

- The ticking stick has been around for centuries and was made popular by boat builders to recreate the many odd or complex shapes they encountered.
- It is used to replicate complicated or odd shapes where it would be difficult to get an accurate reading using a ruler or tape measure.
- The ticking stick is made as needed, from scrap wood, to fit the size and shape of the item you are trying to reproduce.

Steps for creating a ticking stick:

(See image 1)

- There is one requirement for the ticking stick, it must have a point at the end.
- Cut the preferred shape of the ticking stick out of a piece of scrap wood.
- Add a unique feature for easier referencing while duplicating your design.

Steps for using the ticking stick:

- Items you will need:
 - The ticking stick
 - A pencil or pen for tracing
 - A piece of scrap cardboard or something with a little bit of rigidity that will fit mostly within the odd shape you are replicating without blocking any corners/points
(Paper will work but can be more difficult to use)

- Tape, small nails, or tacks to hold your cardboard in place (double sided tape works well)
- A piece of scrap wood large enough to cover the entire odd shape you are reproducing

(See image 2)

1. Place the cardboard over the odd shape to be traced ensuring all corners/points of the shape are visible.
2. Secure the cardboard in place with tape, nails, or tacks.
3. Place the ticking stick on the cardboard with the point in the first corner of the odd shape and trace the ticking stick outline onto the cardboard.
4. Repeat step 3 until all corners have been traced (it helps to number the traced patterns).

NOTE: The more “ticks” you make along your pattern the more accurate it will be, but the patterns will also be harder to see on the cardboard. Also, curved patterns can be duplicated by putting the “ticks” closer together along the curve.)

(See image 3)

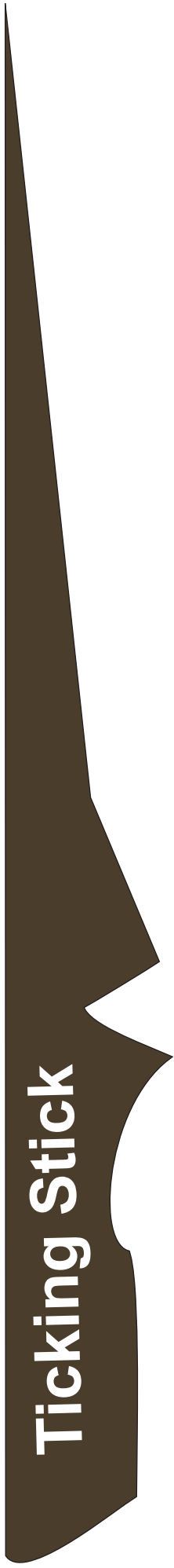
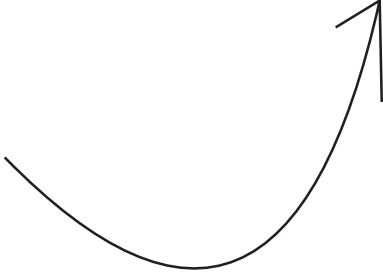
5. Transfer the cardboard with tracings on it to your scrap board, ensuring all points will fit within the board perimeter and tape/tack the cardboard down.
6. Place the ticking stick within each tracing and mark points at the end of the stick for each traced pattern.

(See image 4)


7. Remove the cardboard and, using a ruler or straight edge, connect the dots to form your shape. And VOILA... You have replicated your odd shape!!!
8. Cut out and fit the pattern into your odd shape!

(Image 1)

The point is required for marking your "ticks".



