

Cricut Orientation

- Please sign in
- Grab a handout
- Pick up two pieces of cardstock
- Choose a computer with Design Space showing

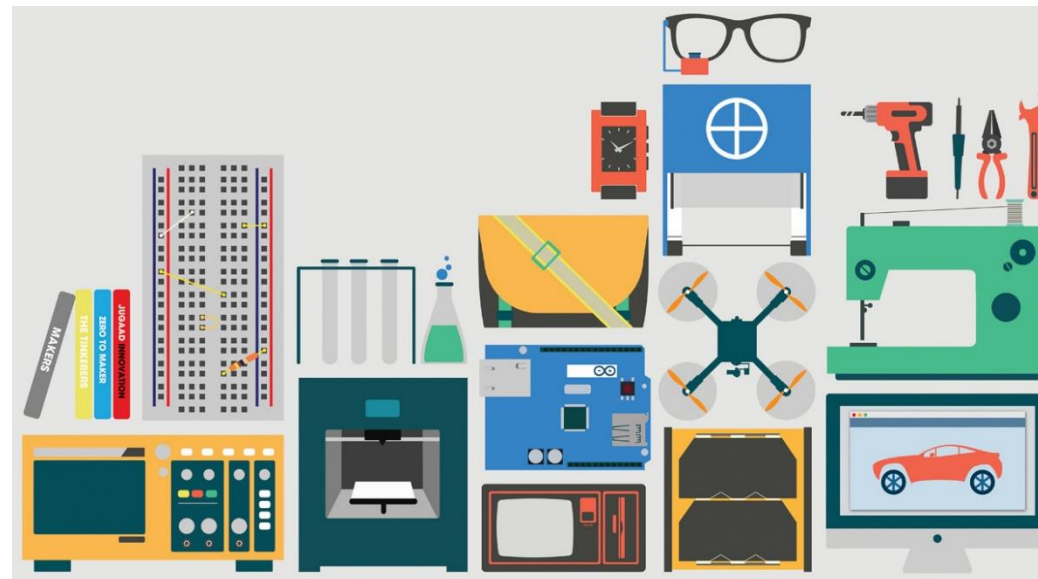




An Innovation LAB

- *Physical location that is stationary or mobile*
- Filled with resources that inspire from lab machines and tools to cardboard and duct tape.
- Facilitator who knows a little bit about everything in case they struggle with completing their ideas.
- Facilitator present that know how the resources in the innovation lab function to assist makers as needed.

A maker mindset combined with an innovation lab and maker space community are integral parts of building a better world.



A Maker Space

- Space to gather as a community (physically and/or virtually) where you learn and grow together.
- Like-minded people sharing ideas and being inspired by others.
- Creates producers in a world of consumers.
- Creates an understanding of how technology and/or our world works.
- Facilitator is needed to create programming for the making area.

****Safety precautions need to be taken for machinery and tool use.****

****It does not have to be limited to a room.****

Harris County Friends of the Library



Cricut machines and other services are made possible with the support from the Harris County Friends of the Library and other generous donors.

Digital Fabrication

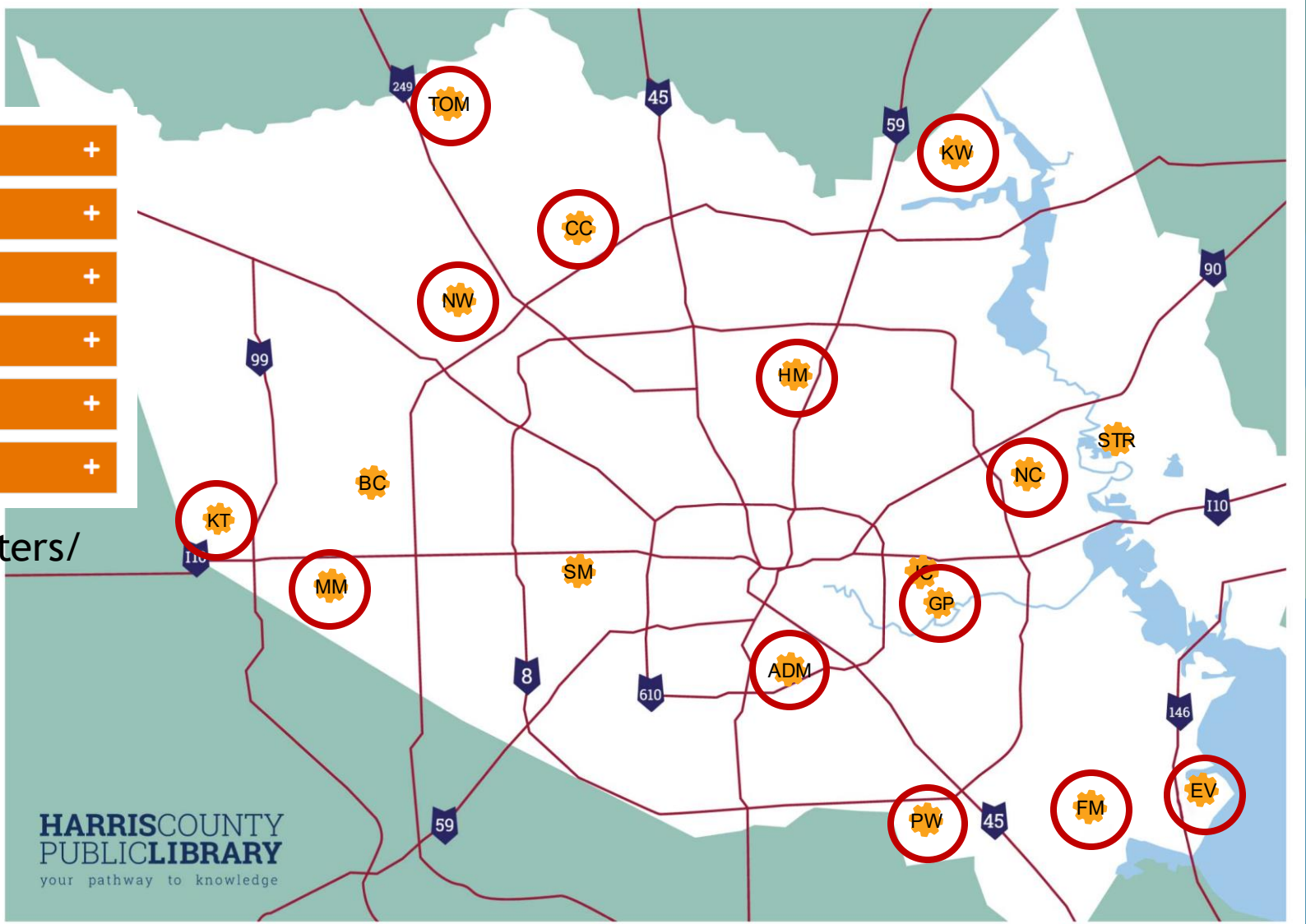
- ▶ Manufacturing process where the tools/machines are controlled by a computer



Digital Fabrication Opportunities @ HCPL

Cricut and Vinyl Cutters

- US Cutter MH 871-MK2 +
- US Cutter SC2 53 inch +
- Cricut Explore Air 2 +
- Cricut Maker +
- Cricut Maker 3 +
- Heat Presses +



<https://hcpl.net/cricut-vinyl-cutters/>

What is a CRICUT?

- ▶ An electronic cutting machine.
- ▶ Cricut machines are used for cutting cardstock, construction paper, vinyl, foam, and more.
- ▶ Be advised that for some materials you will need a specialty blade.



