cricut

Edit in Design Space

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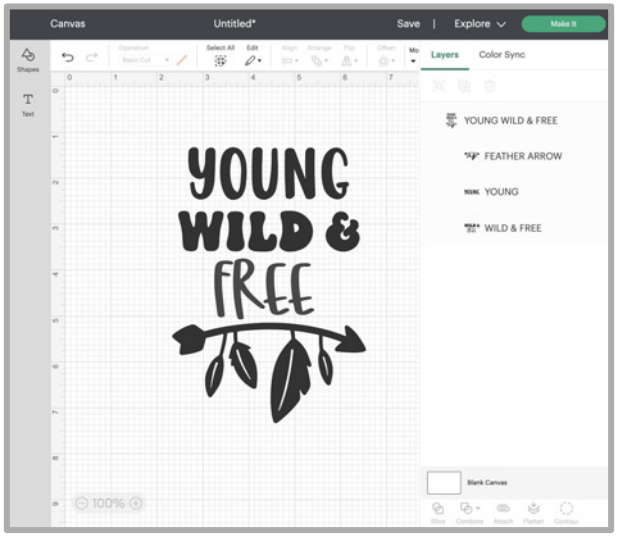
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- Adjusting Layers
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What is ‘Edit in Design Space’?

Edit in Design Space is a brand-new feature that allows you to view and edit your artwork in Design Space before you submit it for review.



Advantages of “Edit in Design Space” include:

Control Over Layering:

- Ability to see how files transfer from your preferred design software into Design Space and make adjustments before art is submitted.
- Name your layers and edit them with new combine features - in addition to any of the typical functions of working in Design Space.

New Operations:

- Now you can create Draw art, foil, deboss!
- Change colors to match Cricut materials.
- Express your creative intent even more clearly by giving you the freedom to include multiple operations within one design.

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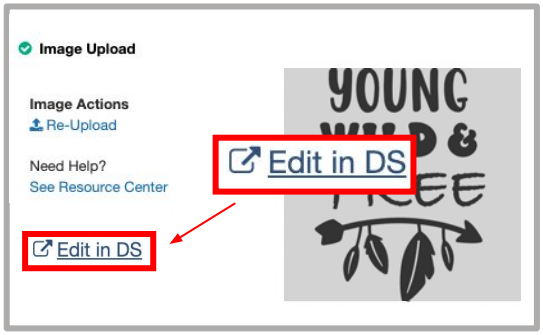
How to Use Edit in Design Space?

Edit in Design Space is as simple as 1-2-3!

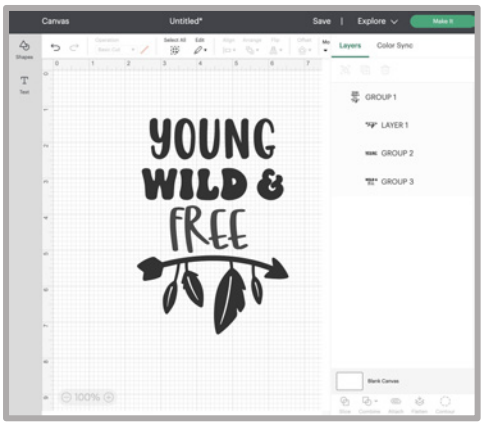
1 Create
Create your SVG as normal, including planning out colors, groups and layers



2 Upload
Upload art in the Artist Portal, and open the image in Design Space



3 Edit
Artwork will open in a new Canvas window specially designed to edit CAP art



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Make Great Art

Creating art for Cricut is different than most other digital marketplaces because Cricut members turn digital files into physical creations. Cricut is committed to a good cutting experience for all our members. We do not want anyone to waste time and materials due to a poor cut file. As a result, we must ensure all art files are set up correctly.

A big step of creating great art is making sure your art is usable. As we scale the Contributing Artist Program, we need to spend less time cleaning submitted art, meaning that we will be more strict with rejecting art that is not set up correctly. **Edit in Design Space** will give you the tools you need to double-check the quality and adjust your art before our team takes over.

One of the main goals of the Contributing Artist Program is to increase the diversity of the content within Design Space and to carry content that appeals to users from different countries, cultures, and backgrounds. We also must ensure that this content is accurate, sensitive, and appropriate. We have a unique review process for content in languages other than English and culture or religion-specific content. We do our best to screen this content, but we also ask that you use your discretion and only submit art that you understand (ie. If you submit religious imagery, make sure that it is accurate and in good taste, and if you submit art in a language that is not your own, make sure the translation makes sense and is grammatically correct).

Please review the following pages and keep this document as a quality guide to reference when designing.

