



the crafter's guide to
THE CRICUT MAKER

LIA GRIFFITH

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PART 1

SOFTWARE & SETTINGS

Learning the skills and tips to prepare the cut files in Cricut Design Space

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LIA GRIFFITH FILES FOR THE CRICUT

The first step in creating Lia Griffith projects is downloading the SVGs or JPGs. Once downloaded, you will learn how to prepare those files in the Cricut software.

1 DOWNLOADING THE SVG FILE FROM THE LIA GRIFFITH SITE

- 1 Create a folder to keep your downloads for this class.
- 2 Click to download the SVG version of the project you wish to create.
- 3 The SVG will download in a version ending in .ZIP. Double-click to UNZIP.
- 4 Once you see the unzipped version, place it into your folder and the original ZIP version in the trash.

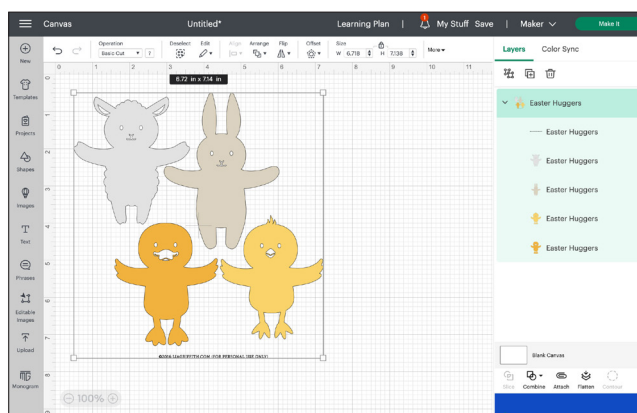
2 UPLOADING THE SVG FILE INTO CRICUT DESIGN SPACE

- 1 Open Design Space app.
- 2 Click the NEW PROJECT button in the top right corner.
- 3 Go to the left-hand column and find the second to the last icon. Click UPLOAD.
- 4 In the next window, click UPLOAD IMAGE.
- 5 This window has directions to DRAG & DROP or BROWSE, allowing you to upload from your desktop or folder. Be sure and select the uncompressed SVG file.
- 6 The PREPARE TO UPLOAD window will open. Change the name, add tags, or add to a collection. If the file is correct, click UPLOAD.
- 7 This will place your SVG into the recent uploads folder.
- 8 An optional step is to click on the three dots to add your file to a collection or move it to the trash.
- 9 To move your file to the canvas, select the image with a green box around your thumbnail, then click ADD TO CANVAS.

TIP: The file should open at the correct size. Newer files may contain a bounding box with a reference size listed to double-check. You can compare it to the PDF printout version if it looks unusually small or large.

3 DOWNLOADING THE JPG FILES FOR PRINT THEN CUT

- 1 Click the download button for the Print then Cut JPG file.
- 2 The image will open in a new browser window.
- 3 Move the file onto your computer and into your LG folder.



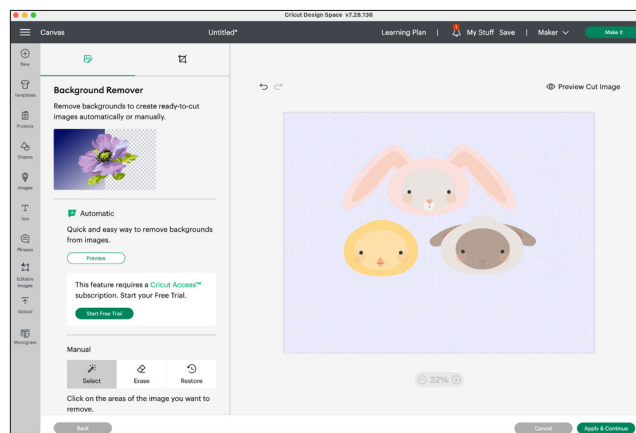
When adding your file to the Canvas, you will see the layers menu in the right panel.

LIA GRIFFITH FILES FOR THE CRICUT MAKER (cont.)

4 UPLOADING THE JPGS INTO THE DESIGN SPACE SOFTWARE

- 1 Open Design Space app.
- 2 Click the NEW PROJECT button in the top right corner.
- 3 Go to the left-hand column and find the second to the last icon. Click UPLOAD.
- 4 In the new window, click UPLOAD IMAGE.
- 5 Select SIMPLE, MODERATE, or COMPLEX. For subtle color changes, I like to choose COMPLEX.
- 6 In the next window, click on the white background of your image. It will turn blue or checkered, and this is the area that will be cut away.
- 7 You can zoom in and select any details you want to cut inside your image.
- 8 Click PREVIEW CUT IMAGE to ensure you have selected the areas that need cut.
- 9 Click APPLY & CONTINUE. On the next page, you can change the file's name, add tags and choose a collection. Choose PRINT THEN CUT and click UPLOAD.
- 10 To move your file to the canvas, select the image to see a green box around your thumbnail, then click ADD TO CANVAS.

TIP: You may resize JPGs smaller, but do not resize larger, or you will lose resolution on a JPG file.



When uploading the JPGs for Print Then Cut, you can select all the background areas you want to remove from your design with your pointer tool. You will know when it has been cut when the background turns blue with a checkerboard pattern.

TIP: Use the zoom tool under the image to select small details inside the design that you would like to have cut away.

WORKING IN THE CANVAS

The canvas is where you can customize your cut file. In this lesson, we go through the steps to adjust your project for a successful cut.

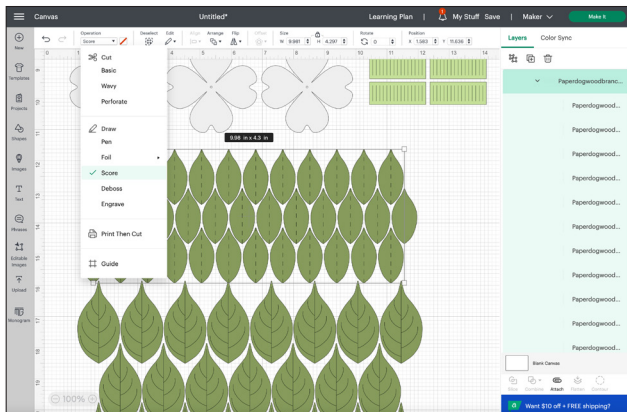
To place your uploaded files onto the canvas, select your file from your library and click ADD TO CANVAS. Next, open the canvas window to find your design.

1 READING THEN HIDING THE DESIGN NOTES

Once on the canvas, you can use the + tool to zoom in and read the design notes, then click the eye icon to hide this layer. Look at the size; some newer files might have bounding boxes. Compare to the PDF if unsure.

2 SETTING THE SCORE LINES

If the project includes score lines, click on the score line layer in the right sidebar, then click on the OPERATION dropdown in the top toolbar. Select SCORE. This will create a dashed line where the score lines will be made. Next, click on both the score layer and the coordinating cut layer in the right-hand panel, and click ATTACH. This will keep your score on the same mat as the cut and aligned correctly with each piece. Note that when you ATTACH, it will change everything on your mat to one color.



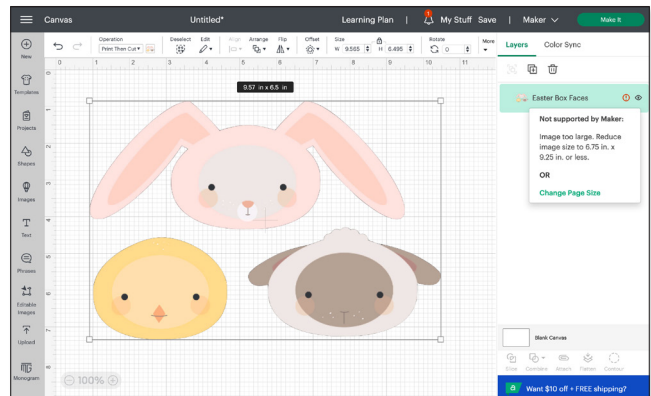
To select the score lines, click **OPERATION** in the top menu, then choose **SCORE** in the dropdown.

3 HIDING LAYERS

When cutting parts of a file rather than all the pieces, click on the EYE icon in the layers panel to hide any layer you do not want to cut. If you are working with score lines, once you have attached the score layer to the cut layer, it will change the color of all the project layers. A workaround is to hide each set other than the current one. Once that layer is scored and cut, return to the canvas and undo it. You can then repeat this step for the next cut.

4 RESIZING A FILE

You can resize your project on the canvas by selecting the square on one of the corners and moving with your arrow. The black bar above your selection will show you the exact size as you reduce or enlarge. You can also use the **SIZE** option in the top menu bar to type in your height or width for precise measurements. If the **LOCK** icon is closed, it will maintain the exact proportion of your file.



Our JPGs will always be larger than needed so you can resize and maintain the quality of the design.

WORKING IN THE CANVAS (cont.)

5 CREPE PAPER DESIGNER NOTES

When using a crepe paper SVG, you will notice a grain line mark in the designer notes layer. You must place your crepe paper on your mat to match the grain lines for the best results.