Cricut Projects



Scrapbooking



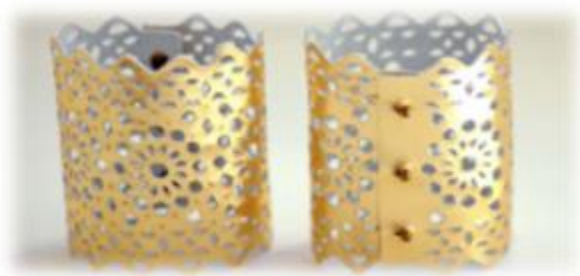
Clothing & Iron Ons



Stencils



Paper Art



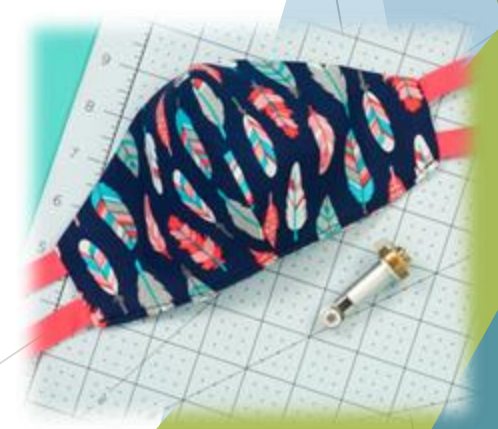
Décor



Appliques



Personalized Gifts



Sewing Patterns

Machine Specifications

- ▶ Cricut Maker
- ▶ 12" x 12" Working Area
- ▶ Fine Point Blade cuts most paper and vinyl
- ▶ Cricut Markers available
- ▶ Specialty tools available
 - ▶ Knife Blade
 - ▶ Scoring Tool
 - ▶ Rotary Blade
 - ▶ *Perforation Blade**
 - ▶ *Foil Transfer Tool**
 - ▶ *Deep Cut Blade**

**not available at EV*

Materials

- ▶ Paper
- ▶ Vinyl and Smart Vinyl
- ▶ Cardstock
- ▶ Sticker Paper
- ▶ Poster Board
- ▶ Fabric
- ▶ Iron-Ons
- ▶ Thin Plastic
- ▶ Thin Wood
- ▶ Thin Leather
- ▶ And more...

Special Material Considerations

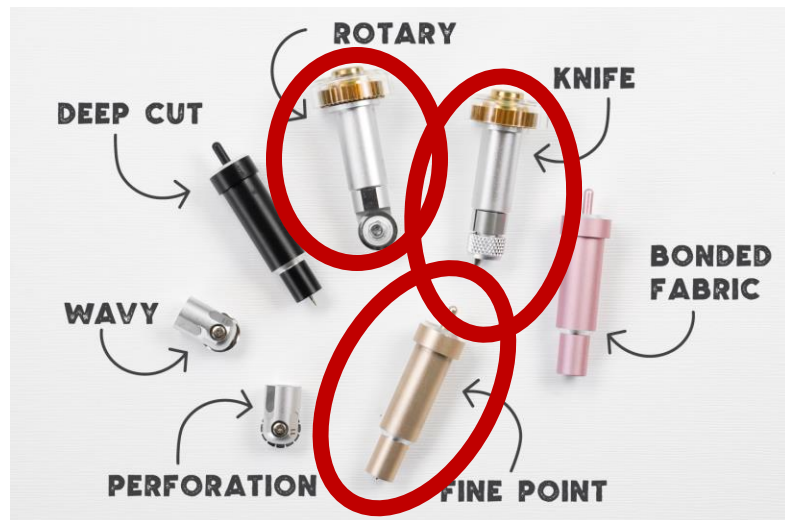
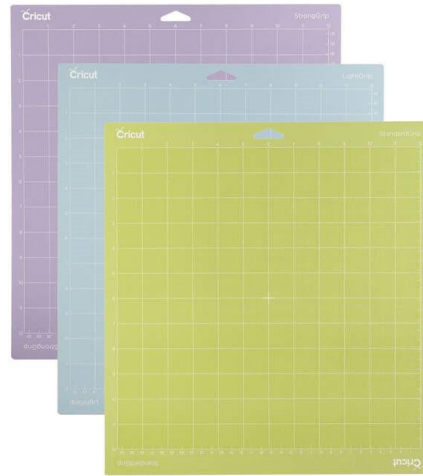
The newest Cricut Machines *Explore Air 3* and *Maker 3* use special “Smart Materials” that have a built in cutting mat.

Cricut Machines Compatible with “Smart Material”

- ▶ Cricut Maker 3
- ▶ Explore Air 3
- ▶ Cricut Joy



Cricut Accessories



Cricut: Digital Fabrication Workflow



File Creation

Cricut Design Space



File Preparation

Selecting Materials and Tools

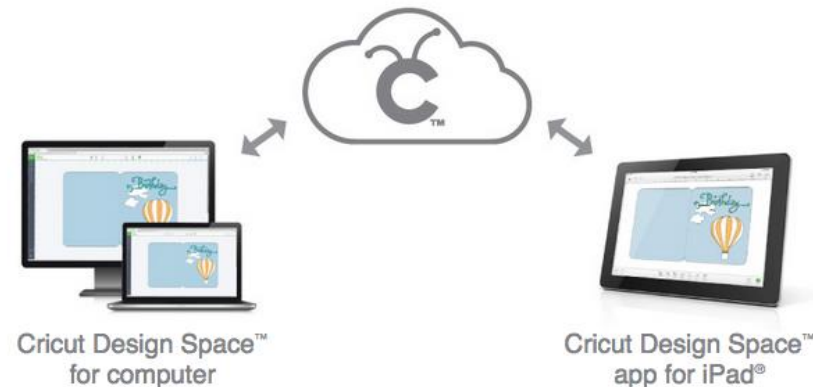


Machine Operation

Using Tools, Mats, and
Accessories

Cricut Design Space (File Creation)

- ▶ Design Space is a free, easy-to-learn design software for Cricut machines.
- ▶ Design Space is compatible with all Cricut machines.
- ▶ Software available for computer desktops (Windows or Mac) and for iOS devices.
- ▶ Design Space software must be downloaded and installed on your device.
- ▶ Cricut has cloud-based features, giving you access to all of your images and projects from any compatible computer or iOS device after initial install.



Getting Started

- ▶ Visit design.cricut.com
- ▶ Download the Cricut Design Space Application to your desktop and create a FREE account
- ▶ You will need to create an email account for this step and a password

Sign In Create Cricut ID

[Forgot password?](#)

SIGN IN >

cricut

Design Space® for Windows®

Set up a new Cricut product, browse projects, start designing, and more.