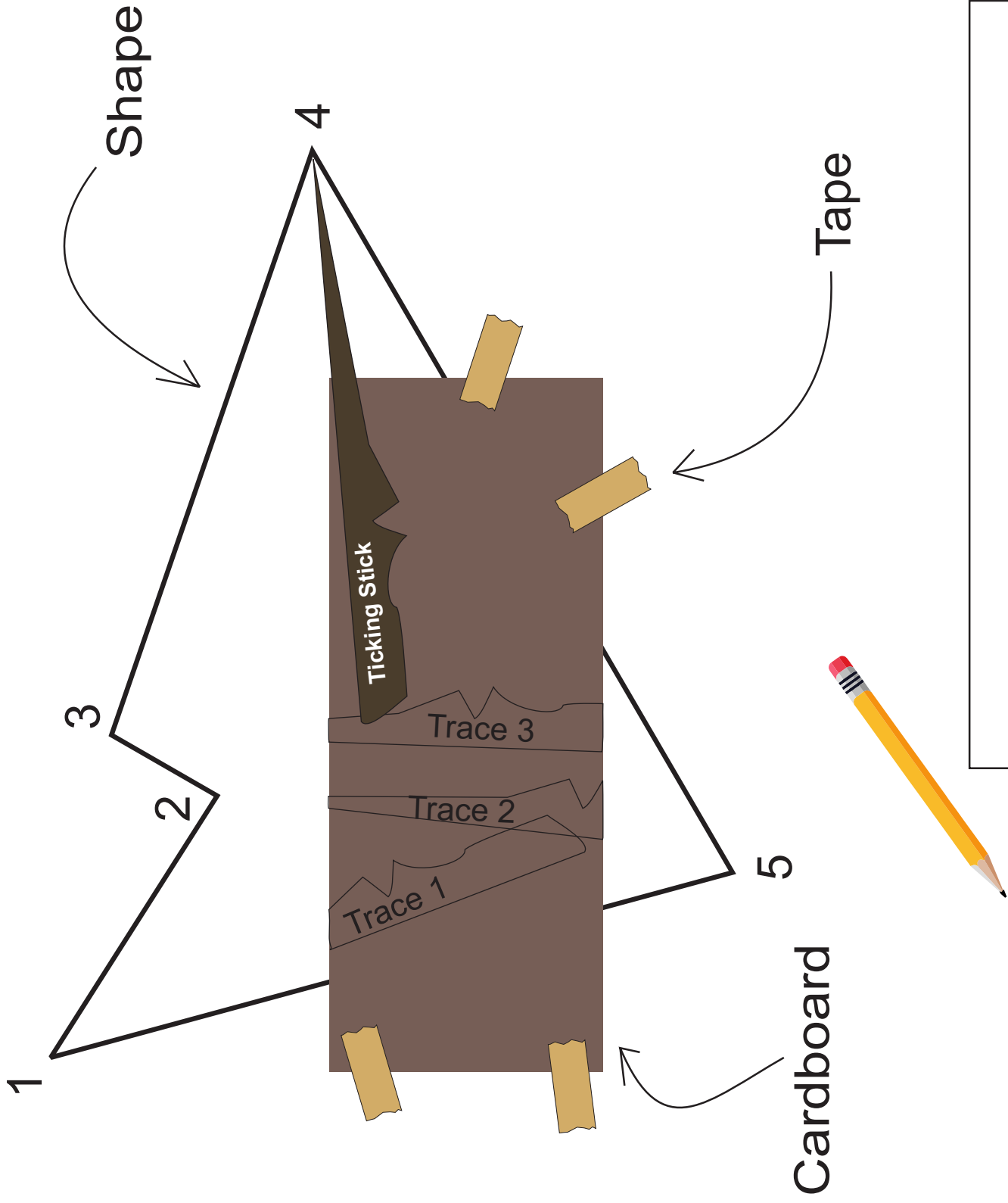
Unique feature for easier referencing while duplicating design.



A basic "ticking stick" design



(Image 2)