6 ARRANGING LAYERS

Our newer files have all the pieces grouped in colors rather than locked. To keep the pieces in the grouped arrangement for the mat, you will need to select the group and click ATTACH.

7 MOVING AND ADDING PIECES

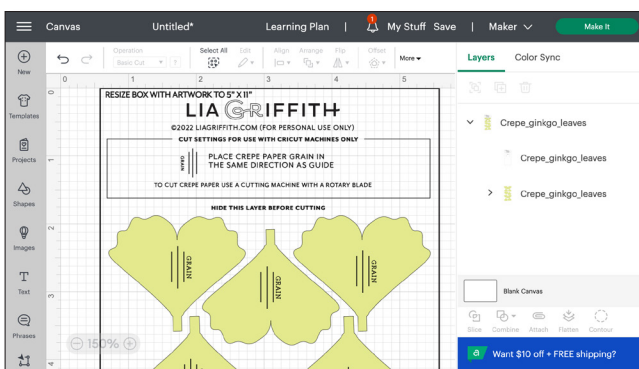
Since the pieces are not locked, they can be moved on the canvas. You can add or delete pieces by selecting EDIT in the top bar menu, then choosing COPY, DELETE, or PASTE in the dropdown or using the quick keys.

8 ROTATING PIECES

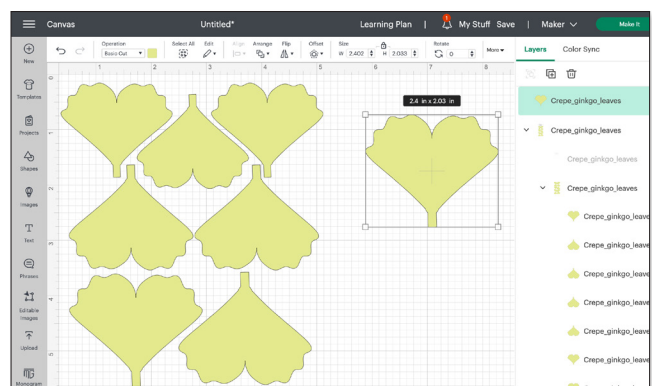
You can also turn pieces by hovering your pointer tool just outside one of the corner squares of a layer or piece until you see the arched arrow icon. Click shift, then rotate. You can flip horizontally or vertically by selecting FLIP in the top menu bar. Remember to only rotate crepe paper pieces 180 degrees or flip vertically so your piece will stay with the intended grain line.

9 LOCKED FILES

Many of our older files were set up with locked layers to maximize the materials on the mat and save you time by not having to arrange the pieces. However, many members have asked for unlocked files, so if you are working on a project with a locked file, just comment below the post on liagriffith.com, and we will upload an unlocked version.



You will notice a **RESIZE BOX** with exact measurements in our newer SVG files to ensure the cut is the intended size.



Select a corner square to rotate your piece, or use the **FLIP** option in the top bar. Remember for the crepe to stay in the direction of the grainline.

WORKING ON THE VIRTUAL MAT

This window will give you a preview of how the cut will line up with your materials on the mat and allow you to make final adjustments.

To move to the virtual mat from your Design Space Canvas, click the MAKE IT button.

1 ADDING COPIES

If you are making multiple projects from your file, you can add copies of the cuts on the virtual mat page. Use the arrow tool to increase your project copies in the upper right-hand corner, then click APPLY.

2 MOVING PIECES ON MAT

There is an option to move layers and pieces around on the virtual mat. Click and hold your pointer tool onto the layer or piece, move to the new place, and unclick.

3 ROTATING PIECES

You can rotate attached or individual sections by clicking the pointer tool on the selection. Then, rotate the piece by clicking the curved arrow in the top right of the selection. Remember to use this option only for crepe paper if you turn 180 degrees to stay aligned with the grain.

4 MOVING PIECES TO DIFFERENT MATS

When a piece is selected, you can see three dots in the left-hand corner of the item. Click on the dots to choose MOVE OBJECT to a different mat or HIDE SELECTED.

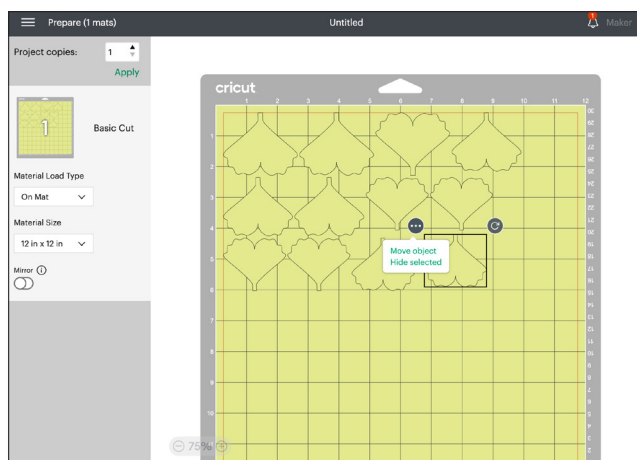
5 CHANGING MATERIAL SIZES

If you are working with a smaller piece of material, Cricut has some preset options that you can select in the left-hand column. This will also rearrange your pieces to fit onto your mat.

6 MIRRORING FOR HEAT TRANSFER VINYL

When cutting HTV, you will want to reverse the image since this material is cut from the back and transferred to the final material.

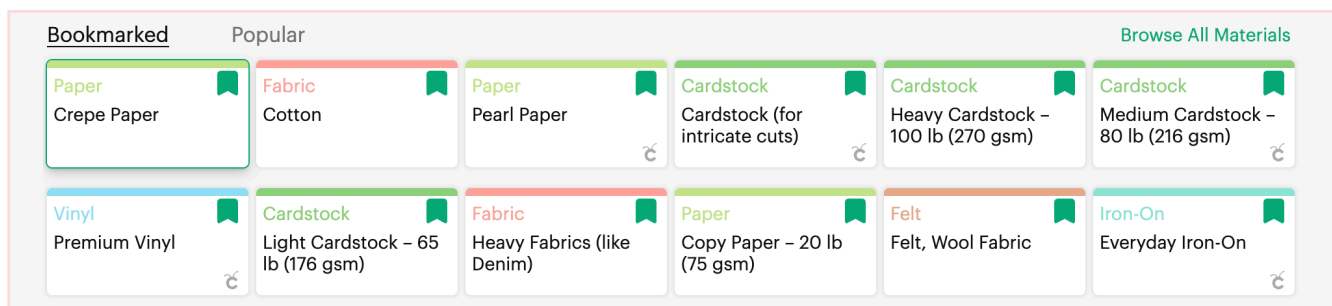
Once everything is ready on your virtual mat, click CONTINUE to move to the settings page.



On the virtual canvas when you select a piece, you will see three dots in the left corner. Click for the options to move or hide the object.

MATERIAL AND BLADE SETTINGS

In this window, you will select your settings for the materials for cutting and make any adjustments for blades and scoring tools.



This is a sample of the bookmarked materials we use most in our studio.

1 BOOKMARK SETTINGS

A handy option for choosing settings is to bookmark the materials you use most. This is simple by clicking BROWSE ALL MATERIALS, where you can search or scroll for your favorite materials. Then click on the flag to bookmark that setting. Cricut will allow for 12 bookmarks.

2 CUT SETTING GUIDE

This printable guide on the next page is an excellent reference for our team's preferred settings for the materials we cut most in our studio. I like keeping this guide's current version on a clipboard in our craft area for easy reference. Since the Cricut settings change, note the software version at the bottom of this guide. We will update this guide when we discover better settings for our most used materials. The color bars on this guide refer to our suggested mat for that material.

3 SELECTING MATERIAL & PRESSURE

Use our cut setting guide to choose the material and cutting pressure: default, more or less. Note that all machines, blades, and mats vary, so this is a basic guide to start your project. See the steps below to refine your settings with a test cut.

4 SCORE TOOL OPTION

When you have selected the score setting on your canvas, the Cricut will choose a double or single scoring wheel, depending on the thickness of your material selection. You can change this by clicking EDIT TOOLS. This will allow you to choose a different scoring wheel or a stylus. If you are using the scoring wheel, you will start your cut with the wheel in clamp B, and the Cricut will indicate when it is time to change to the blade.

5 CONFIRM BLADE TYPE

If you choose fabric or crepe settings, the Cricut will select the rotary blade. We use the setting FELT, WOOL FABRIC for our wool-blend felt projects since we prefer the rotary blade for this material. If you are using the FELT setting, it will choose the fine-point blade.

CUT SETTING GUIDE

CRICUT MAKER (ONLY) ROTARY BLADE



EXTRA-FINE CREPE PAPER

SETTING	PRESSURE
CREPE PAPER	DEFAULT - MORE

DOUBLE-SIDED CREPE PAPER

SETTING	PRESSURE
COTTON	DEFAULT - MORE

HEAVY CREPE PAPER

SETTING	PRESSURE
COTTON	MORE

WOOL BLEND FELT

SETTING	PRESSURE
FELT, WOOL FABRIC	(ROTARY) DEFAULT

NOTE: These settings may vary for each machine, blade use, and software updates. We recommend you test cut a small area before cutting a full mat of material.