[Download](#) [Open](#)

I agree to Cricut [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#)

Design Space last updated 7.10.23

Click [HERE](#) for release notes

Cricut Design Space vs Cricut Access

Free

DESIGN PERKS

1,000+ images

15+ fonts

A la carte digital purchases

250+ ready-to-make projects

Up to 5 collections²

SAVINGS BENEFITS

× 10% off cricut.com purchases, including machines (up to \$50 savings per item)

× 20% off all materials

× FREE economy shipping on \$50+ orders

PLUS

× Priority Member Care

a Standard

DESIGN PERKS

✓ Unlimited use of 200,000+ images

✓ Unlimited use of 700+ fonts

✓ 10% off licensed images¹

✓ 1,000s of ready-to-make projects

✓ Unlimited collections²

SAVINGS BENEFITS

✓ 10% off cricut.com purchases, including machines (up to \$50 savings per item)

× 20% off all materials

× FREE economy shipping on \$50+ orders

PLUS

✓ Priority Member Care

a Premium

DESIGN PERKS

✓ Unlimited use of 200,000+ images

✓ Unlimited use of 700+ fonts

✓ 10% off licensed images¹

✓ 1,000s of ready-to-make projects

✓ Unlimited collections²

SAVINGS BENEFITS

✓ 10% off cricut.com purchases, including machines (up to \$50 savings per item)

✓ 20% off all materials³

✓ FREE economy shipping on \$50+ orders⁴

PLUS

✓ Priority Member Care

< >

Discover

My Stuff

Get Started

Cricut Learn

Heat Guide

Shop

New Navigation Tour

Get Inspired

- Sales Event: Up to 50% Off
- Beginner Projects
- Make for Mother's Day
- New This Week
- How To's

Images for You

Free	Free	Purchased	Free	Free	Free

Projects for You

-
-
-
-
-



Projects

Images

COLLECTIONS

Abby

Rozette Projects

Sandy

Steve

Projects

My Projects

Bookmarked

Ready-to-Make

All

Recently Added

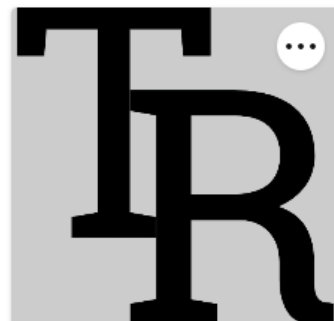
Select



a - 6



a - 5



a - 4



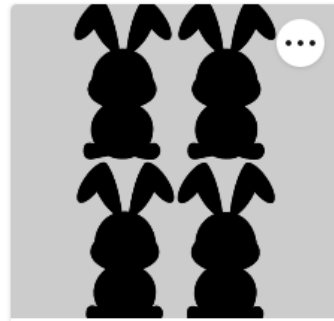
a - 3



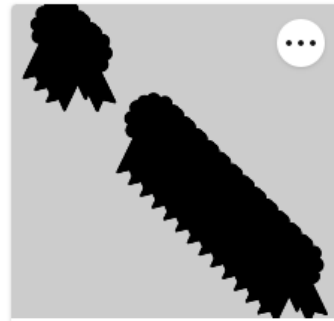
a - 2



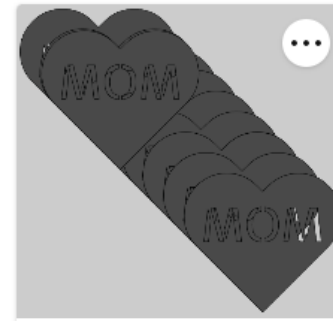
a



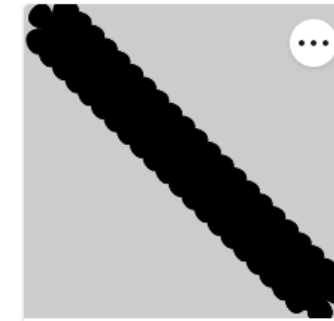
easter Basket - 1



mo



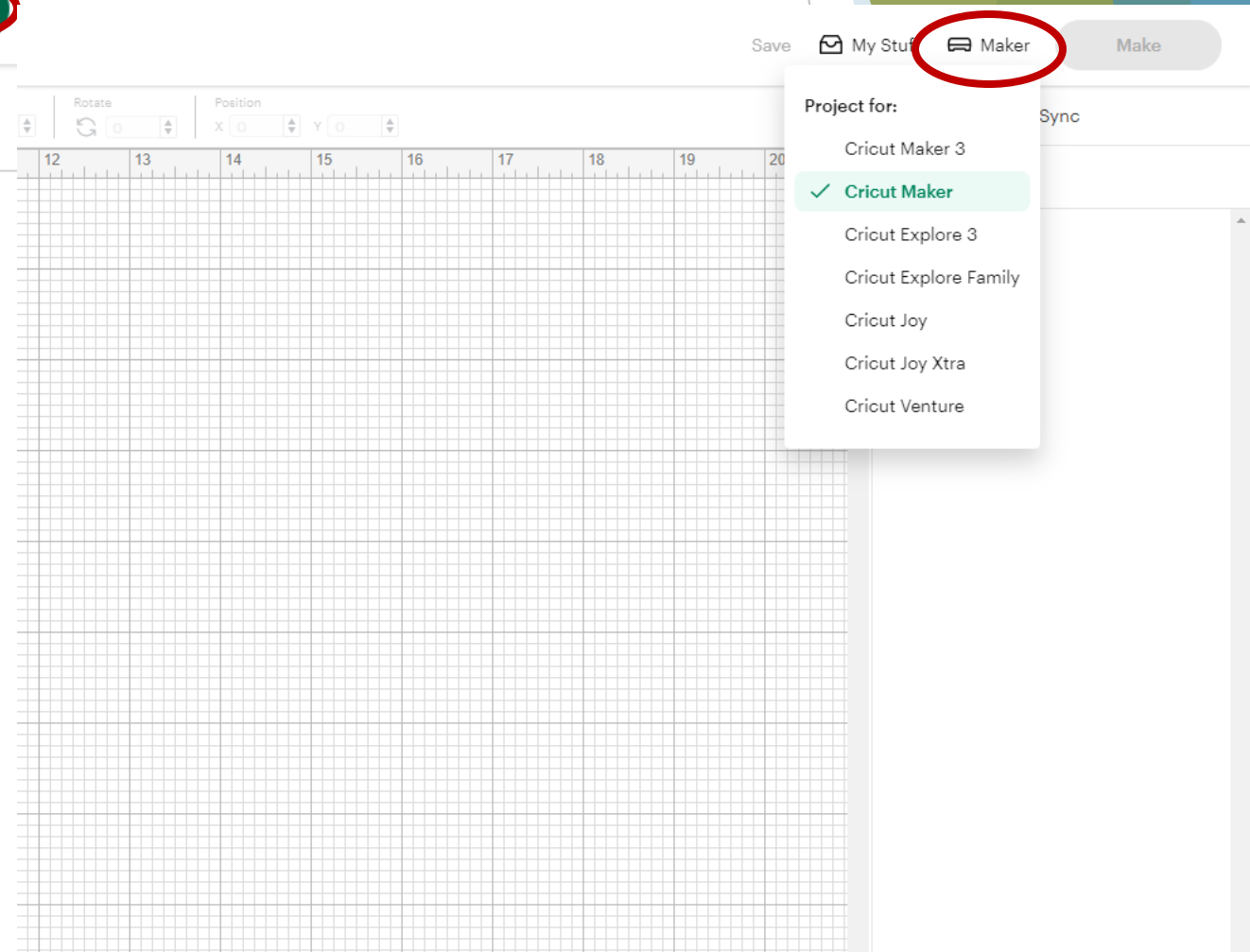
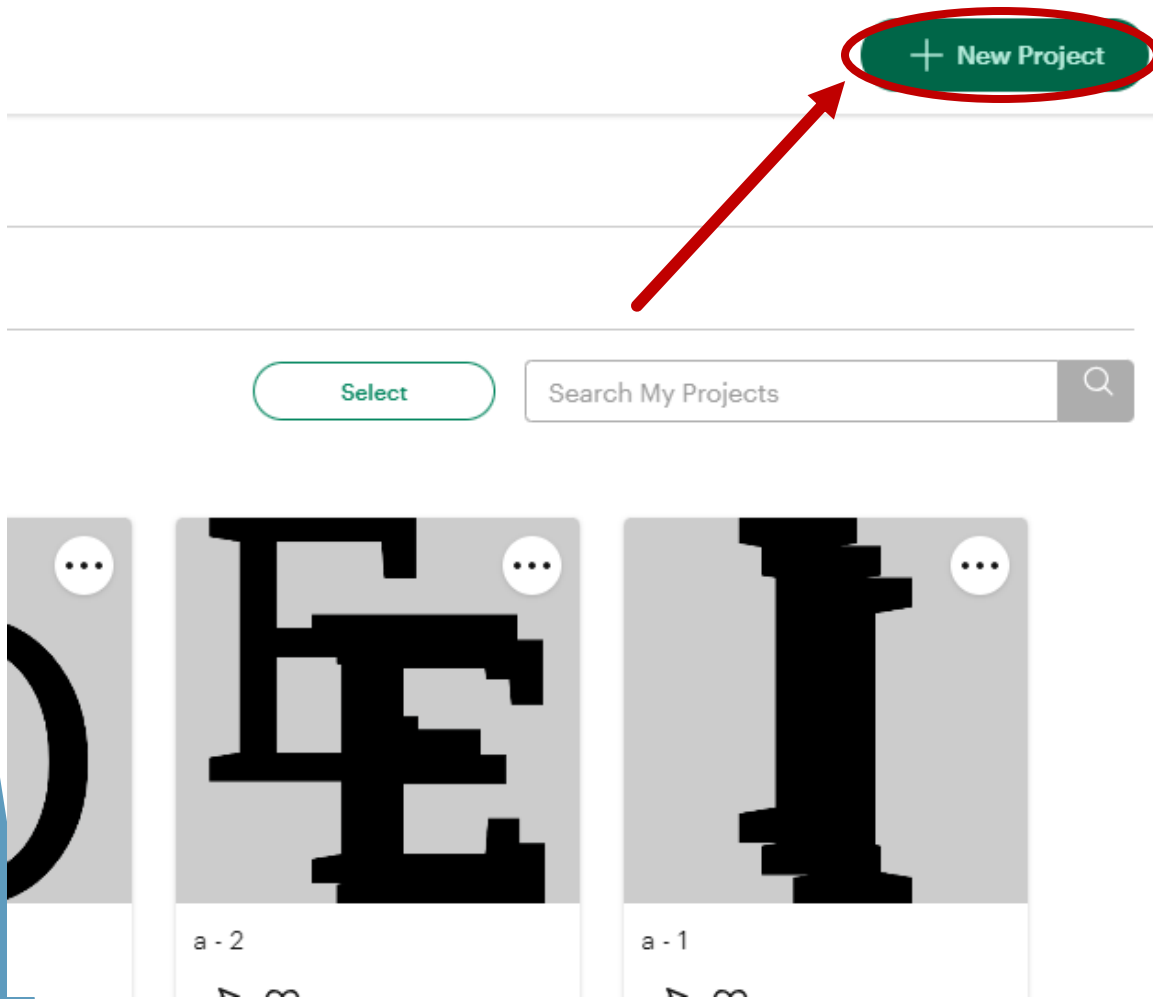
heart