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Make Great Art

Please only submit original artwork that follows Cricut Content Standards

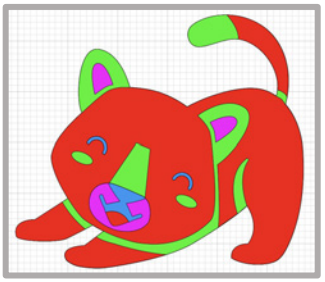
Content Guidelines

While we never want to limit your creative expression or tell you what to make, we do have some simple guidelines that will help boost your acceptance rate. Please consider the following:

Color

Artwork needs to be 6 colors or less and there should be an intentional color palette. The color palette should make sense for the intended subject matter.

Non-Intentional Color



Simple Shapes

Cricut already has a large (and free) library of simple shapes. We want you to use your unique style to bring our users art that they don't already have access to. Very stylized simple shapes may be accepted, but plain geometry will not.

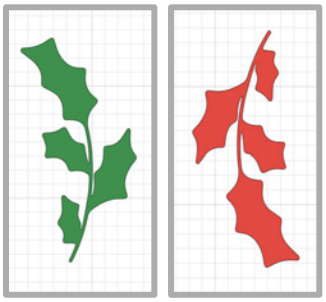
Too Simple



Duplicates

We will not accept duplicate artwork. Images that are almost the same but have very slight differences such as different colors, are reflected or rotated, or include the same elements that are rearranged slightly are all considered duplicates. Additionally, multiples of the same art where the only difference is a personalized element, such as a year, a number, and age etc. will also be considered duplicates.
Please review the section on layering for information about creating multiple files for different materials.

Duplicates



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1. **Create**
2. Upload
3. Edit

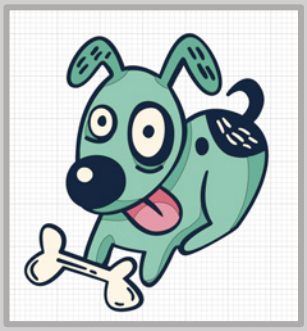
Make Great Art

Color

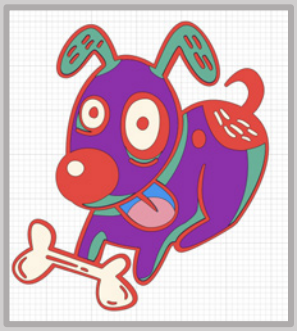
Accept



Accept



Reject



Reject



Simple Shapes

Accept



Accept



Reject



Duplicates

These would all be considered duplicates, and only one would be accepted











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Make Great Art

Whenever possible, it's helpful to test cut your own artwork as a quality review

Quality Guidelines

It is so important for our members to have a good cutting experience. Not only for Cricut's reputation, but for yours as well – if your images are easy to work with, more people will enjoy using your art and become return customers. To help ensure the technical quality of your art is sound, please consider the following:`

Font

Please make sure to outline your text! We most likely will not have the special fonts you use, and if your text is not outlined your art could come through broken.

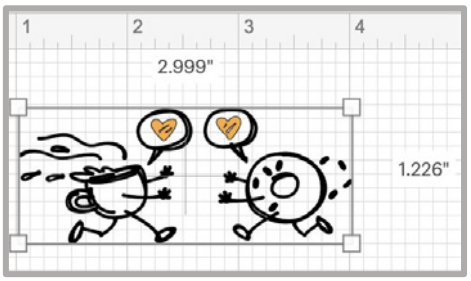
Missing Font



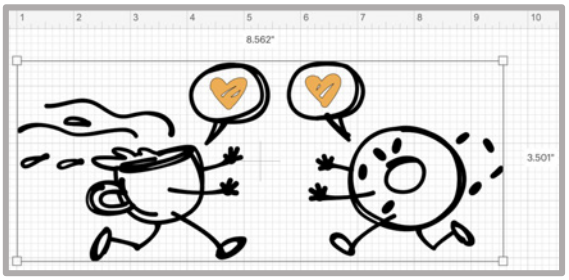
Size and Complexity

Many Cricut users love complex art – weeding is their meditation. However, it is still important to consider how complexity could affect the material if the artwork is not set to an appropriate size. If your design has a lot of lines too close together, the material may shred. If your corners are jagged or irregular, the material may snag and tear when lifted. Look at the amount of detail in your art and consider how well it may cut at different sizes. When you submit your art for upload, set the size to something that is both workable, and makes sense. Please keep the cutting areas large enough and thick enough that they can still be cut and weeded without tearing the craft material.

Too Small for the Complexity



Appropriately Sized



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1. **Create**
2. Upload
3. Edit

Make Great Art

Font

Accept – All text has been





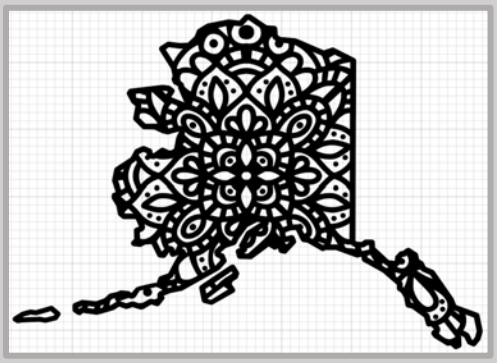
Reject – Art is missing font?





