

Quick Cheat Sheets
for your

Cricut Maker

So you can Create
Beautiful Crafts NOW!

KK Simply Creates



Cricut Quick Start

W

elcome

Hey Girly-

Check out these Quick Cricut Maker cheat sheets . When I started out with my Cricut Maker I found not knowing what went with the Cricut Maker to be one of the most confusing things of all- so with that in mind I created these quick reference cheat sheets to help you get started.

XoXo,
KK

She believed she could

so she DID!



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Mats cheat sheet

CRICUT MATS- there are four different basic mats that can come in a variety of sizes for the CRICUT MAKER you need a 12x12 or 12x24 size mat(Do not buy a smaller mat then these)

Blue light grip mat- light weight materials like copy paper

Green Standard grip mat- this is my go too mat for light weight projects(cardstock, vinyl)

PURPLE strong grip mat- heavy materials like cardboard, thin woods or bonded fabric

PINK fabric grip mat- great for non-bonded fabrics

Mat Tips:

*keep your plastic mat cover to protect it when not in use

*always keep your mat sticky, check to ensure your mat is still sticky before each project

*clean your mat with a baby wipe after each project to maintain stickiness- remove project materials and then wipe mat with baby wipes- allow to air dry before replacing plastic cover

*If needed you can also clean your mat with dishsoap and water- then allow to air dry completely to restore stickiness

*ensure your Cricut has at least 10 insches of clearance behind it when using your Cricut mats(12'x12')

*always peel the mat from your project not your project from the mat- this is done best by putting the mat face down and peeling it away from the project, not the other way around.

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Cutting blades- cheat sheet

Cricut has a variety of blades to use with your Cricut Maker.

Most projects will use the FINE CUT BLADE. This is great for cardstock, vinyl and other thinner materials

If you need to cut something thicker you will want to use the DEEP-CUT BLADE and Housing. (bonded fabric, cardboard, chipboard)

The ROTARY blade is for fabrics and other delicate materials like crepe paper.

The KNIFE BLADE is for thin wood and leather(thicker projects).

The SCORING Stylus- scores or indents paper for intricate designs. Great for cards and paper project

NEW- The Engraving Tip is used for engraving thin metal for unique and beautiful custom engraved pieces.

Blade tips:

*note the Cricut Maker has the ability to change out blades- not all blades/scorers come with the Cricut Maker, but they may be purchased individually

A= accessories

B = Blades

*don't worry if you put in the wrong blade/accessory the Cricut Design space software will tell you which blade or accessory to switch to to complete your craft project)

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Tools- cheat sheet

CRICUT MAKER TOOLS-

Scraper- helps remove extra pieces off of sticky mats(DO NOT USE ON THE PINK MAT THOUGH)

Weeding Tools- helps with vinyl projects to remove extra pieces that are not needed but still attached to the backing(includes tweezers, scissor, multiple scrapers and picks in a variety of sizes)

Paper cutter with blade for long straight cuts with ease

Roller- to push down designs

Exacto knife for small detailed additional cuts

Quilling tool- used to curve paper while creating paper flowers

Tools tip:

*store your pens tip down and always replace your cap as soon as possible(I keep my cap on the back of the pen as a quick reminder to put it back as soon as I pull it out of the Cricut)- this keeps the ink moist and ready to go.

*keep your materials and tools ready and available to craft when you are free to do so- consider using your built in storage compartments and try adding additional storage to your craft space as well for material, accessories and etc.

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A accessories- cheat sheet

There are a few accessories that have come out for the Cricut Maker

Cuddle Bug- mini embossing machine(this is an older accessory and most of this can now be done with the Cricut Maker without this)

Easy Press I, Easy Press II and Mini Easy Press- heat press machines of different sizes that heat the heat transfer vinyl to stick to projects(t-shirts, tote bags etc). Not needed for all vinyl just heat transfer vinyl

Cricut Pens- colored pens to use with your Cricut Maker- allows you to draw unique custom items with ease with your Cricut Maker(you can also use non-Cricut pens but we sure to test them out for fit and function)

Cricut Maker covers and accessory bags for storage

Cricut Bright Pad- lights up to allow you to easily see areas that need weeding(extra vinyl or paper removed post cutting)

Cricut USB adaptors are available

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Craft materials- cheat sheet

The Cricut Maker can be used with a wide variety of craft materials to make an almost endless amount of custom and beautiful craft projects. The Cricut Maker has a wide variety of materials that can be used with it.

*Make sure to select the correct material in Cricut Design Space before cutting your materials.

Material may include, but are not limited too

-VINYLS(adhesive, chalkboard, dry erase, glitter, glossy, matte, metallic, holographic, outdoor, printable, stencil)

-IRON ON VINYL-also known as heat transfer vinyl(foil, flocked, glitter, glossy, holographic, matte, neon, metallic, printable) New- Cricut infusible inks- like heat transfer vinyl but softer as it blend into the fabric with the heat

-CARDSTOCK and PAPER (cardstock, adhesive cardstock-label paper, copy paper, cardboard, cereal or other thin boxes, construction paper, flocked cardstock, flocked paper, poster board, foil embossed paper or posterboard, freezer paper, parchment paper, wax paper, glitter cardstock, metallic cardstock or paper, Metallic poster board, Pearl Cardstock or Paper, Kraft board or paper, paper grocery bags, rice paper, tissue paper, gift wrap paper, solid core or white core cardstock, crepe paper, watercolor paper, photographs and any other paper you may want to try)

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Craft materials- cheat sheet continued

-FABRICS and TEXTILES(burlap, ribbon, canvas, cotton, denim, faux leather or suede, felt, flannel, linen, leather, duck cloth, polyester, silk, wool, cashmere, fleece, jersey, printable fabric, oil cloth, Jute, knits, chiffon, mole skin, muslin, terry cloth, tulle, tweed, velvet and any other material you fancy)

-OTHER MATERIALS (adhesive foil, adhesive wood, aluminum sheets and foil, balsa wood, birch wood, cork board, corrugated paper, craft foam, poster boards, duct tape, embossing foil, glitter foam, magnet sheets, paint chips, plastic, printable magnet sheets, printable sticker/label paper, shrink plastic, light tin(soda can), stencil materials, tissue paper, temporary tattoo paper, washi sheets and tape, window clings, wood veneer, wrapping paper)

+++New Material out is the Cricut Infusible Ink- it's like a iron on vinyl that becomes part of the fabric when heat pressed on leaving it super flexible and soft- with an appearance that it is part of the material. You have to check this one out- its a new favorite of Cricut Maker lovers.

Materials tips:

*consider doing a practice cut with regular printer paper before cutting a more expensive product(vinyl, infusible ink etc)

*make sure you pick the correct material you are using in Cricut Design Space to ensure the right blade/scorer and depth are used

*have a spot for waste and scraps so you don't overwhelm your work space with extra materials that are no longer needed

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SVG files- cheat sheet

What is an SVG file?

A SVG file is a vector based computer image converted to a file that allows you to send custom images from the computer to your Cricut Maker to use for unique and beautiful projects.

Where do I find free files?

- there are tons of FREE SVG files available all over the intranet.

Cricut gives away free SVG files in [Cricut design space](#)(every month the free ones change)

You can purchase SVG files in a variety of places as well(Etsy and Cricut Design space are my favorite places to purchase them from though)

[KK Simply Creates resource library](#) -new SVG files are being added weekly