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CRICUT EXPLORE & MAKER FINE-POINT BLADE



LG FROSTED PAPER

SETTING	PRESSURE
PEARL PAPER	MORE

GOLD PACK PAPER

SETTING	PRESSURE
MED CARDSTOCK	DEFAULT

CARDSTOCK

SETTING	PRESSURE
HEAVY CARDSTOCK	DEFAULT

HEAT TRANSFER VINYL

SETTING	PRESSURE
EVERYDAY IRON-ON	DEFAULT

DECAL VINYL

SETTING	PRESSURE
PREMIUM VINYL	DEFAULT

LIA'S TIPS & TRICKS

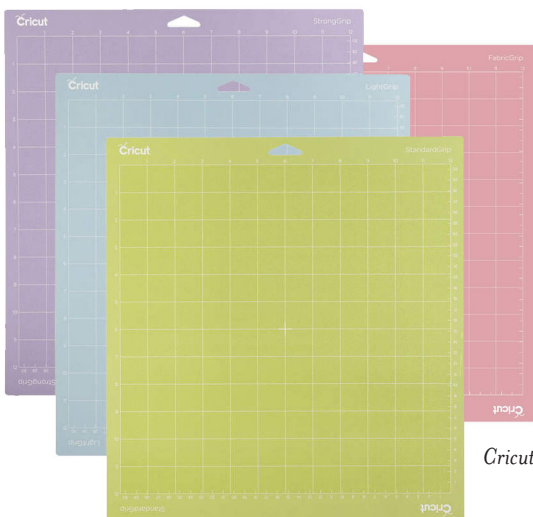
Streamline your process with various tools and methods.

1 CUTTING MATS

Cricut offers four types of mats in both 12x12 and 12x28.

- strong grip
- standard grip
- light grip
- fabric grip

Note that the colors of the mats correlate with the Cut Setting Guide.



Cricut cutting mats

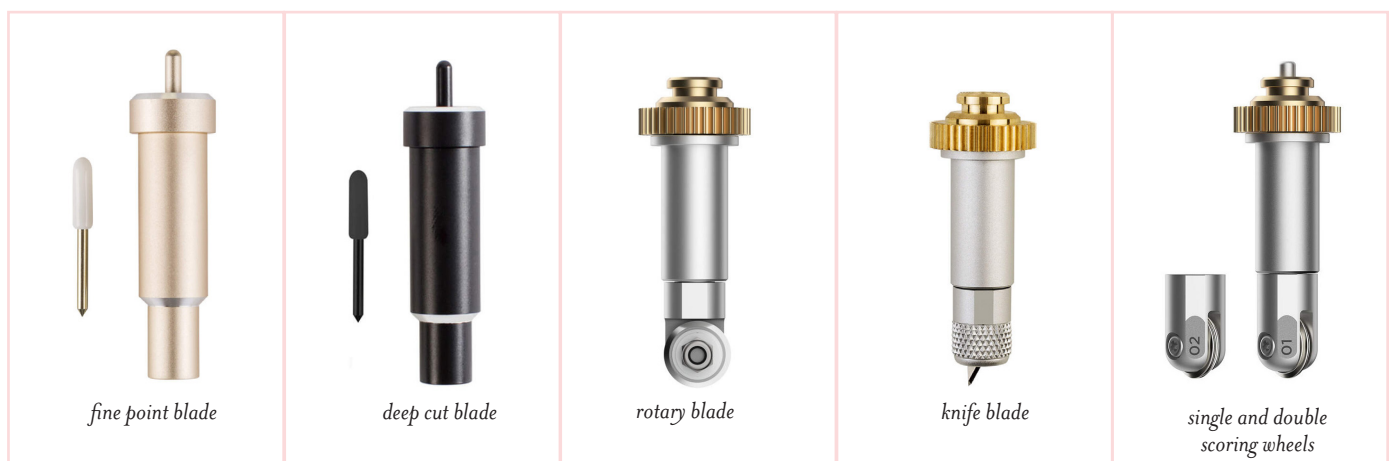
2 BLADES & SCORING TOOLS

The Cricut Maker uses four different types of blades.

- **fine point blade**
- **deep cut blade**
- **rotary blade**
- **knife blade**

In our studio, we use fine point and rotary for most projects but keep the other two on hand for specialty materials.

The Maker also has a variety of rotary tools for one housing. Our most used are the **single and double-scoring wheels**. You can also use the Cricut Stylus for scoring with the Maker.



fine point blade

deep cut blade

rotary blade

knife blade

*single and double
scoring wheels*

LIA'S TIPS & TRICKS (cont.)

3 ADDITIONAL TOOLS

Other tools I keep by my Cricut are the:

- **needle-nose tweezers**, which I use to remove small pieces from my mat, and a weeding tool for vinyl. This tool is also great for keeping my mat clean by not using my fingers to remove materials.
- the **Cricut scraper, spatula, and hook tools**



needle-nose tweezers



Cricut hook tools, spatula, and scraper

4 CLEANING BLADES

To prolong the blades' life, you can remove any glue material or residue by cleaning them with an **alcohol pad**. Then, use a **compressed air can with a long tip** to spray out the blade housing and remove any fibers.



alcohol pads



compressed air can with a long tip

5 CLEANING MATS

Keeping mats clean will help maintain their stick and allow for more uses. The best tool I have found is a **lint roller**. This will remove felt or fabric fibers as well as tiny bits of paper and materials after a cut. I have found that the scraper tool will remove a thin layer of the mat's stickiness, so the lint roller is my first choice. *And always replace the plastic cover on your mat once it is clean.* This will keep dust and pet hair off and extend its use.



lint roller

LIA'S TIPS & TRICKS (cont.)

6 SECURING MATERIALS TO THE MAT

For every cut on the Maker, I use the **Cricut brayer** tool to press my material to the mat. This secures materials like heavy crepe paper and felt onto the mat and smooths all other materials for a clean cut.

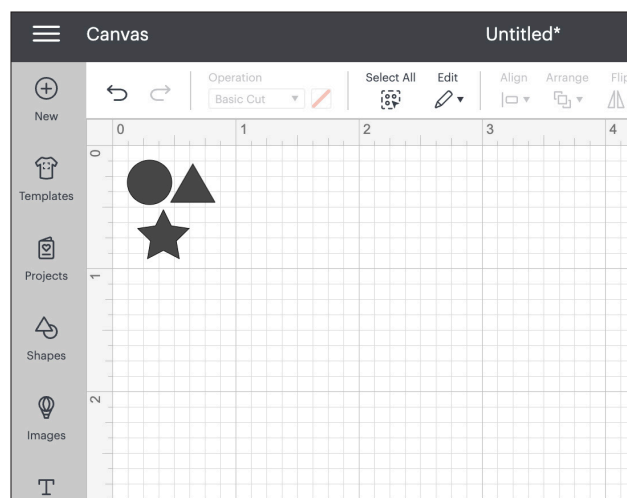
When cutting on a used mat that might not hold the edge of the material as well as needed, use **washi or painter's tape** around all four edges to keep the material from getting caught in the wheel or pulling up from the mat with a blade pass. I use this technique for heavy crepe paper to ensure a clean cut.



7 RUNNING A TEST CUT

Since all machines and the age of blades vary, a great tip for a successful cut is to run a small test cut. Here are my steps:

- 1 On your empty canvas, click the SHAPES icon in the left panel.
- 2 Choose a circle and triangle for a rotary blade test and a star for a fine-point blade test.
- 3 Resize the shapes to a quarter or three-quarters of an inch.
- 4 Cut the material with the suggested settings as a starting point.
- 5 If the material does not cut as intended, adjust the setting and cut another corner of the material.
- 6 Make notes of your final settings for future test cuts.



PART 2

CUTTING MATERIALS

Now that we have learned how to use the software and settings, in part 2, we will practice cutting the different materials for our final projects.

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CUTTING DECAL VINYL

for a monogrammed tumbler

For this project, I used a floral monogram design for a metal tumbler. This design uses three colors of vinyl to give you practice in adding extra details to a design. The SVG downloads for this course include the 26 floral monograms for personalization.