Size and Complexity

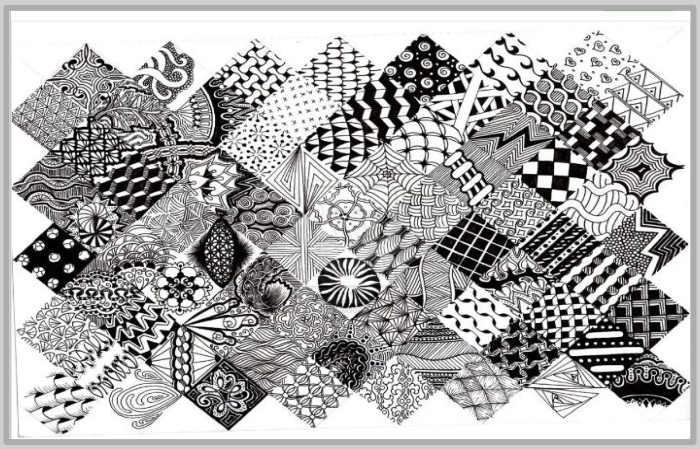
Accept – Thick linework, good spacing, workable scale





Reject – way too much texture, too small, and too detailed





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Make Great Art

Consider the desired outcome of your artwork, and use this guide to layer your files

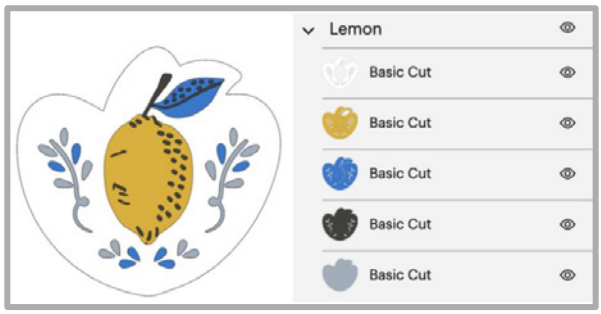
Layering Guidelines

Normally, when you create digital designs, the file set up isn't as important because end-users only see the visual/top view. However, when creating for a Cricut machine, it is important to remember that your art is going to be cut, and that the machine will cut anything in the file. Please consider the following when layering your art:

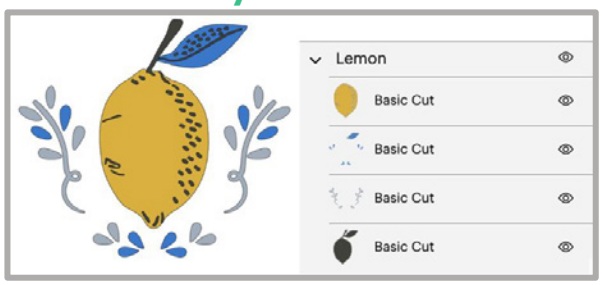
Layering for Paper

Paper is the most accessible material, and generally where beginners will start their crafting journey. We don't want the users to cut and glue a million tiny pieces of paper – especially if the layout is not clear when cut. It is best to begin with the most complex layer (the color with the most cuts) as the top layer, and then each subsequent layer will have less and less detail, ending with a solid piece of paper. Through this process, the design is created by stacking negative spaces, rather than building with individual pieces. Each layer has the same overall shape, so it is easy for the users to put the image together without a reference.

Paper



Vinyl or Iron-on



Layering for Vinyl and Iron-on

Vinyl and iron-on have material backers that hold together a design after it has been cut, and while it is being transferred, so it is not unreasonable to have the user assemble smaller elements, as the layout will be preserved, and the pieces held together. With this type of layering, it is better to have the smaller pieces floating on top of the largest base element.

Layering for Infusible Ink

Infusible Ink cannot be layered. Artwork intended for infusible ink must be created in a single layer format. You can have multiple colors in an infusible ink design, but they need to be cut out of one another, not layered on top of each other.