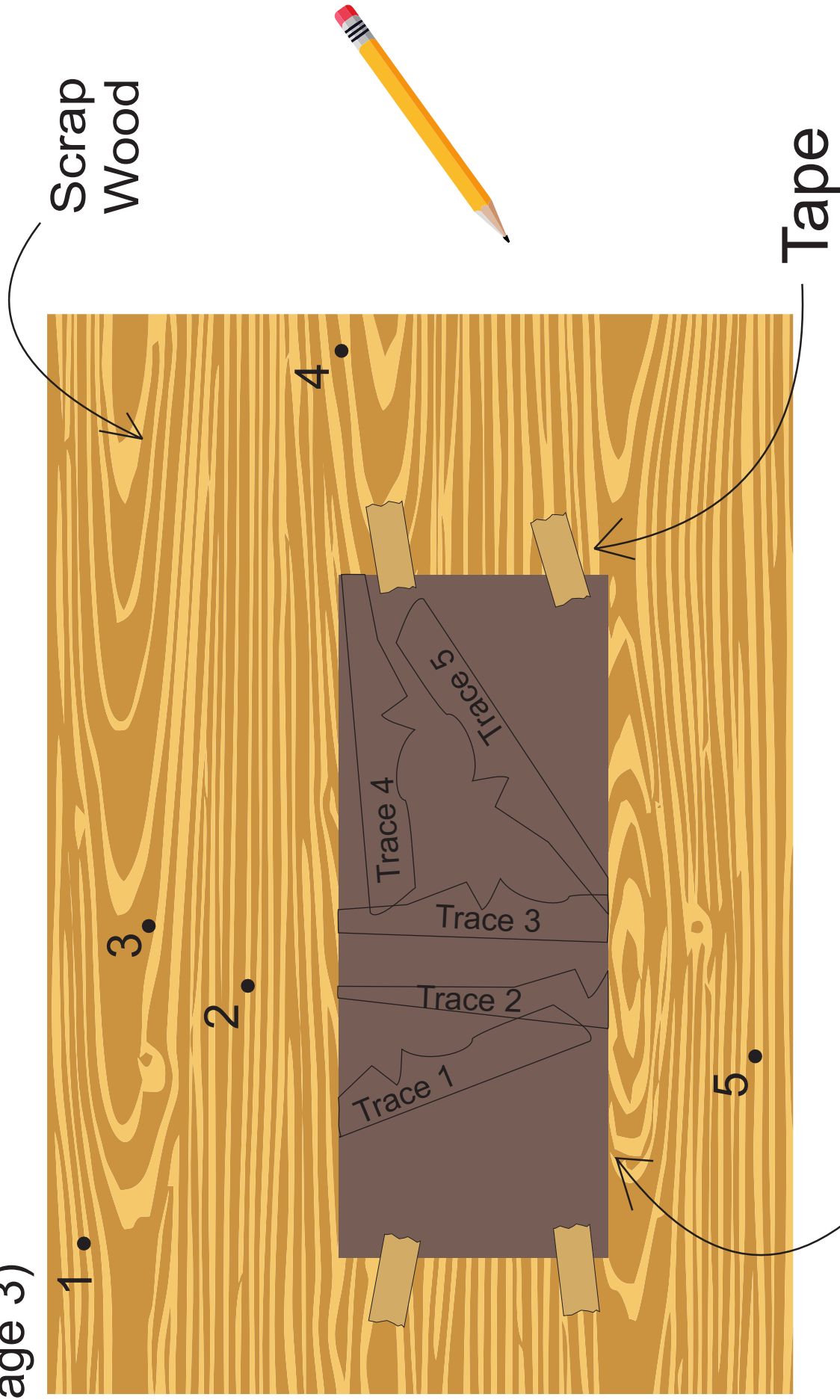
TRACE THE PATTERN

This shape has 5 corners. Point the ticking stick to one corner at a time, tracing it as you work your way around the shape.




For curved patterns, trace points closer together

(Image 3)