DECAL VINYL USED

- TRAFFIC GREEN for the letter shape
- PEACH BLOSSOM for the flower details
- ALLIGATOR GREEN for the leaf details

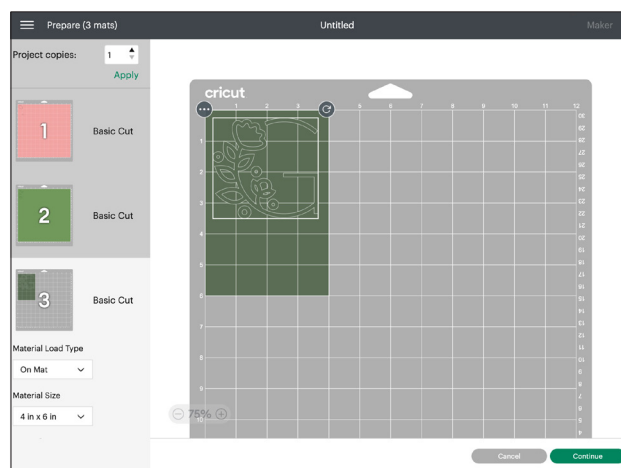
STEPS TO CUT THE DECAL VINYL

- 1 Place your monogram on the Cricut Canvas.
- 2 Read and hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 Measure your item for image sizing.
- 4 Resize the monogram on your canvas by selecting design and scaling with the pointer tool on the corner square or typing the size into the upper menu. Note: keep the lock icon closed for accurate scale.
- 5 Once sized, click MAKE IT and move to the virtual canvas.
- 6 In the virtual mat, you will see the three different vinyl colors on the mat. Decal vinyl is cut from the front, so you DO NOT need to mirror your project.

TIP: When cutting a smaller project, you can see where the cut will occur on the virtual mats. You can trim your materials to a smaller size and match your placement on your physical mat with the image on your virtual version.

- 7 Click CONTINUE to choose settings.
- 8 Choose PREMIUM VINYL at DEFAULT pressure. For this setting, you can also choose FAST MODE for simple cuts.
- 9 Place your vinyl onto a LIGHT GRIP mat, aligning with the left-hand corner or matching the placement on your virtual mat.
- 10 Use the brayer to press the material onto the sticky surface.
- 11 All the vinyl layers will use the same setting with the fine-point blade. Cut the three colors of vinyl.
- 12 Confirm that your cut is complete through the vinyl layer but does not cut the paper backer. If it is cutting through, change the pressure to LESS. If areas of the vinyl are not cut, adjust the pressure to MORE or add a new blade.
- 13 Remove the project by rolling the mat and gently peeling the vinyl off the tacky surface.

TIP: After cutting decal vinyl, clean your blade with an alcohol pad to remove any of the glue and extend the life of your blade.



You can choose from a few different material sizes on the canvas to better visualize the amount of material you will cut.

CUTTING HEAT TRANSFER VINYL

for a layered vinyl tote bag + monogrammed glasses case

In this course, we are adding an HTV design to two projects. First, the denim tote bag with a layered “Farm to Table” design, and second, the monogram we added to the tumbler but fused to a felt glasses case.

HTV VINYL USED FOR THE TOTE

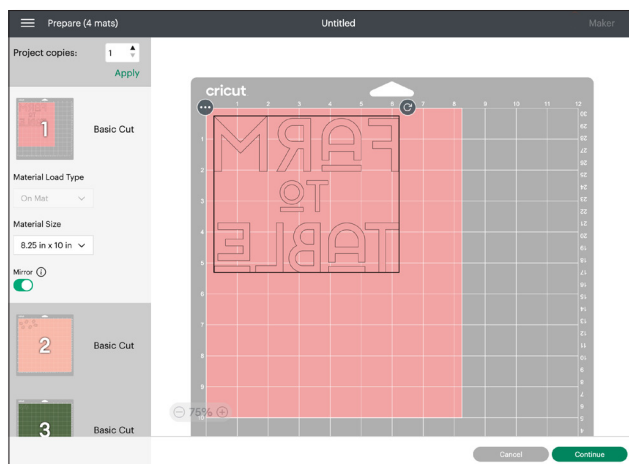
- CORAL for the text layer
- BALLERINA PINK for the berries
- GREEN OLIVE for the leaf and berry outline
- DARK GREEN for the inside of the leaves

HTV VINYL FOR THE GLASSES CASE

DARK GOLD for the monogram
BALLERINA PINK for the flower
GREEN OLIVE for the leaves

STEPS TO CUT THE HTV

- 1 Bring your design onto the Canvas.
- 2 Read and hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 Measure your tote or glasses case to determine the size of the design.



When working with heat transfer vinyl, MIRROR each image on every mat.

- 4 Resize the tote art or monogram on your canvas by selecting design and scaling with the pointer tool on the corner square or typing the size into the upper menu. Note: keep the lock icon closed for accurate scale.
- 5 All the layers are locked to keep the design pieces in place, so simply click MAKE IT.
- 6 You can see each color layer on the Virtual Mat on individual mats. Click MIRROR on each layer to flip your design for the heat transfer vinyl.
- 7 Click CONTINUE to choose settings.
- 8 For settings, choose EVERYDAY IRON ON with the DEFAULT pressure.
- 9 Use a LIGHT GRIP mat and place the shiny or colored side of the vinyl onto the mat's sticky surface. The dull or white side will be facing up.
- 10 Align with the left-hand corner or match the placement on your virtual mat. Then, use the brayer to press the material onto the sticky surface.
- 11 All the HTV layers will use the same setting with the fine-point blade. Cut the colors of the heat transfer vinyl.
- 12 Confirm that your cut is complete through the thin vinyl layer but does not cut the plastic backer. If it is cutting through, change the pressure to LESS. If areas of the vinyl are not cut, adjust the pressure to MORE or add a new blade.
- 13 Remove the project by rolling the mat and gently peeling the heat transfer vinyl off the tacky surface.

CUTTING & SCORING CARDSTOCK PAPER

for a handmade treat box

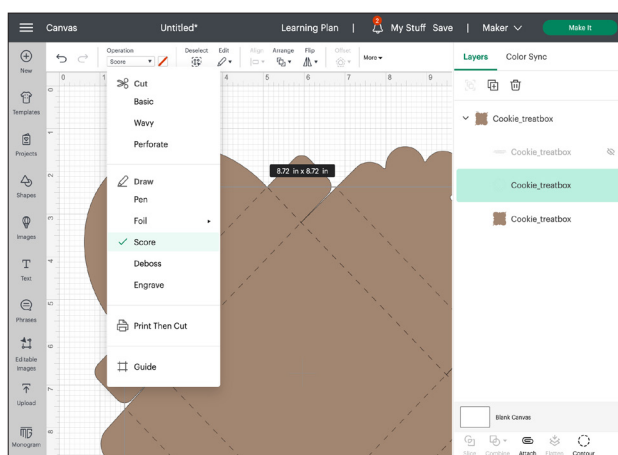
In our course, I demonstrate how to cut and score heavier cardstock for a treat box. In the video, I use heavy 12x12 kraft cardstock, but you can use any color of cardstock and cut smaller treat boxes. This is a great project to have on hand throughout the year to customize for special occasions.

MATERIALS FOR THE BOX

- 12x12 or 8.5x11 Kraft Brown Cardstock

STEPS TO SCORE & CUT CARDSTOCK

- 1 Select and add your project to Canvas.
- 2 Read and hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 If needed, resize the design for your cardstock paper. You can do this by selecting the entire project to include the score line layers and then scaling with the pointer tool on the corner square or typing the size into the upper menu. Note: keep the lock icon closed for accurate scale.
- 4 Identify the score line layer in the right-hand column. Click on the grouped layer.



Selecting score lines is simple by clicking OPERATION and selecting SCORE in the dropdown.

- 5 In the top bar, click on the OPERATIONS drop-down menu and select SCORE. Your score lines will now be dashed lines.
- 6 Select both the box and score lines layers in the right-hand column, click ATTACH to lock them together, then click MAKE IT.
- 7 On your Virtual Mat, you will see that the score lines and box are correctly aligned and on the same mat.
- 8 Click CONTINUE and choose HEAVY CARDSTOCK for material and DEFAULT or MORE, depending on the weight of your cardstock.
- 9 Place your material onto a STANDARD GRIP mat, aligning to the top left corner. Use the brayer to press the thick paper onto the sticky surface.
- 10 Your machine will be set for scoring, allowing you to choose a single score wheel, double, or Stylus scoring pen. For the heavier cardstock, I prefer a double score line.
- 11 The Cricut will always score before it cuts. The software will indicate that you can place the scoring wheel in housing B or the Stylus in housing A.
- 12 Once the score is complete, simply follow the instructions to replace the scoring wheel with the fine-point blade to finish the cut.
- 13 NOTE: DO NOT remove the mat between the score and the cut from the machine. This will misalign the project.
- 14 Remove the project by rolling the mat and gently peeling the cardstock off the tacky surface without bending the material.

CREATING A PRINT THEN CUT

for labels & gift tags

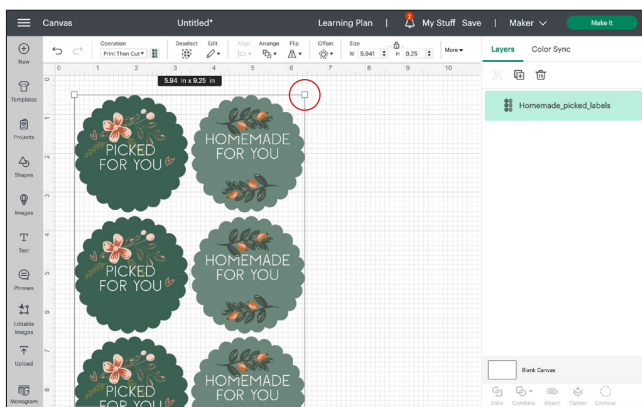
One of the ways I love to use the print-then-cut option is for pretty labels and hang tags for gifts. So I used a full sheet of printable label paper for this project.