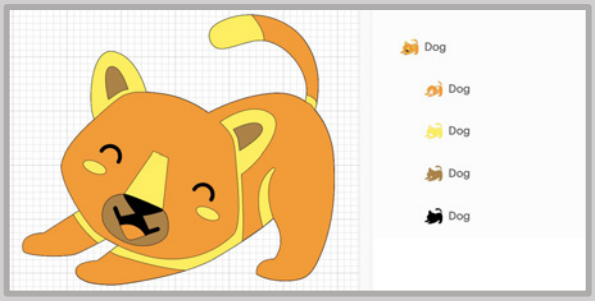
1. **Create**
2. Upload
3. Edit

Make Great Art

Quality Examples

Layering for Paper

Layout is clear and easy to assemble without additional direction



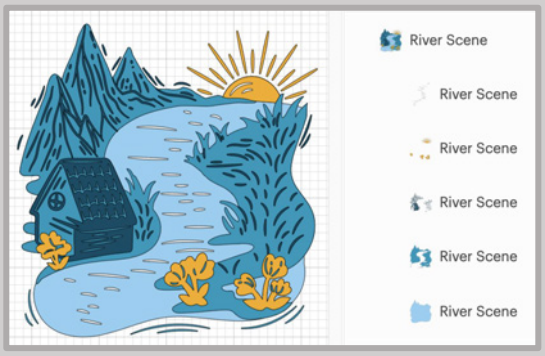


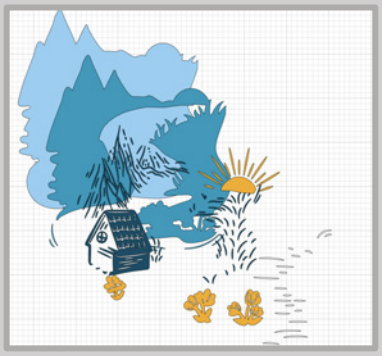
Single layer image



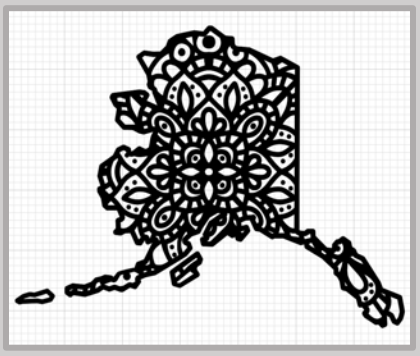
Layering for Vinyl or Iron-on

Layout is clear and easy to assemble without additional direction





Single layer image



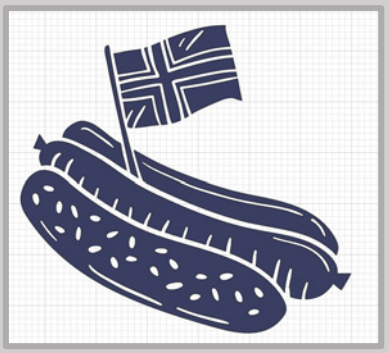
Layering for Infusible Ink

Single layer, multi-colored images





Single layer image



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Artwork created for single line operations (such as Draw or Foil) require a different file setup

Single Line Operations

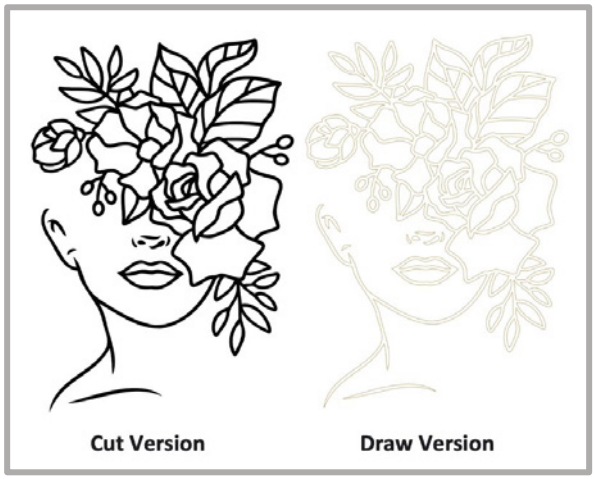
Cricut machines do more than cut – they draw, foil, emboss, etc. – which are all single line operations. Unfortunately, if you simply take a cut file and swap the function to draw in Design Space, you will get a shape with a double outline. Art with a double outline is considered a cut file, and if you submit art in this format labeled as a Draw file, we will reject the upload. In order to upload artwork that will work as a Draw or Foil operation, you will need to set up your files differently.

Setting Up Line Files

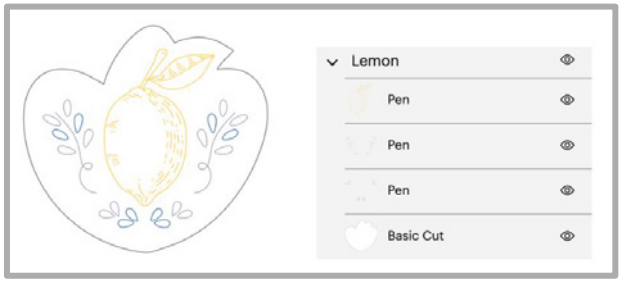
For your file to properly load as a Draw image, you need to create a single stroke version of your art. This must be done in a vector-based design program. When you draw your art, you need to make sure you are using a tool set to "stroke" and not "fill". It will be extra important to double check your files in outline mode, because outline mode will most accurately represent how your artwork will translate from your design program, to Design Space, and then to the machines.

Finally, before you save your draw file, you need to Combine your elements. To do this in Adobe Illustrator, select all of the segments that you want to be in one layer, go to Object > Compound Path > Make. Repeat this step for each desired layer. You also need to include a Basic Cut backer to any of your draw files, which needs to be added in your design program. The backer can be a contour shapes or a simple shape, such as a circle or square.

