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Self-Paced Tutorial

Hand-Drawn Cricut Coasters

Topic Area:

General Interest

Duration:

30 minutes

Difficulty Level:

Easy

Materials:

- Cricut Maker 3
- Fine-point blade
- Lightgrip mat
- Infusible Ink markers (1.0mm)
- White copy paper
- Cricut coaster blanks
- Heat resistant tape
- Cricut Autopress or Heat Press
- Cardstock
- Butcher paper or copy paper

Creating the Coaster Template Space:

1. Determine the coaster size blank you would like to create the design on.
2. Open the [coaster template](#) and select “customize.”
3. Choose the correct size of the coaster. Hide or delete the coasters you will not need.
4. Alternatively, create your own blank coaster surface by adding a circle or square from shapes and change the color of the circle/square to reflect the white of the copy paper. Edit the size (H&W) of the shape to reflect the dimensions of the coaster you will be using.
5. If you are not adding text or drawing templates, you can skip the next section and go to the “Cutting Your Design” section.

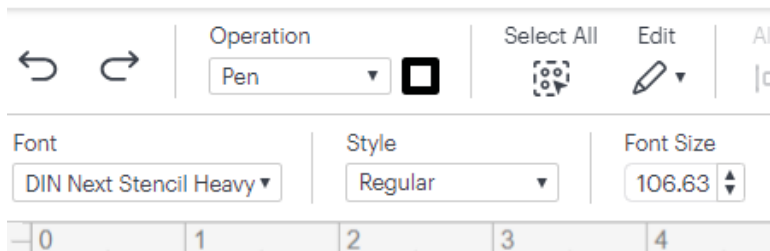


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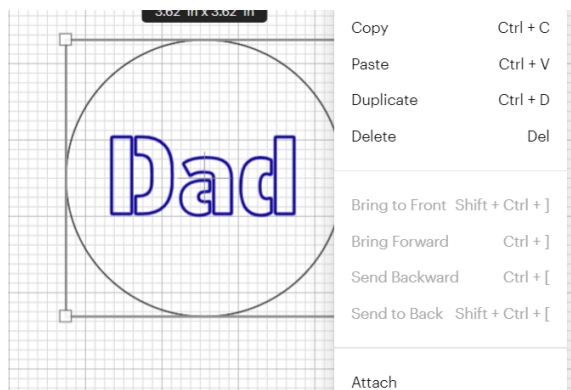
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Adding Infusible Ink Text or Drawings:

1. Add images, shapes, and/or text to the canvas. Adjust the size to fit within the coaster blank and drag the component to your desired placement.
2. For each component added, be sure to change the operation type to “draw” rather than basic cut and ensure the pen is selected. At this time you can change the pen type and color to reflect the 1mm infusible ink marker. If different elements are going to be created using specific colors, make sure that the color chosen is the name of the color on your marker to make it easier for you when it comes time to make the design. If color doesn’t matter, choose a text color other than black, such as red, so you can easily see and confirm placement.



3. In order for the text or design to be drawn on the template, they need to be attached. Select the coaster template and all the design components. Either right click on the selected items and select attach or click on the attach icon in the right layers side menu.





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4. You should see all the included items attached and the drawn design components denoted with “draw” and the coaster blank itself designated as a “basic cut.”

Cutting & Drawing Your Design

1. Once the design has been finalized, select “Make” and confirm that the design will be created on the mat.
2. Select and apply the number of project copies you will need.
3. Verify that your design will be created on one mat with the operations “pen” and “basic cut.”
4. Since this design will be pressed onto your coaster, you **MUST** mirror the design so it appears correctly on the final product. The mirror toggle should appear green and verify that the text and images have been reversed on the mat preview.

The screenshot shows a software interface for configuring a project. At the top, there is a 'Project copies:' label next to a dropdown menu set to '1', with an 'Apply' button below it. Below this is a preview area showing a black square with a white number '1' and a small 'Pen' icon. To the right of the preview, the text 'Pen' and 'Basic Cut' is displayed. Further down, there is a 'Material Load Type' dropdown menu set to 'On Mat'. Below that is a 'Material Size' dropdown menu set to '12 in x 12 in'. At the bottom, there is a 'Mirror' toggle switch, which is currently turned on (green), with an information icon (i) next to it.

5. Gather your mat, paper, and markers.
6. Place the copy paper horizontally on the mat and firmly adhere the paper.
7. When materials are ready to go and all details have been confirmed, click “Continue.”
8. Select the material type. You will need to search for and choose “copy paper.”



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9. Then, as instructed by the on-screen prompts, insert the marker into clamp a. Firmly push the marker into place until you hear a click.
10. Place the mat with the paper onto the machine, within the material guides, and press the flashing load/unload button. The machine will take up the material and measure the mat length.
11. When scanning is complete, press the flashing go button. The machine will first do all of the drawing operations and then the cut operations. If using multiple colors, you will be prompted when it is time to switch.
12. After the operations are completed, unload the mat by pressing the flashing load/unload button. Carefully peel off the coaster template and discard the scraps.

Drawing and Pressing the Design:

1. Use the infusible ink markers to color in any images or to draw your own design. Avoid writing any words, unless mirroring by hand. The entire surface area of the coaster template will be pressed (assuming the template size is the coaster size)
2. When you are finished, preheat your Cricut Autopress. Be sure to use the [heat guide](#) to find the most accurate temperatures and pressing time.
3. Take a lint roller or lint-free cloth and remove any debris from the coaster.
4. Place the paper templates on top of the coaster. The design side should face and fully make contact with the shiny side of your coaster. Then, Place the coaster and paper on top of the cardstock. The back of your design will be touching the cardstock with the coaster on top. Use heat resistant tape to secure the paper template and coaster to the cardstock.

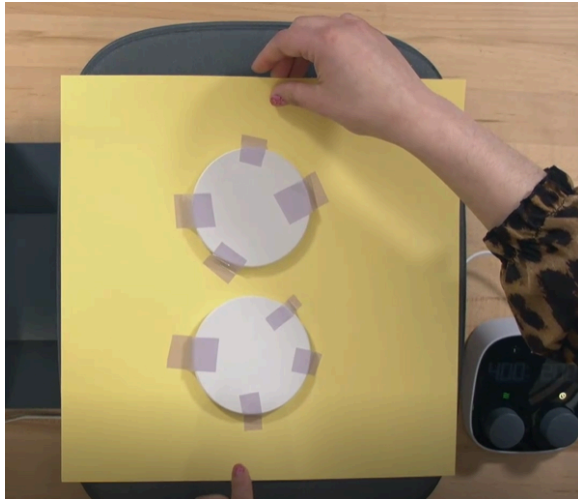




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5. When the autopress is preheated, carefully move the cardstock onto the autopress surface. Place a piece of butcher paper or copy paper over the top of the coasters. Close the lid and let it press for the duration specified.



6. The machine will beep when the transfer process is complete, and the press will open automatically. It will be extremely hot! Place the cardstock sheet with the coasters on a protected surface such as a coaster, pot-holder, mat, or towel to cool down. If pressing multiple items, use this time to prepare and press them.
7. When the coasters are cool to the touch, remove the paper and tape to reveal the design! Enjoy or pass along to friends and family.