MATERIALS FOR THE LABELS

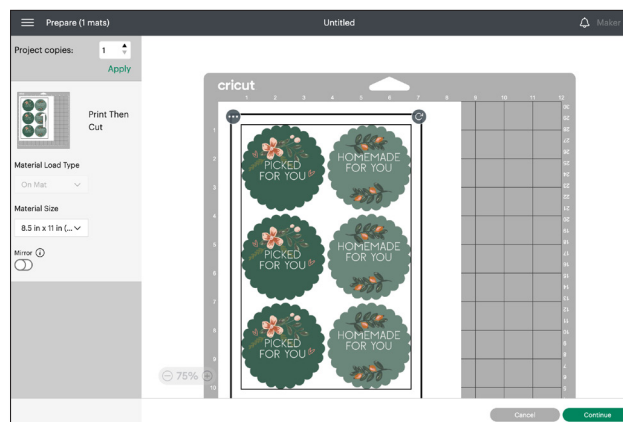
- Printable White Full Sheet Label Paper

STEPS TO PRINT THEN CUT

- 1 Follow the steps in section 1 to prepare any Print Then Cut image in your Design Space software, then place it on the canvas.
- 2 You will notice an alert in the right-hand layers panel, and if you click to open and read, it will indicate that the image is too large for a print-then-cut project.
- 3 Read and hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 4 If there are size directions in the designer notes, make that adjustment or resize your image to fit into the indicated 6.75" by 9.25" area. Once you have resized it, the alert will be removed from your sidebar.
- 5 Click MAKE IT and move to the virtual mat.
- 6 You will see the image on the virtual mat on letter-sized paper with a bounding box around the artwork.
- 7 Click PRINT, and a print setup box will open. Here you can choose your printer and the number of prints.
- 8 Also, choose if you want your image to bleed. The bleed will give additional color outside the design, allowing for cut variations.
- 9 Once you have selected all of your settings, click PRINT. Print onto full-sheet label paper for the label option; for other projects, print onto white cardstock paper.
- 10 Place your print onto a STANDARD GRIP mat, aligning the paper to the left-hand corner. Then, use the brayer to press the paper onto the sticky surface.
- 11 Use the LIGHT CARDSTOCK setting with DEFAULT pressure to cut through the label paper and double as hang tags.
- 12 Remove the project by rolling the mat and gently peeling the cardstock off the tacky surface without bending the material.



Adjust the width or height of a file by typing in an exact value in the upper bar. Or select one of the corners squares and resize it with your pointer.



You will see a rectangle outline around your design on the virtual mat for a Print Then Cut. This will align your print to the final cut.

CUTTING WOOL-BLEND FELT

+ fusible web for a monogrammed glasses case

In this course, we make a simple glasses case project from wool-blend felt. We have found that the rotary blade is excellent for cutting felt, both simple and with small details. We will also cut a piece of the fusible web designed slightly smaller than the felt pieces.

MATERIALS FOR THE GLASSES CASE

One sheet each of:

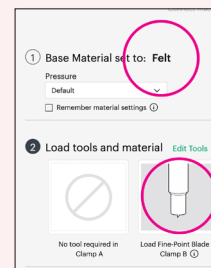
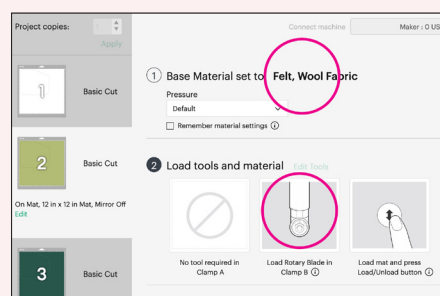
- EVERGREEN wool-blend felt
- MOSS wool-blend felt
- FUSIBLE WEB

STEPS TO CUT Wool-blend FELT + FUSIBLE WEB

- 1 Bring the felt glasses case project onto the canvas.
- 2 Read and hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 You will see three cut layers for this project in the right-hand column. Click the MAKE IT button to take you to the virtual mats.
- 4 Each piece will be shown on an individual mat. Note that the top white layer indicates the fusible web.
- 5 Click CONTINUE to choose materials and settings.
- 6 For cutting the fusible web, type SILK in the materials search bar and choose LIGHT FABRIC, LIKE SILK, with LESS pressure.
- 7 Place the web onto a FABRIC GRIP mat, aligning the top left corner. Then, roll the brayer tool over to press the thin web onto the sticky surface.
- 8 Cut the web and gently peel off the mat to keep it from tearing.
- 9 For the wool-blend felt, click on the material listing to return to the entire selection and choose FELT, WOOL FABRIC with pressure set at DEFAULT.

- 10 Place the felt onto a FABRIC GRIP mat, aligning the top left corner. Then, roll the brayer tool over to press the felt onto the sticky surface.
- 11 If you are using a full sheet of felt, allow the long end to hang off the lower part of the mat, as it will not interfere with the machine.
- 12 If you feel the felt needs more security, tape the top and two sides of the felt onto the mat with painter's or washi tape.
- 13 Cut both pieces of felt on this setting. Then, remove the felt from the mat by gently peeling it off the sticky surface.
- 14 Use a lint roller over your mat to remove any fibers left from the felt.

TIP: We have found the setting FELT, WOOL FABRIC will automatically select rotary blade. However, if you choose the FELT setting, which does not include the words wool fabric, the machine will indicate the fine-point blade, and we do not recommend this for cutting wool-blend felt.



CUTTING FROSTED PAPER

for a paper lewisia flower

In this course, I will demonstrate how to cut frosted paper and use the scoring tool for added details. Since this design includes scoring on two different colors of paper, we will walk through the workaround we use in our studio.

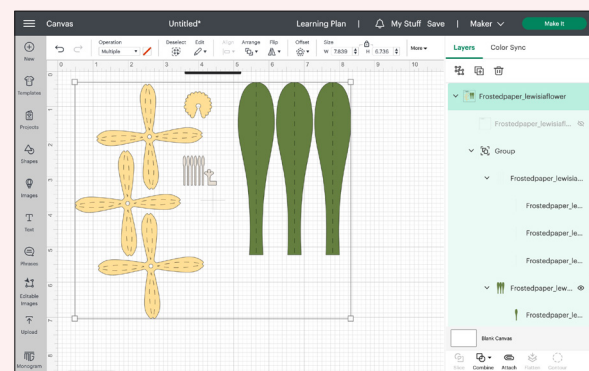
MATERIALS FOR THE FLOWER

- CITRUS PACK colors 3 and 4 (yellow and white)
- SUCCULENT PACK color 3 (green)

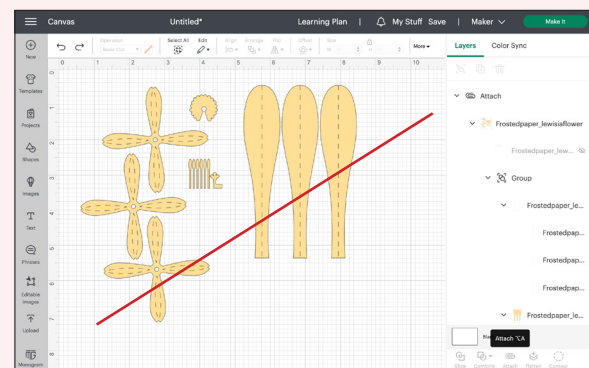
STEPS TO CUT FROSTED PAPER

- 1 Place the project onto the canvas. Read the design notes, and make any adjustments.
- 2 Hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 We will work in sections of each paper color for projects with scoring options.
- 4 Choose one color to begin, either the petals or the leaves.
- 5 Hide all the other layers in this project, so you only have one color with the overlaid lines intended for the score.
- 6 Open up the layers and select just the intended score line layer.
- 7 In the top menu bar, choose OPERATIONS, and in the drop-down, click SCORE. The lines that are to be scored will now be dashed lines.
- 8 Select both the visible cut layers and their coordinating score lines, and click ATTACH in the menu below the right-hand layers panel.
- 9 Click MAKE IT which will take you to the Virtual Mat window. Here you can confirm that the scorelines and the pieces to be cut are aligned on one mat.

NOTE: When you are working on a project that includes several colors of material, but you need to use the ATTACH option to keep the score attached to the correct pieces, it will change all of the layers to that one color. This is why we show you a workaround for efficiently managing this type of project.



Layers set to score before they are attached.