Cut file changed to Draw in Design Space



Properly Formatted Draw File



1. **Create**
2. Upload
3. Edit

Make Great Art

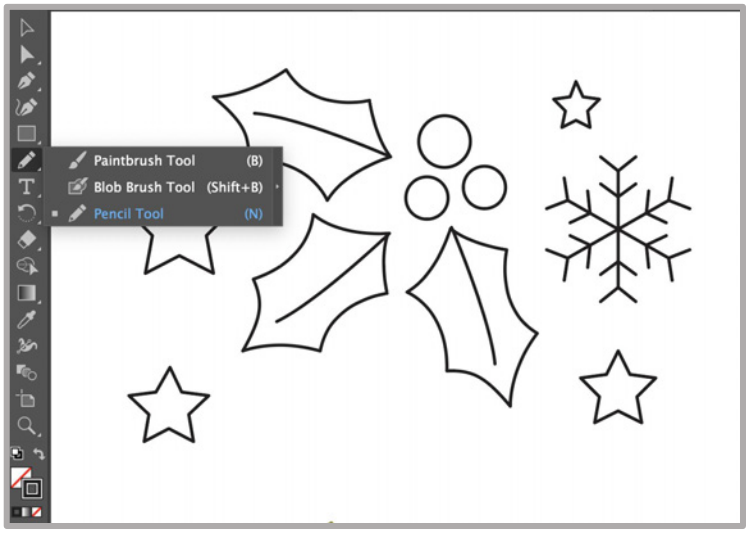
Artwork created for single line operations (such as Draw or Foil) require a different file setup

Step by Step Guide to Setting Up Single Line Art Creation

This guide is an example of art made in Adobe Illustrator. You can use your preferred design software, as long as it is vector based and you have the option to work with single strokes. It will be easier to design directly in vector software, rather than in raster software (such as Procreate or Photoshop) and then vectorize it after. It is not impossible to work that way, but it is more complicated, and won't be covered in this document.

1

Draw your artwork with your tool set to stroke, NOT fill (the pen or pencil tool works great for this)



2

Use color to organize the elements you want to be on their own layer.



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Make Great Art

Artwork created for single line operations (such as Draw or Foil) require a different file setup

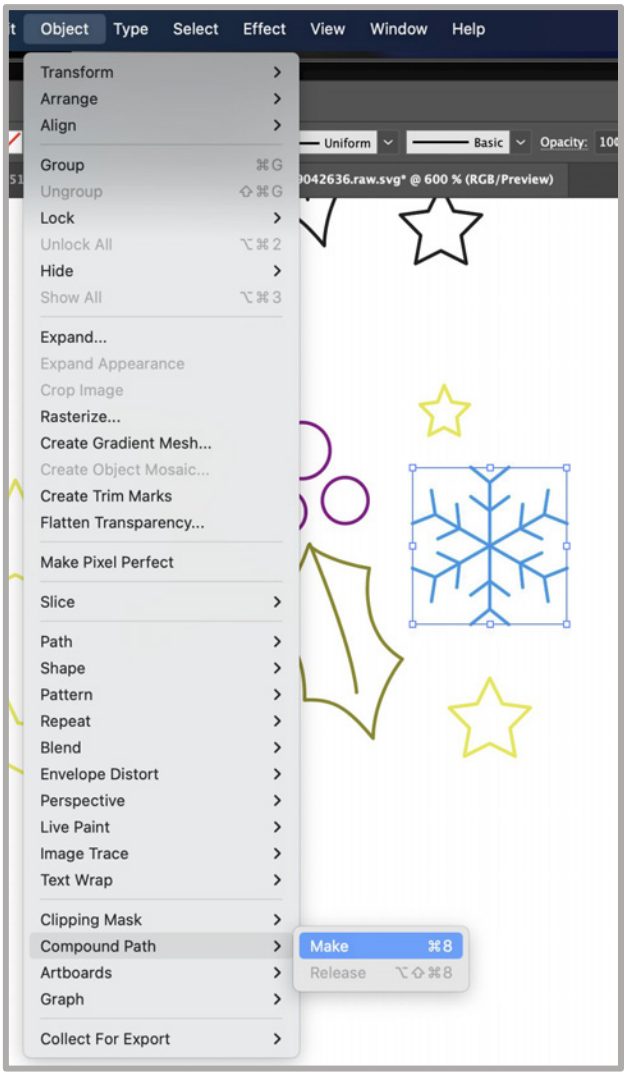
Step by Step Guide to Setting Up Single Line Art Creation

3 Select all of the segments and elements of the same color (or whatever you want to be combined on one layer)

4 With the strokes selected, go to Object > Compound Path > Make

5 Repeat step 4 for each element you want to be on its own layer.

If you skip this step, your art will load in Design Space in a ton of individual segment layers, that at this time you will only be able to Group or Attach, not Weld, and will create a file that will be difficult for users to work with.



6 Save your file as you normally would, as an SVG. Your art is now ready to be loaded in the Artist Portal and can be Edited in Design Space!