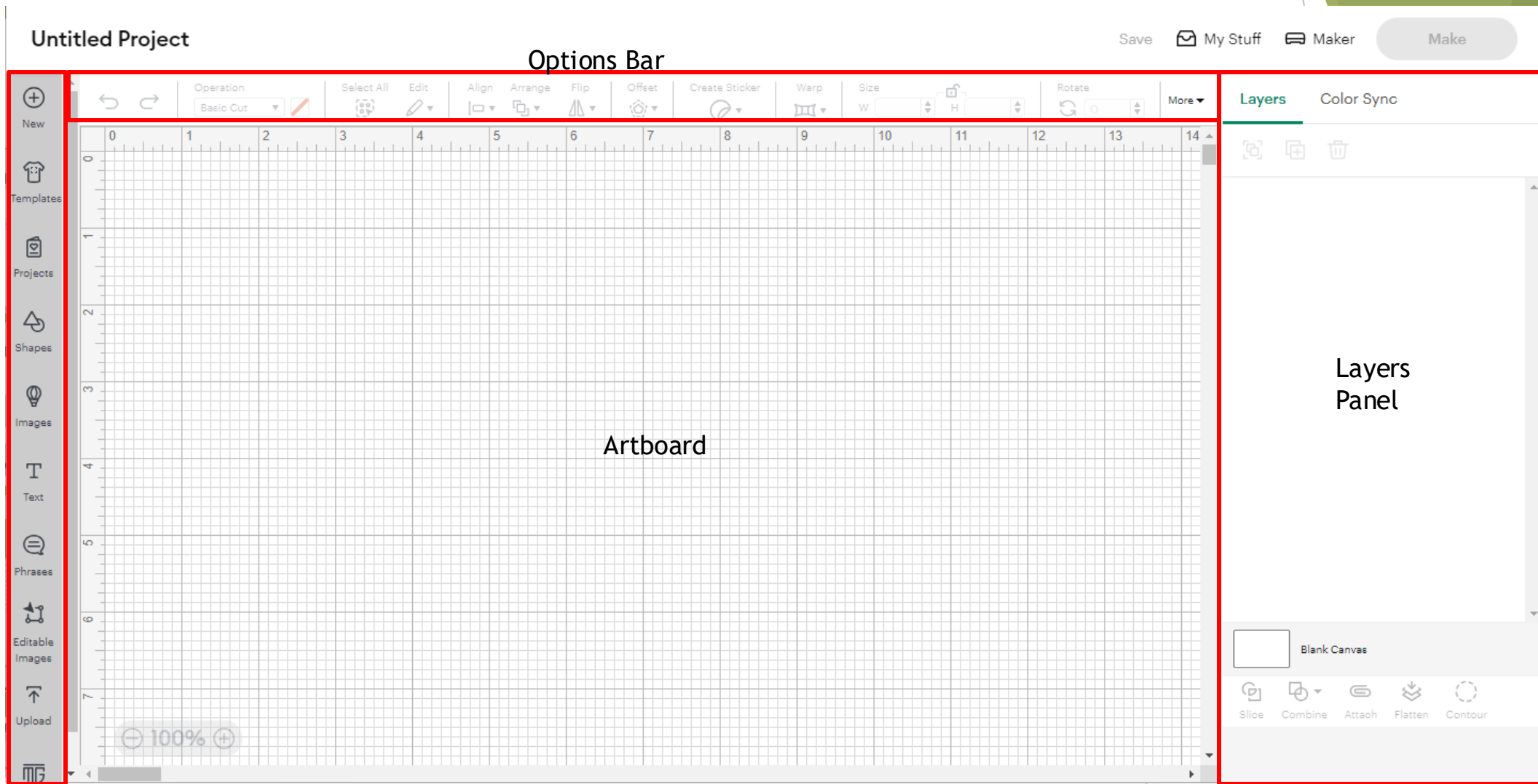
f1



New Project



Workspace



Toolbar

Projects

Untitled Project

Save My Stuff Maker Make

New

Templates

Projects

Shapes

Images

Text

Phrases

Editable Images

Upload

Search Projects

All Projects

Projects (189,160)

Tulips Planner layout

Copy of sympathy card - 1

Mother's Day Card -

Anna Griffin Garden Rose Flo...

Mother's Day Tote

Tulips Planner layout

Copy of sympathy card - 1

Mother's Day Card -

Anna Griffin Garden Rose Flo...