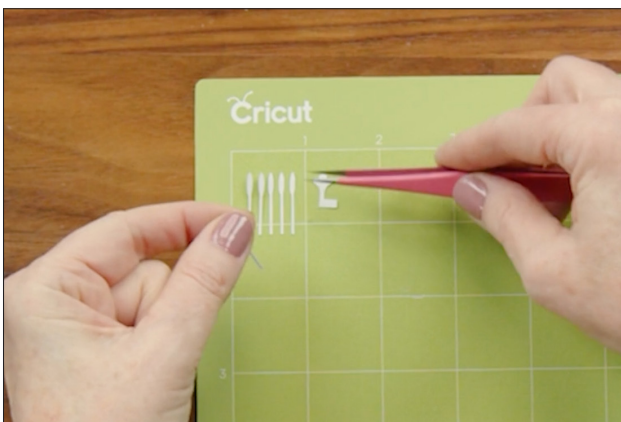
Attaching just the petals and their score lines will change all layers to one color. We show you a workaround.

CUTTING FROSTED PAPER (cont.)

- 10 In this window, you can choose to make multiple sets of cuts. Once that option is selected, click CONTINUE.
- 11 Choose the setting PEARL PAPER with MORE pressure.
- 12 The software automatically indicates a single-wheel score tool, or you can select Stylus. Next, position the scoring wheel in slot B.
- 13 Place your frosted paper onto a STANDARD GRIP mat, using the brayer tool to press the material onto the sticky surface.
- 14 Place the mat into position, load it, and press the CRICUT button to start the score. DO NOT remove the mat once the score is complete.
- 15 Change the rotary scoring tool to the fine-point blade in slot B and click the CRICUT button to finish the cut.
- 16 Release the mat from the machine and roll the mat to remove the paper, allowing the pieces to release without reshaping.
- 17 Use the needle-nose tweezers to remove tiny pieces and clean the mat to prepare for the next cut.
- 18 For the following paper color, click the curved arrow button in the top left corner until you can see all the pieces in their original colors again.
- 19 Repeat by selecting the next set of pieces to score and cut, and move through steps 5-17.

SETTINGS FOR OUR GOLD PACK

The paper in the letter-sized gold pack in our shop is heavier-weight and cuts better with a different setting. For this paper, we use MEDIUM CARDSTOCK with the pressure of DEFAULT.



Use tweezers to pull off tiny pieces



Curl the mat, and the front edge of the cut will pop up

CUTTING CREPE PAPER

in extra-fine, double-sided, and heavy crepe paper for a peony flower

We will learn the best practice for cutting three different types of crepe paper, which I demonstrate in the videos. The Lia Griffith crepe paper comes in heavy, extra-fine, and double-sided. Each kind of crepe paper includes unique steps.

MATERIALS FOR THE PEONY

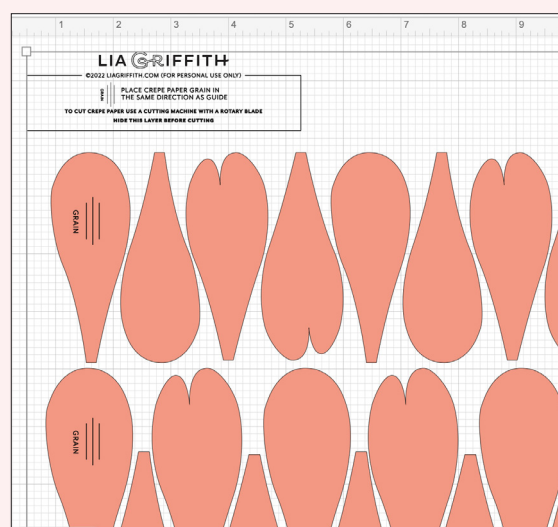
- HONEYSUCKLE heavy crepe paper
- CHIFFON extra-fine crepe paper
- CORAL extra-fine crepe paper
- FERNS & MOSS double-sided crepe paper

STEPS TO CUT HEAVY CREPE PAPER

- 1 Place the project onto the canvas. Read the design notes, and make any adjustments.
- 2 Hide the designer notes layer by clicking the EYE icon in the right-hand panel.
- 3 Click the MAKE IT button to open the Virtual Mat window. You will see the four mats indicating the crepe paper's different types and colors. The heavy crepe paper layer will be the darkest coral color.
- 4 Select this layer, then click CONTINUE to move to the next window.
- 5 For heavy crepe paper, choose COTTON with the pressure MORE.
- 6 This will automatically indicate the rotary blade, a must when cutting all types of crepe paper.
- 7 Place a 12-inch wide piece of crepe paper onto your STRONG GRIP mat, with the grain of the paper running vertically. This should match the grain lines in the designer notes.
- 8 Press the paper onto the sticky surface with the brayer tool, and tape all four edges onto the mat with painter's or washi tape.
- 9 Be sure that your tape is not hanging off the edge of the mat to keep a smooth movement of the mat and the machine.

- 10 Position and insert the mat into the machine and press the CRICUT button to complete the cut.
- 11 Once cut, remove the tape and the excess crepe paper, then roll the mat to release the crepe paper shapes.

NOTE: When preparing to cut crepe paper, the designer notes on the template indicate the grain lines of the crepe paper are vertical. When placing the crepe paper on the mat, align it for the grain of the paper to be vertical and match the template.



CUTTING CREPE PAPER (cont.)

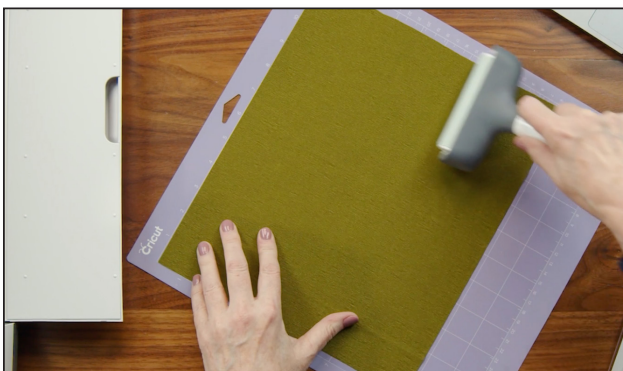
STEPS TO CUT EXTRA-FINE CREPE PAPER

- 1 For the bomb peony, you can continue to cut by simply clicking on the selected material to return to the full menu of materials.
- 2 Select CREPE PAPER with the pressure of DEFAULT or MORE. This setting will automatically indicate the rotary blade.
- 3 Place a 12-inch wide piece of crepe paper onto a STANDARD GRIP mat with the grain running vertically to match the grain line in the designer's notes.
- 4 Use the brayer tool to press the paper onto the sticky surface.
- 5 Position and insert the mat into the machine and press the CRICUT button to complete the cut.
- 6 Once cut, roll the mat to release the excess paper and the crepe paper shapes.
- 7 Use the needle-nose tweezers to remove the smaller crepe from the mat.
- 8 Repeat steps 3-7 for the second color of extra-fine crepe paper.

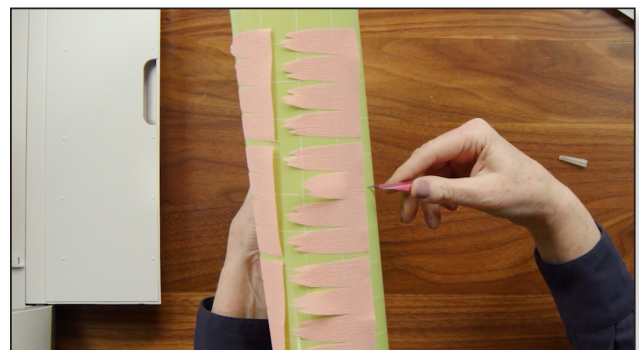
STEPS TO CUT DOUBLE-SIDED CREPE PAPER

- 1 For the bomb peony, the green layer will be cut from the double-sided crepe paper.
- 2 Select COTTON with the pressure of DEFAULT or MORE. This setting will automatically indicate the rotary blade.
- 3 Place a 12-inch wide piece of crepe paper onto a STRONG GRIP mat with the grain running vertically to match the grain line in the designer's notes. The leaf shapes will be cut at an angle.
- 4 Use the brayer tool to press the paper onto the sticky surface.
- 5 Position and insert the mat into the machine and press the CRICUT button to complete the cut.
- 6 Once cut, roll the mat to release the excess paper and the crepe paper shapes.
- 7 Use the needle-nose tweezers to remove the smaller crepe from the mat.

TIP: Do not manually rotate or let the software turn any crepe paper shapes except 180 degrees. This will align your pieces with the grainline of the paper and ensure a successful crepe paper cut.



Press the crepe paper onto the mat with a brayer for a smooth cutting surface.



Roll the mat against the grainline of the paper and use tweezers to gently remove the crepe pieces.

PART 3

ASSEMBLING THE PROJECTS

We have all of our seven types of materials cut and are now ready to craft the six final projects.