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1 Create
2 **Upload**
3 Edit

Uploading Art

Loading your artwork into the Edit in Design Space Canvas

Accessing Edit in Design Space

Once you have reviewed your artwork against our content and quality standards, accessing Edit in Design space is as simple as uploading your art into the artist portal.

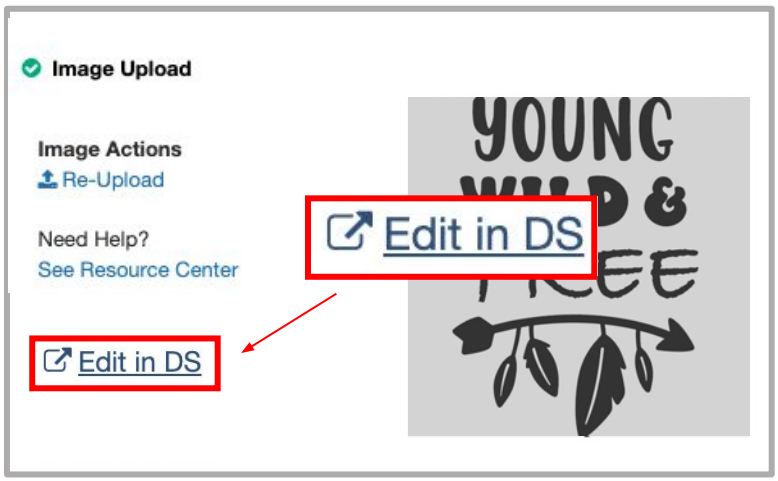
1

Go to artist.ciruct.com >Artwork>Image Upload, and select an artwork file



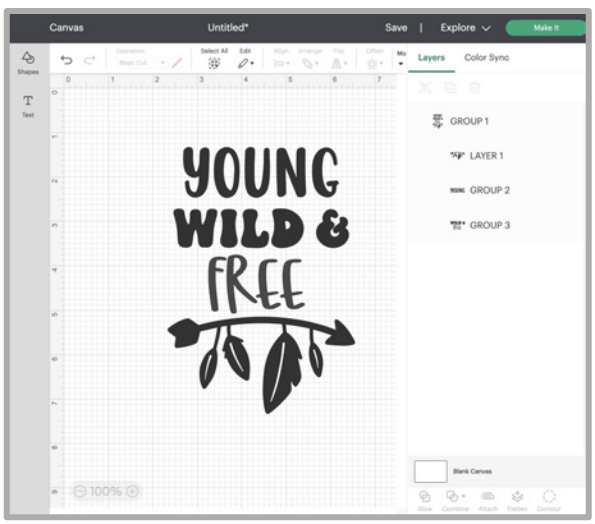
2

After your file has loaded, click the link to the left of the image that says "Edit in DS" (depending on your computer/browser, you might see a pop-up window asking if you want to open Design Space – click "Open")



3

Your image will load in a new Canvas designed specifically for Contributing Artists!



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1. Create
2. Upload
3. **Edit**

Editing In Design Space

Bringing your artwork to life

Edit in Design Space

You are now able to view how your art directly translates from your preferred design software into Design Space. In this Canvas your artwork will appear exactly how the user will see it when added to their Canvas.

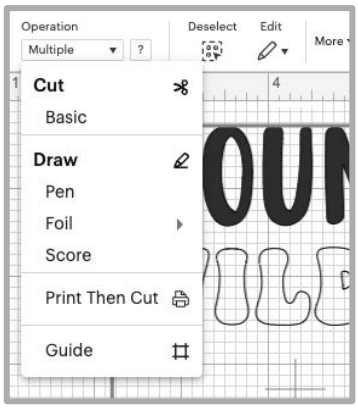
Adjust Layers

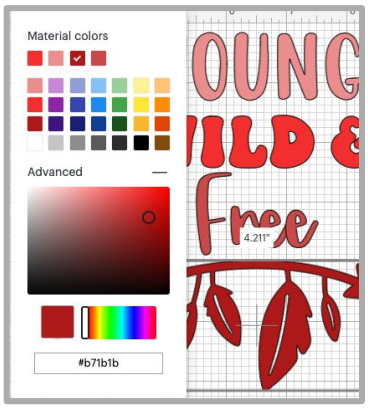
Group, weld, reorder, and rename layers to give users more clarity when it comes to layering their cut material. (To change a layer name, simply double click on the existing label)



Change Operation and Color

Change your layers to a new color scheme that includes Cricut specific material colors. Try out new operations such as Draw, Foil, or Score.

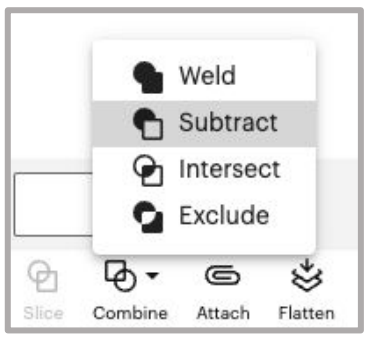




Simple Shapes and Combine

While this Canvas is a simplified version of the original Design Space Canvas, you still have the option to add some extra elements from a free library of simple shapes. Use these shapes to add a background or play with totally different layouts utilizing the new Combine features.