Mother's Day Tote

Joan M

Theresa Green Terry

Eileen McAlister

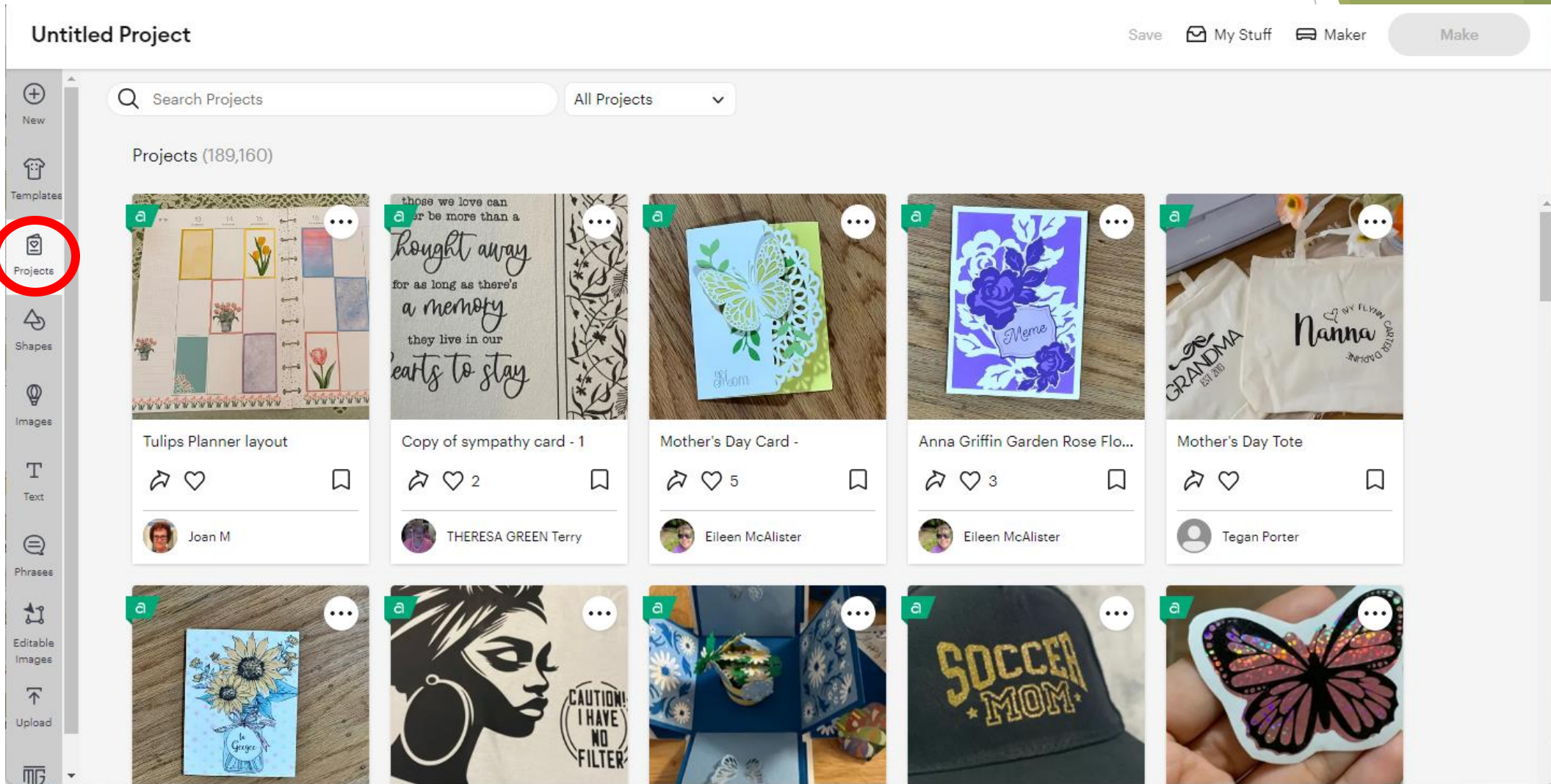
Eileen McAlister

Tegan Porter

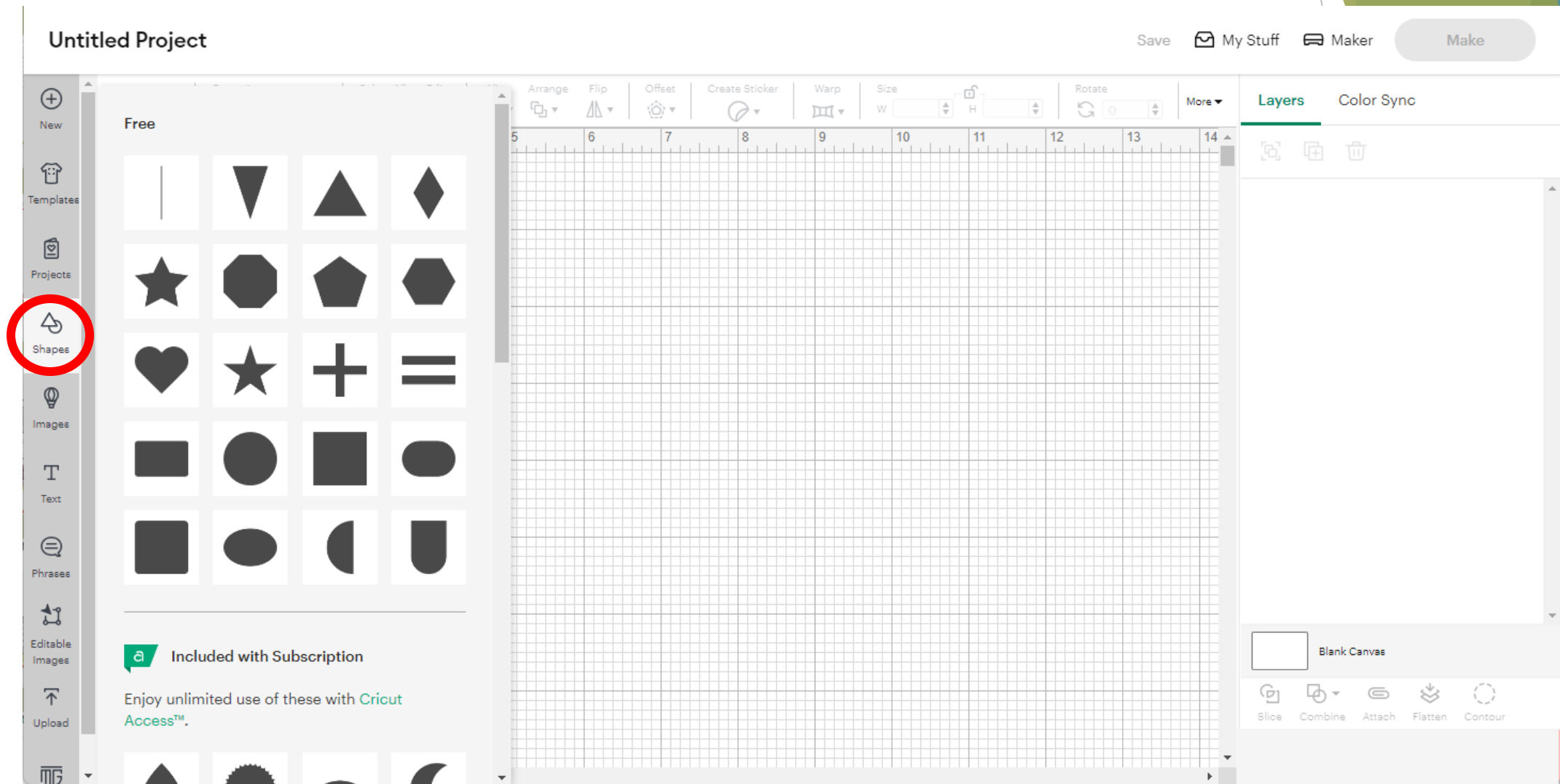
Le George

CAUTION! I HAVE NO FILTER

SOCCER MOM



Shapes



Images

The screenshot shows a web application interface for searching images. At the top left, it says "Untitled Project". On the right, there are buttons for "Save", "My Stuff", "Maker", and "Make". A vertical sidebar on the left contains icons for "New", "Templates", "Projects", "Shapes", "Images" (circled in red), "Text", "Phrases", "Editable Images", and "Upload". The main area is titled "Category: All Images" and has a search bar with the placeholder text "e.g., 'A dog wearing sunglasses'". Below the search bar, there are filter options: "Free" (checked), "Editable Text", "My Stuff", "Bookmarked", "Uploaded", and "Purchased". There are also expandable sections for "Operation Type" and "Layers". The search results are displayed in a grid of image cards. The first row shows four cards: a downward-pointing triangle, a horizontal rectangle, a plus sign, and a circle. Each card is labeled "Free" and has a scissors icon. A callout box in the bottom right corner contains the text: "The search function is tricky, try different word combinations to find what you're looking for".