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	<i>assembling with decal vinyl</i>	
<i>Project 2:</i>	MAKE A LAYERED VINYL TOTE BAG	27
	<i>assembling with heat transfer vinyl</i>	
<i>Project 3:</i>	MAKE A CARDSTOCK TREAT BOX	28
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<i>Project 4:</i>	MAKE A MONOGRAMMED GLASSES CASE	29
	<i>assembling with wool-blend felt + a heat transfer monogram</i>	
<i>Project 5:</i>	MAKE A PAPER LEWISIA FLOWER	30
	<i>assembling with frosted paper</i>	
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BONUS:	ARRANGING A HAND-TIED BOUQUET	33
	<i>using the lewisia flowers, bomb peonies, and a print then cut hang tag</i>	

MAKE A MONOGRAMMED TUMBLER

*assembling with decal vinyl***MATERIALS FOR THE TUMBLER**

- Three colors of vinyl cut for the monogram
- Transfer tape cut to the size of the monogram
- Needle-nose tweezers or weeding tool
- Burnishing or scraper tool
- Lint roller
- Tumbler with a clean outer surface

STEPS FOR THE MONOGRAMMED TUMBLER

- 1 Using the tweezers of the weeding tool, pull up the edges of the excess vinyl and peel it away from the backer.
- 2 You will want the monogram design to stay on the backer while removing extra vinyl.
- 3 Tips for successful weeding are to use the tools to hold down corners while removing the excess and pulling off at a sharp angle.
- 4 Be careful to not let the sticky of the vinyl you are peeling touch your design. Work in smaller sections if needed.
- 5 Once the larger pieces have been removed, use the tweezers to remove the tiny fragments inside your design.
- 6 A lint roller is a great option to have handy where you can place all of the tiny vinyl pieces.
- 7 Remove the backer from the trimmed-to-size transfer tape.
- 8 Starting with the monogrammed piece, place the tape to fully cover the design.
- 9 Gently burnish the tape over the vinyl, flip it over, then peel the backer off the design. The design should stay in place on the transfer tape.
- 10 Place your monogram on your tumbler's clean, dry surface, using the lines on the transfer tape to align. Use a ruler if needed.
- 11 Starting in the center of the design, press down with the burnishing tool, pressing outward to remove any bubbles.
- 12 Once the vinyl has completely sealed to the tumbler, peel off the transfer tape.
- 13 Reuse the tape and apply the leaf and flower details to your monogrammed tumbler.
- 14 For permanent vinyl, wait 24 hours for the adhesive to set to wash your tumbler.



MAKE A LAYERED VINYL TOTE BAG

*assembling with heat transfer vinyl***MATERIALS FOR THE TOTE BAG**

- Cut HTV for the tote
- Needle-nose tweezers or weeding tool
- EasyPress or iron
- Ironing mat or board
- Thin cotton ironing cloth
- Lint roller
- Denim tote bag

STEPS FOR THE LAYERED HTV DESIGN

- 1 Starting with the largest vinyl piece, use the tweezers or the weeding tool to peel off the excess around the design.
- 2 Peel back at a sharp angle, observing that all of the design stays on the sticky backer of the HTV.
- 3 Once the larger pieces have been removed, use the tweezers to remove the tiny fragments inside your design. You can hold the vinyl at an angle to see any cut lines you might have missed.
- 4 A lint roller is a great option to have handy where you can place all of the tiny vinyl pieces.
- 5 Place the weeded “Farm to Table” sticky side down onto your tote bag. The letters will now be fully legible rather than mirrored.
- 6 Center the letters on the tote, using a ruler if needed.
- 7 With your iron or EasyPress at 360 degrees, press onto the plastic overlay to fuse the design onto the fabric tote for 30 seconds.
- 8 Let the plastic sheet cool to the touch, then gently peel away from the tote, watching that the HTV is fully fused in place.
- 9 If the design starts to come off the fabric, replace the plastic and add more heat to the design until it is fused.
- 10 Place the two leaf piece sections overlapping the letters as shown in photo above.
- 11 Once aligned, cover all of the design, including the letters, with the original plastic sheet or a cotton ironing cloth.
- 12 Press again for 30 seconds or until the two layers are fused onto the tote.
- 13 Repeat these steps with the leaf and berry details.
- 14 After all the vinyl pieces are in place and fused, cover the design with the cotton ironing cloth and press any creases left from the plastic.



TIP: Never put your iron directly onto the heat transfer vinyl, as it will melt. Always use a layer of the backer plastic or a cotton ironing cloth between the design and the hot iron.

MAKE A CARDSTOCK TREAT BOX

assembling with kraft paper + adding a print then cut label

MATERIALS FOR THE TREAT BOX

- Cut and scored cardstock treat box
- Print Then Cut label
- Glue dots
- White posca pen or other markers
- Baking or wax paper
- Treats for the box

STEPS TO ASSEMBLE THE TREAT BOX

1. Fold along all of the score lines of the box. Press the folds to keep them in place.
2. Use a glue dot to attach the tab to the inside of the box and keep it from fully opening.
3. Write on your Print the Cut labels to prepare them for the gift.
4. Line the box with baking or wax paper, then fill the box with treats.
5. Close the tabs of the box and slide the two tabs into the slits.
6. Finish the gift by placing the label on the top of the box.



CREATE A MONOGRAMMED GLASSES CASE

assembling with wool-blend felt + a heat transfer vinyl

MATERIALS FOR THE GLASSES CASE

- Cut felt pieces plus the fusible web
- Cut HTV monogram design
- Needle-nose tweezers or weeding tool
- EasyPress or iron
- Ironing mat or board
- Thin cotton ironing cloth
- Lint roller
- Embroidery floss
- Embroidery needle
- Needle threader
- Mini clips

STEPS TO ASSEMBLE THE GLASSES CASE

- 1 Place the fusible web between the two layers of felt. It is cut just slightly smaller than the felt.
- 2 Fuse with EasyPress or iron at 360 degrees for 30 seconds. If you are using an iron, do not use steam.
- 3 Prepare the three heat transfer vinyl layers by weeding all the excess materials.
- 4 Center the monogram HTV on your folded case, then fuse with the EasyPress or iron.
- 5 Peel off the plastic backer, then place the leaf and flower details over the monogram.
- 6 Ensure you do not layer the plastic backer under these details since it will interfere with the heat transfer. Instead, fuse the detail pieces directly to the felt with an EasyPress or iron, then peel off the plastic backers.
- 7 Pull out and trim a 2-3 feet long strand for your matching embroidery floss. Split the floss strands in half to have three strands in each length.
- 8 Use the needle threader, then tie one end of your floss, leaving a long tail.
- 9 Clip the open edge of the folded felt to hold the layers in place.
- 10 Begin your blanket stitch at the corner of the top

opening, stitching just the two layers around and over the top of the case.

- 11 As you stitch, use the three tied threads instead of doubling up with the tail sets on the other side of the needle.
- 12 The key to a good blanket stitch is even spacing. I made mine about 1/8th of an inch apart.
- 13 When you meet the spot you started, tuck in the long end tail of your floss and sew into your blanket stitch to hide the tail.
- 14 Stitch the two sets of fused layers down the side and around to the bottom of the case.
- 15 Tie a knot at the end of your stitches. Slide the needle back into the case, then out the side, and trim against the felt to hide the final thread tail.

NOTE: For additional video tutorials on blanket stitches and working with felt, watch our Skill Course called 8 Easy Steps to Create Any Felt Stuffie.



MAKE A PAPER LEWISIA FLOWER

*assembling with frosted paper***MATERIALS FOR THE LEWISIA FLOWER**

- Cut frosted paper flower pieces
- 18-gauge green paper-covered floral wire (1 for each flower)
- Green floral tape
- Art Glitter glue or white glue
- Hot glue gun
- Curling tool
- Needle-nose tweezers
- Markers in coral, fuchsia, and green
- PanPastel in yellow

STEPS TO ASSEMBLE THE LEWISIA FLOWER

- 1 Use the edge of your curling tool to gently scrape the PanPastel to create a powder.
- 2 Use the needle-nose tweezers to hold the thin end of a stamen, then dip both sides of the thicker end of each stamen into white glue.
- 3 Place the glued end into the pastel powder, turn it over to add the powder to the second side, then set aside to dry.
- 4 Repeat to finish adding pollen to all six stamens.
- 5 With a coral marker, blend color into the center base of each of the twelve petals. You only need to color one side.
- 6 Blend the color marker onto the round base piece.
- 7 Use a fuchsia marker to add three loose stripes up the center of each of the twelve colored petals.
- 8 Color the scalloped edge of the small round base with the fuchsia marker.
- 9 Add three detail stripes up the center of each leaf along the grain lines with a green marker.
- 10 With the curling tool, add shape to the base of each petal, curling upward. Then, shape the tips of the petals in two directions downward (2 and 11 o'clock).
- 11 Shape the small round base into a cone, overlap the edges, and glue to hold the shape.
- 12 Add shape to the upper parts of the leaves on both sides, then fold the spine along the scoreline.
- 13 Glue the tab of the white pistil around the tip of the wire. Then, using the needle-nose tweezers, glue the six stamens around the center pistil, aligning each base. Set aside to dry.
- 14 Layer and glue the petals with the colored sides facing upward. Align so that the petals are spaced evenly.
- 15 Slide the glued petals onto the wire and over the base of the pistil and stamen.
- 16 Turn the wire, so the flower faces down. Add a line of hot glue around the stem wire at the base of the petals to hold them into place. Hold upside down until cool.
- 17 Slide the small cone onto the wire so it cups the flower base, and then glue it into place.
- 18 Add glue onto the base of the leaf, then wrap it around the flower stem. Pinch into place. Repeat with the other two leaves.
- 19 Secure the leaves by wrapping the base of the stem with floral tape.