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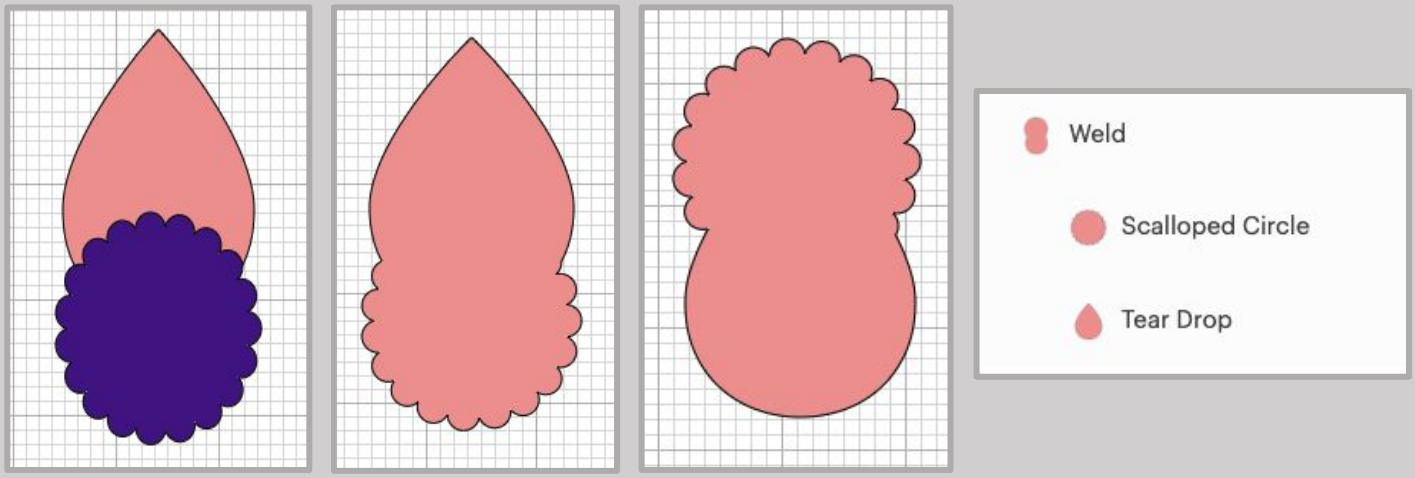
1 Create
2 Upload
3 **Edit**

Editing in Design Space

Non-Destructive Combine Examples

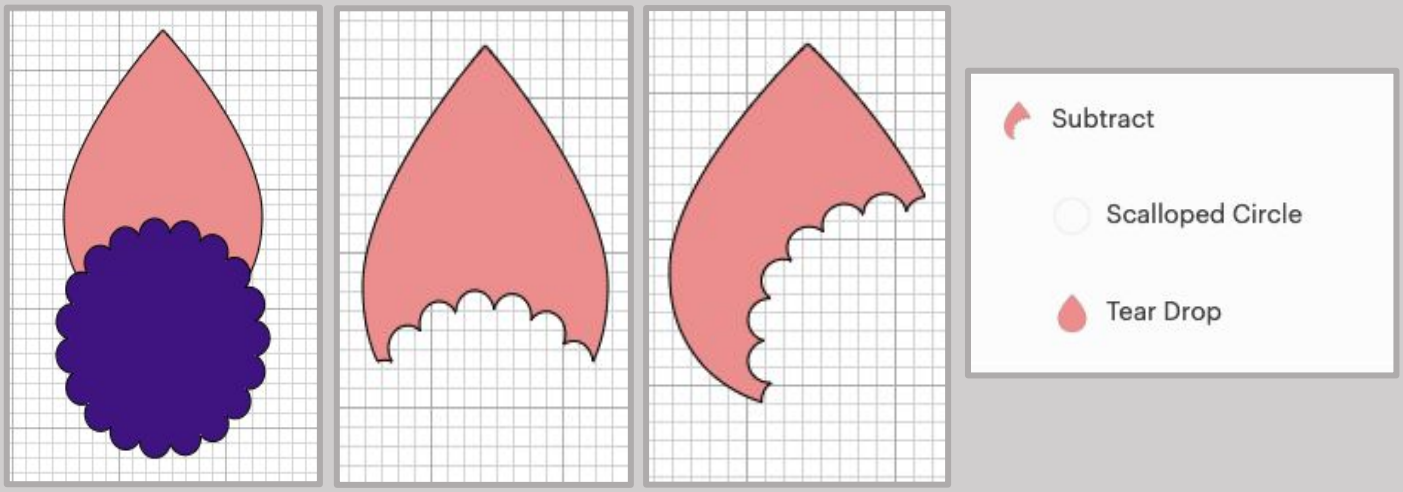
Non-Destructive Weld

Non-Destructive Welds are designed so the machine reads the assets as one object while giving you the freedom to rearrange each element as an individual layer without undoing the weld. In this example, the scalloped circle would merge with the tear drop shape, but you could still move the elements around until you sent the image to cut.