The search function is tricky, try different word combinations to find what you're looking for

Text

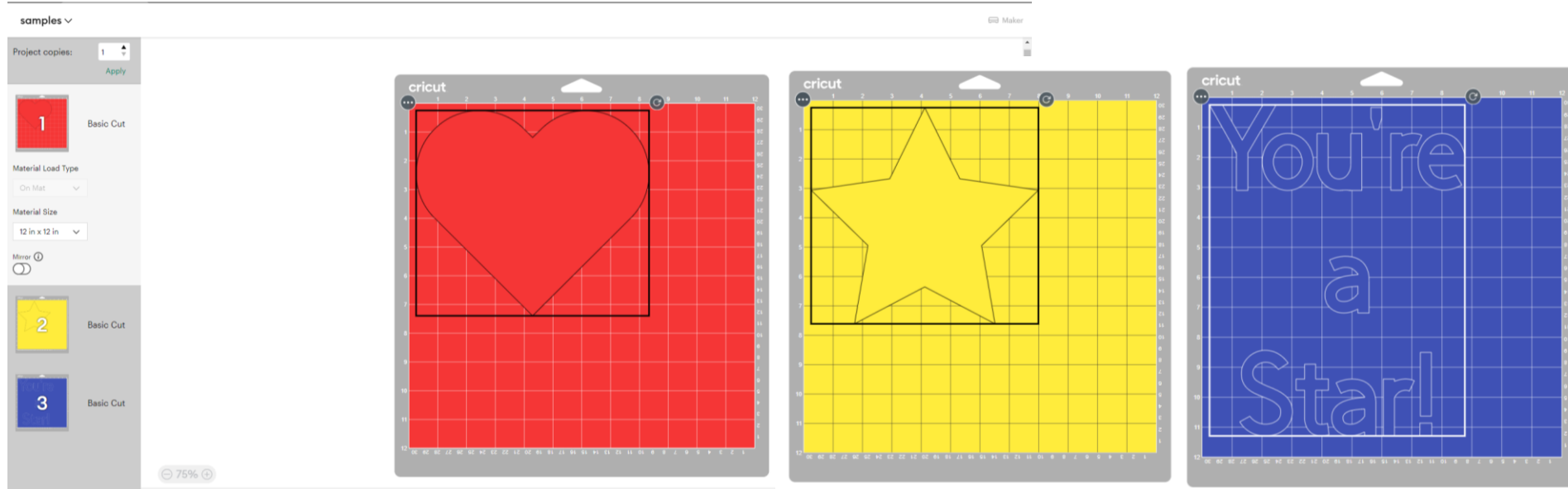
The screenshot displays the Cricut Design Space software interface. At the top, the title bar reads "Untitled Project*" and includes buttons for "Save", "My Stuff", "Maker", and a green "Make" button. The main toolbar contains various editing tools such as "Operation" (Basic Cut), "Deselect", "Edit", "Align", "Arrange", "Flip", "Offset", "Create Sticker", "Warp", "Size" (W: 1.701, H: 1.147), and "Rotate" (0 degrees). Below the toolbar, a secondary toolbar shows font settings: "Font" (Cricut Sans), "Style" (Regular), "Font Size" (72), "Letter Space" (0), "Line Space" (1), "Alignment", "Curve", and "Advanced" options. The central workspace is a grid with a blue text object labeled "Text" in a dark blue font. A dimension box above the text indicates "1.7 in x 1.15 in". The left sidebar contains icons for "New", "Templates", "Projects", "Shapes", "Images", "Text" (circled in red), "Phrases", "Editable Images", and "Upload". The right sidebar features a "Layers" panel with a "Text Basic Cut" layer and a "Blank Canvas" layer. At the bottom of the right sidebar, there are icons for "Slice", "Combine", "Attach", "Flatten", and "Contour".

Upload Image

The screenshot shows a design tool interface for an 'Untitled Project*'. At the top right, there are buttons for 'Save', 'My Stuff', 'Maker', and a prominent green 'Make' button. On the left, a vertical sidebar contains icons for 'New', 'Templates', 'Projects', 'Shapes', 'Images', 'Text', 'Phrases', and 'Editable Images'. The 'Images' icon is circled in red. The main area is titled 'Upload' and has two tabs: 'Image' (selected) and 'Pattern fill'. Below the tabs, it says 'Upload an image to use in designs.' and lists compatible file types: '.jpg, .gif, .png, .heic, .bmp, .svg, or .dxf'. A green 'Upload Image' button is highlighted with a red arrow. Below this, there is a 'Recent Uploads' section with a 'View All' link and a row of six image thumbnails showing the letters 'N', 'M', 'F', 'G', 'S', and 'P'. At the bottom, there are 'Download', 'Cancel', and 'Add to Canvas' buttons.

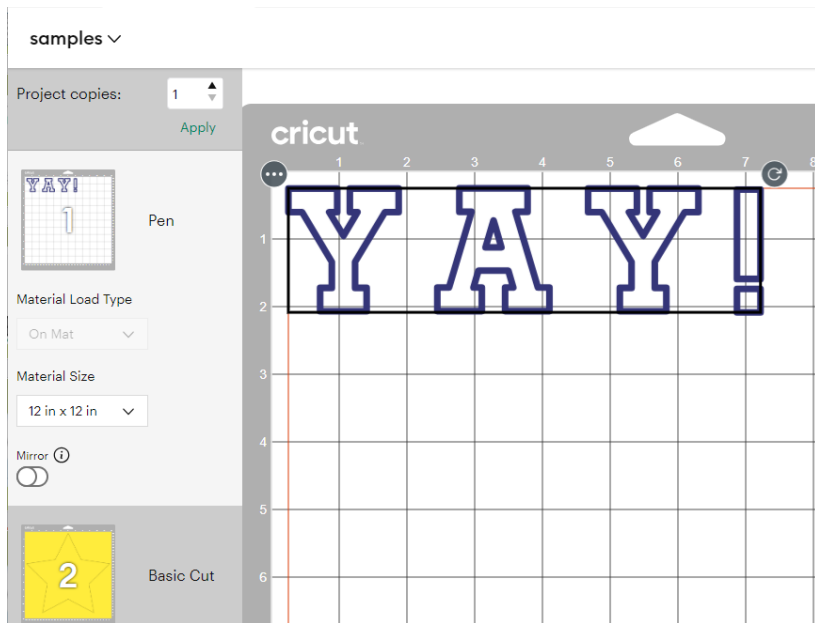
Make It! (File Preparation)

- ▶ All items in the project will be grouped together by color/material.
- ▶ Mats show previewed cuts the Cricut machine will make.
- ▶ Material size can be changed.
- ▶ Objects can be rearranged on the mat.