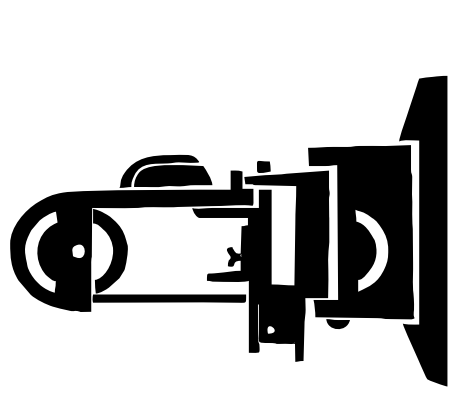
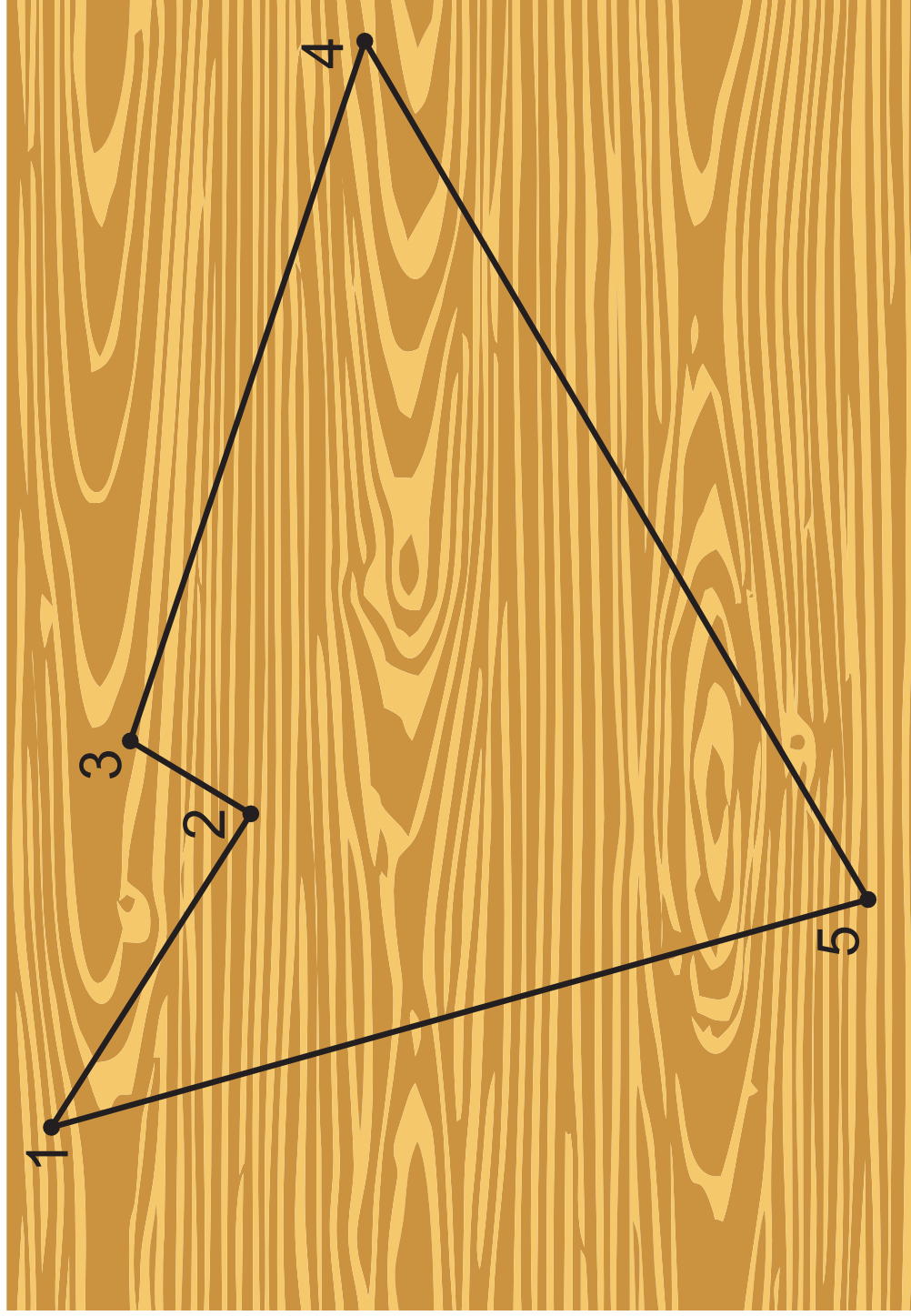


TRANSFER THE PATTERN
Place your patterned/traced cardboard onto a scrap piece of wood, place the ticking stick over each pattern and draw points at the end of the stick for each pattern.



For curved patterns, dots will be closer together for more accuracy

(Image 4)



CONNECT THE DOTS AND CUT

Using a ruler, connect the dots in the order they were traced and VOILA, you have your pattern. Cut out the pattern and fit it into your design.