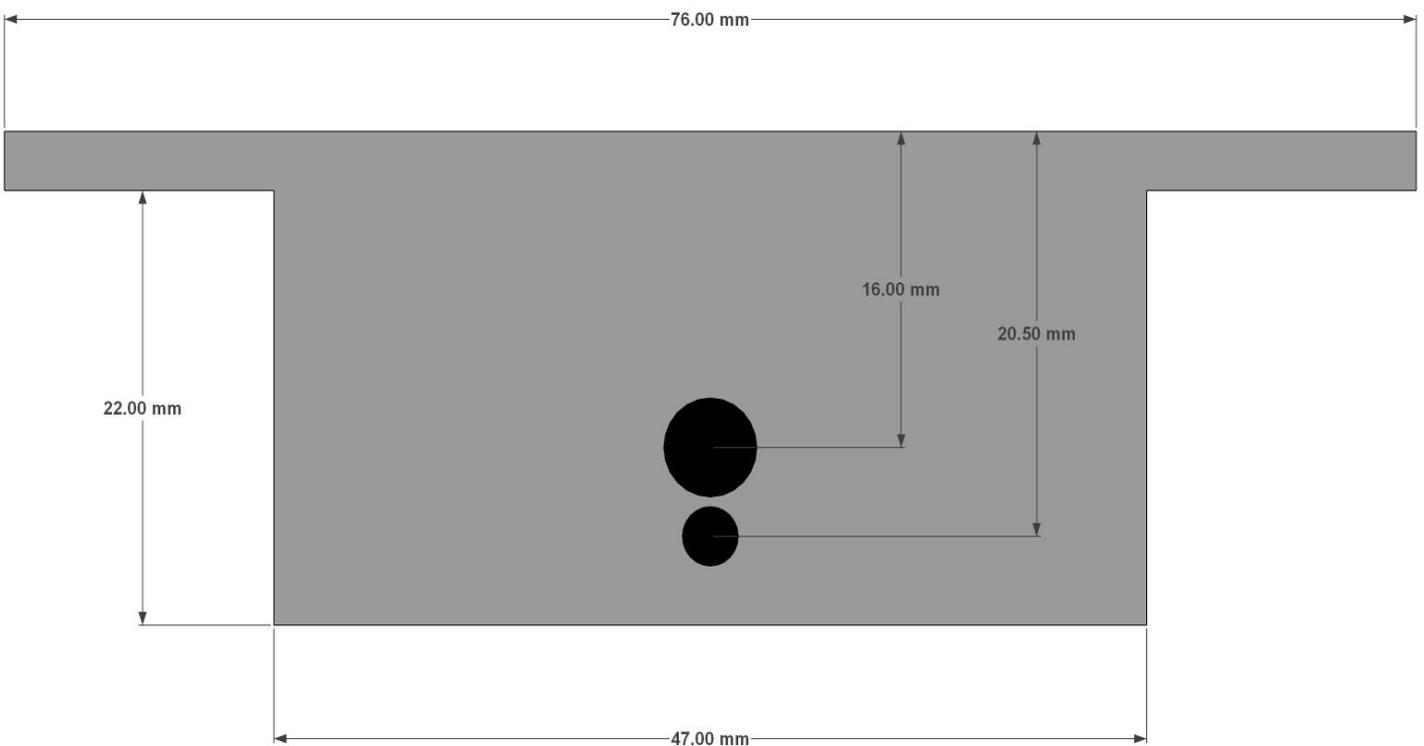
Case

For the case, drill out at the drill press with a 5mm bit to a depth of 25mm (this includes plate thickness. Drill the holes and you're nearly there – or if you have a 5mm router cutter rout out the case depth for a much neater job! (shallow cuts)



Keyhole

The Keyhole can be cut cleanly using a 5mm and a 3mm lip & spur bits. Measure from the edge down to 16mm and mark with a sharp pointed awl. Next measure down from the edge again 20.5mm and again mark with an awl.



Remove your lock and add a piece of scrap to the case mortise with the same thickness as the lock case. This will prevent tear out when drilling the following holes. Drill your 3mm hole first and then the 5mm hole and joint up using a jewellers file. Complete the process by shaping the keyhole for a more traditional look or leave as is.

Happy Boxmaking from Fine Box Hardware. Queries: Please contact us info@fineboxhardware.com or Tel +44 (0)28 90 836 987 (mob 0743 55 65 046).