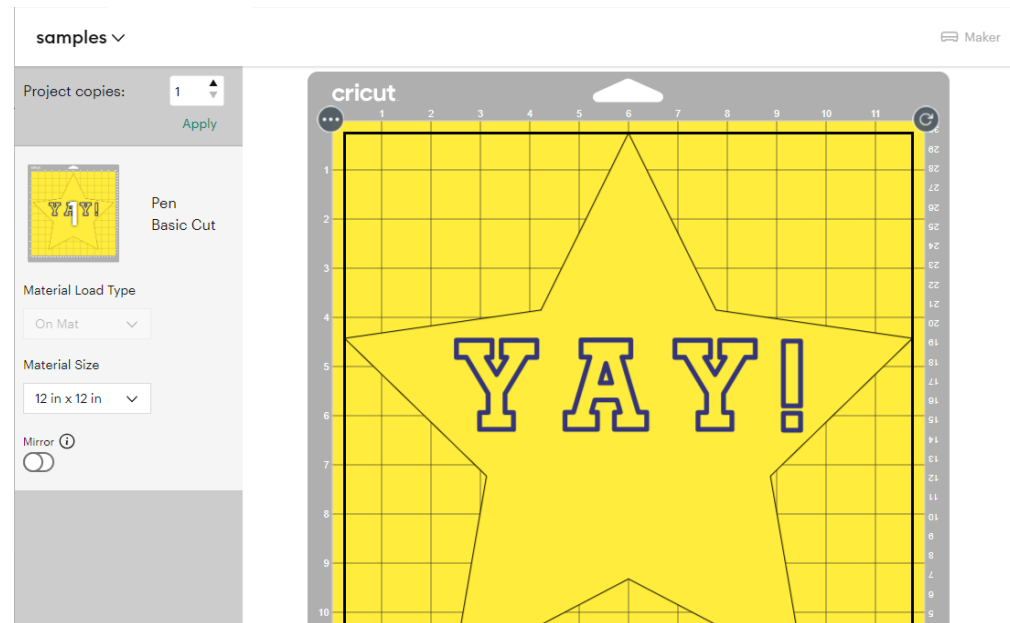


Design Considerations

- ▶ All objects will be grouped together by color when making. Use the **attach** tool to keep objects in place in relation to one another.



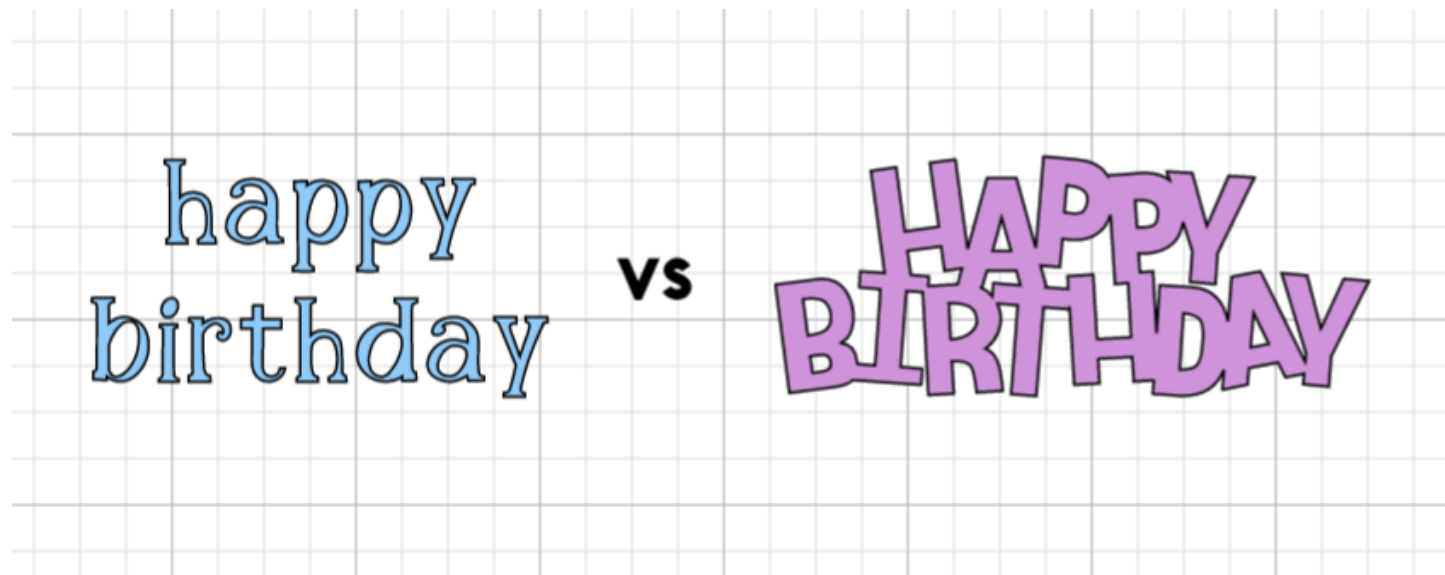
Not Attached



Attached

Design Considerations

- ▶ Always consider how your pieces will be assembled afterwards. Cutting and gluing individual letters or pieces is much more inconvenient than using a font or image that connects them into 1 piece.



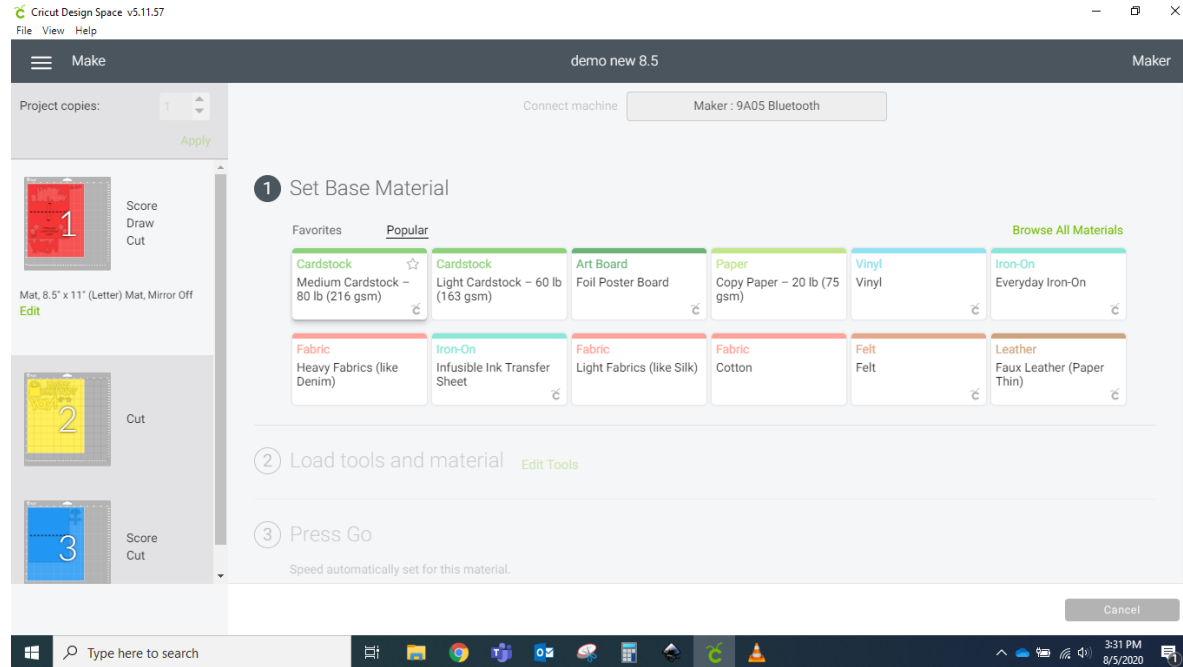
Design Considerations

- ▶ If you want to cut customized artwork, create your file in a design software like Inkscape or Illustrator, and then save it as an SVG. This will upload your objects exactly as they appear in your design software, versus uploading an image.