MAKE A CREPE BOMB PEONY

*assembling with crepe paper***MATERIALS FOR THE PEONY FLOWER**

- Cut crepe paper petals and leaves
- Strip of extra-fine crepe paper in Juniper or Olive
- Thick stem wire
- 24-gauge green paper-covered wire (2 for each flower)
- 30mm paper spun ball
- Curling tool
- Art Glitter glue or white glue
- Hot glue gun

STEPS TO ASSEMBLE THE PEONY**For Center and Chiffon**

- 1 Attach a 30mm paper spun ball to the smaller end of the thick stem wire by adding hot glue into the hole in the ball and sliding in the wire.
- 2 Starting with a chiffon center petal strip, fold in half, then again in half to create four layers of crepe with a jagged scalloped top.
- 3 Press your thumb into the center of the four layers to stretch the crepe and create a cup shape.
- 4 Twist the flat base of the four layers tightly.
- 5 Repeat with all nine chiffon pieces and then the nine matching-shaped coral pieces.
- 6 Unfold and detach the four-layered scallops for all eighteen pieces.
- 7 Starting with one piece of chiffon, gather the base so that all four scallops are separate and not overlapped.
- 8 Glue the flat base of the piece onto the top of the spun ball.
- 9 Gather the next chiffon piece and glue the flat base, moving around the center.



- 10 Repeat with all of the chiffon pieces. Once nine have been attached to the ball, the ruffled yellow chiffon should cover the top half.
- 11 Repeat with all of the coral pieces, placing the layers tighter to not cover the base of the ball.
- 12 Place into a container facing upward and allow to dry.

For Heavy Crepe Paper

- 1 For the heavy crepe paper petals, begin with the nine smaller pieces.
- 2 Use the curling tool to add shape to the tips of the petal. You will want a lot of variation with the curl of the petals.
- 3 Gently stretch the center of each of the petals to form a cup shape.

MAKE A CREPE BOMB PEONY (cont.)

- 4 Add ruffles on the top edge of a few petals to create variety.
- 5 With the peony center facing downward, hot glue the nine petals at the base of the ball. Each petal will touch the wire.
- 6 To make it easier, work in threes, create a triangle and do not stack petals directly over one another.
- 7 Add shape to the tips of each of the eleven larger petals using the curling tool.
- 8 Gently stretch the centers of six to form a small cup. Stretch the last five less for a flatter petal.
- 9 With hot glue, attach the first six petals to the base of the flower, with the flat bottom of the petals touching the wire stem.
- 10 As you work, you can look at the face of the petal to see where each petal seems to fit best.
- 11 Finish adding the last five larger petals.
- 12 Using fingers to fluff the center chiffon and coral petals.

For Green Leaves

- 1 For the three green sepals, stretch and cup the center of each.
 - 2 Glue them onto the base of the flower, curling away from the petals, with the point overlapping the stem.
- 3 Place the three sets of leaves onto the surface with flat sides aligned.
 - 4 Add white glue to the 24-gauge wire and place along the flat edge of one leaf half.
 - 5 Sandwich wire with the second leaf half, then press to seal the wire between the two pieces of crepe.
 - 6 Repeat these two steps for the other leaves.
 - 7 Stack leaves so that the bases are aligned. Attach with floral tape.

To Wrap the Stem and Complete

- 1 Cut a strip of 1/4 inch Juniper or Olive crepe paper.
- 2 Add white glue onto the stem at the flower's base; start with one end of the crepe strip, and begin to wrap the stem.
- 3 Add glue along the stem and stretch the crepe as you wrap down the wire for a smooth, secure finish.
- 4 Once you have wrapped about three inches of the stem, place the leaf bundle along the wire.
- 5 Attach to the stem by covering all leaf wires with the crepe strip against the stem wire.
- 6 Finish the stem with the crepe strip and white glue combo for a smooth finish.
- 7 You can cover the stem as many times as you like to make it as smooth as possible.
- 8 Spread out the stack of three leaves and shape them by curving their center wires and stretching the leaves' sides.

ARRANGING A HAND-TIED BOUQUET

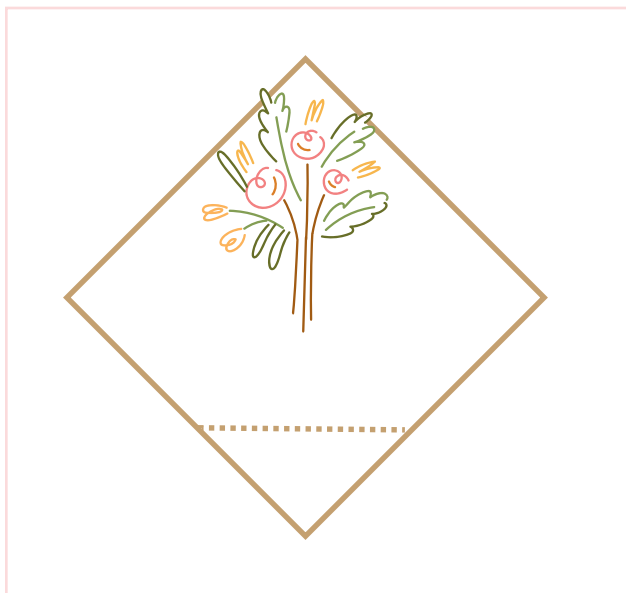
using the lewisia flower, bomb peony and print then cut hang tags

SUPPLIES FOR THE BOUQUET

- Lewisia flowers
- Bomb peonies
- Wrapping paper or kraft paper
- Baker's twine
- Print Then Cut tag
- Hole punch

ASSEMBLING THE BOUQUET

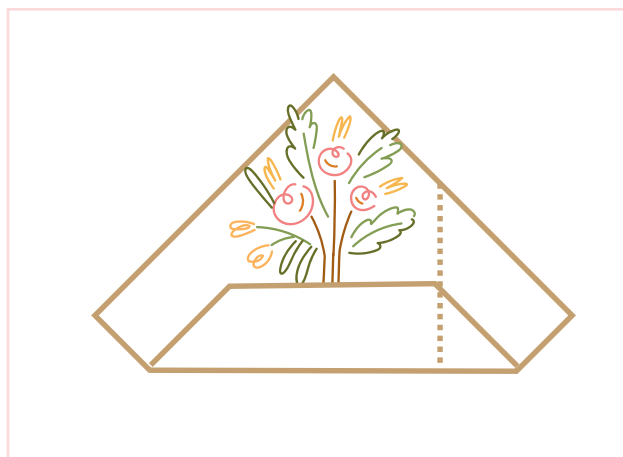
- 1 Gather all of your flowers together and arrange them in your hand.
- 2 Place a square of brown paper onto the table at an angle.
- 3 Place your bouquet onto the paper so the flowers' top aligns with the paper's top.



- 4 Fold the lower point up to touch the base of the stems.



- 5 Fold again, keeping the folded paper over the branches and under the flower faces.

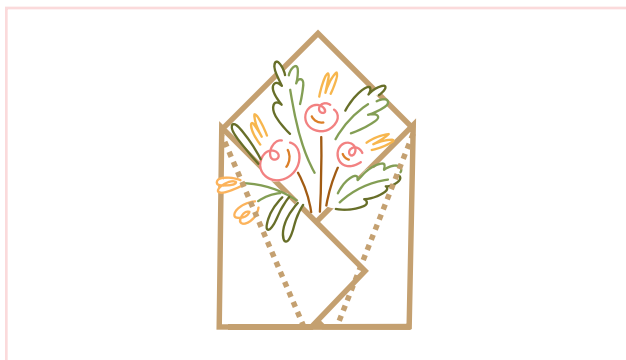


ARRANGING A HAND-TIED BOUQUET (cont.)

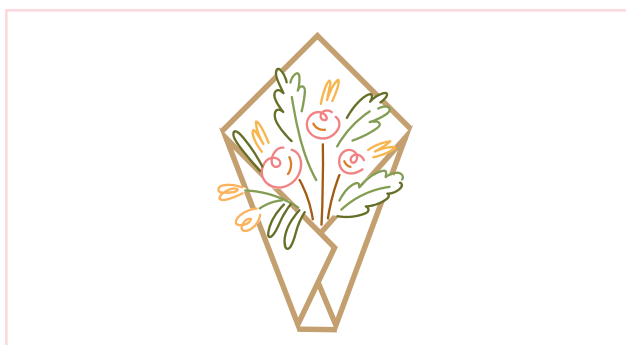
- 6 Fold sides in at an angle and under the flower bundle.



- 7 Fold in again, the second time creating a smaller paper wrap around the stems.



- 8 Fold the sides a third time, up and under the flowers' faces.



- 9 Tie the wrapped stems tightly with baker's twine.



- 10 Punch a hole at the top of the gift tag, slide it onto the string, and tie a bow to finish your gift.