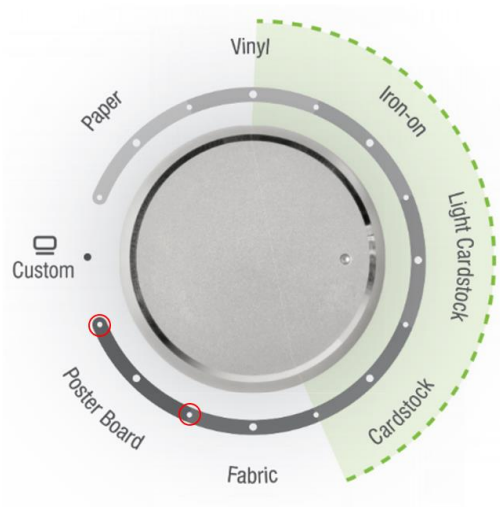


Make It! (File Preparation)

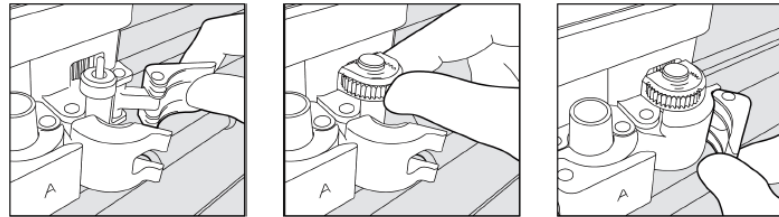
- ▶ Use the material library for machine settings on the Maker, or the settings knob on the Explore machine.
- ▶ Cricut machine uses different tools and levels of pressure to achieve cuts on different materials.
- ▶ Insert tools and follow prompts on machine and software to complete job.



Operating the Cricut Machine



Material Settings
(Manual on Explore)
(Digital on Maker)



1. Open Clamp B and remove blade housing.
2. Place blade housing in Clamp B, ensuring that housing is seated on the top surface of the clamp. For Rotary and Knife blades, make sure the gears fit together.
3. Close the clamp.

Insert Tools



Insert Mat

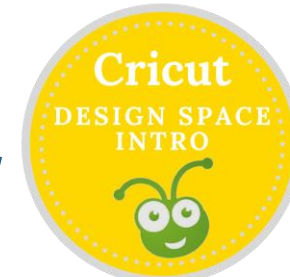
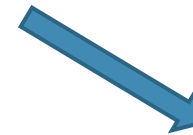
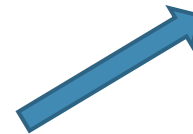
Policy & Procedures

KEY POINTS:

- Patrons need to be badged in the machine to be requested.
 - Patrons need to be present throughout the use of the Cricut machine.
 - Patrons under age 16 must be accompanied by a badged adult guardian.
 - Default reservation time is two hours, with extensions possible based on machine and staff availability.
 - Library staff supervision required at all times.
 - Makers supply their own material, subject to approval from Lab Staff.
 - Food and drinks are not permitted in the iMaker.
 - Illegal or inappropriate items, or items which would violate copyright laws are not permitted.
- ▶ The complete policy can be found at: <https://www.hcpl.net/services/makercentral>

Sign up for Maker Central

Hcpl.beanstack.org



It is required that you enroll in the Maker Central Challenge to book Maker Machines.

Please use the same name and email you wrote on the sign-in sheet!



Earning Your Badge

- Access “Maker Central” (available from hcpl.beanstack.org)
- Create an “Individual” account
 - You don’t need to sign up if you already have a Beanstack account
 - ▶ for the Summer Reading Program
- After signing in you can activate Maker Program if it is not already checked.
- Staff will register your orientation completion in the Beanstack system within 2 business days
 - You will receive a confirmation email for receipt of your badge
 - After being badged you are able to click on the rewards tab and make a Cricut reservation.
- Enjoy the perks of being a badged HCPL Maker!

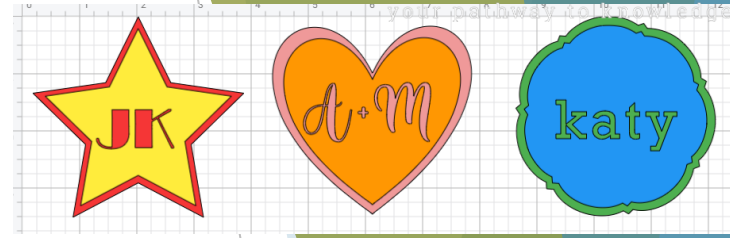


@HarrisCountyp1
#HCPLmadeit

HARRIS COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
your pathway to knowledge

We would love
for you
to share creations
on HCPL social
media sites!

DEMO - Creating a 2-tone bookmark

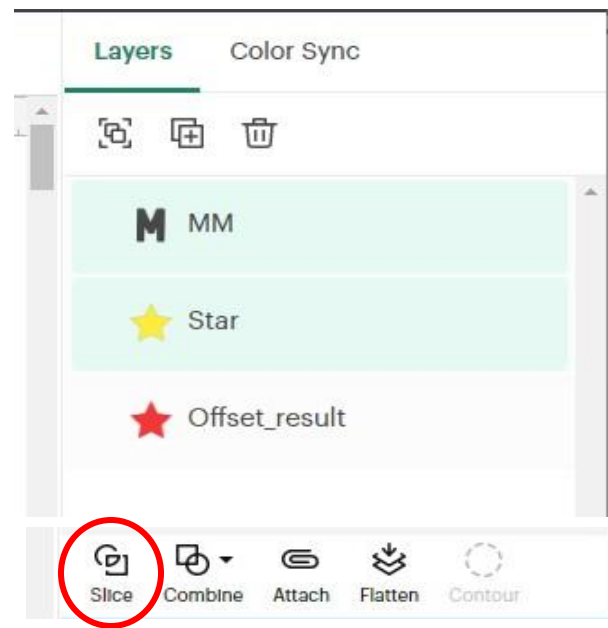
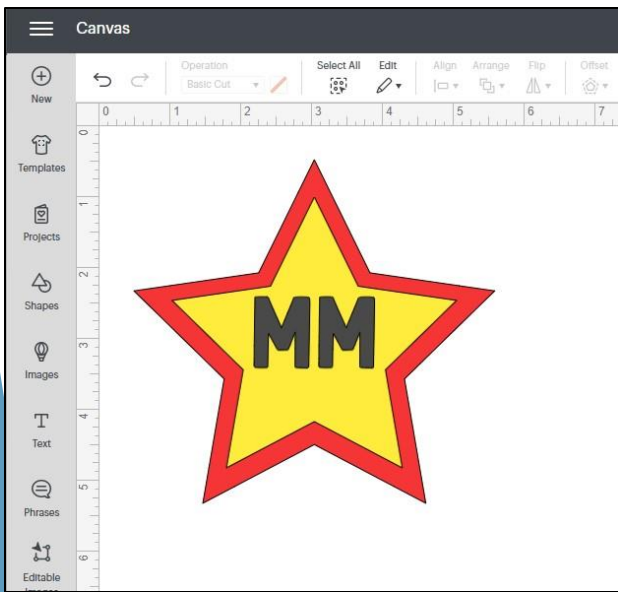


Add your initials into the pre-created text box. Choose your font.

Select the text and upper layer. Click Slice.

Delete the two sliced text objects.

Your creation is ready to make.





**HARRIS COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**
your pathway to knowledge

Presenter Contact Information

Name:
Email:
Phone:

maker
central
@hcpl