Subtract

Subtract cuts the top selected layer out of the lower selected layer, while also being non-destructive. After you perform Subtract, you are still free to move each shape independently.



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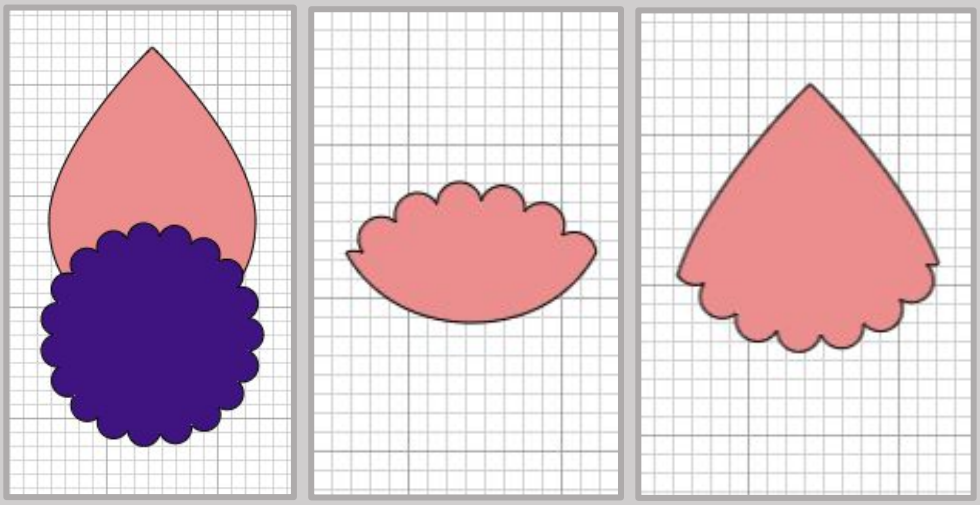
1. Create
2. Upload
3. **Edit**

Editing in Design Space

Non-Destructive Combine Examples

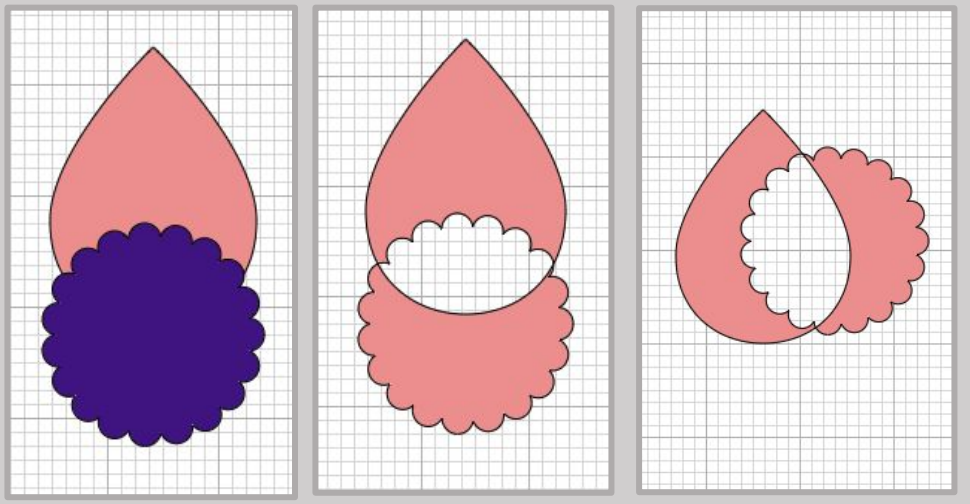
Intersect

When using Intersect, overlapping layers become a new shape. Any part of the selected shapes that aren't touching will be removed from the actual cut. However, you will still be able to move each shape independently within the applied feature.



Exclude

Exclude is the opposite function of Intersect. Any part of the selected shapes that ARE touching will be REMOVED from the cut. However, you will still be able to move each shape independently within the applied feature.



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1 Create
2 Upload
3 **Edit**

Uploading Art

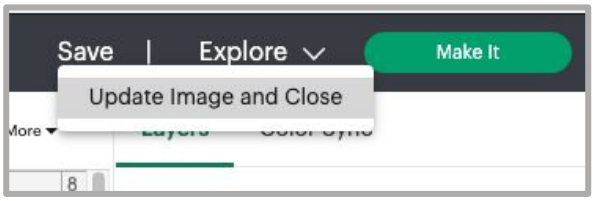
Saving and submitting

Saving your Edits

Once the files have been edited, and you are happy with the way everything is laid out, simply save your artwork, close Design Space, and continue with your upload.

1

In the top right panel click Save > Update Image and Close (if you want to save without closing, you will still click here and select cancel in next pop up)



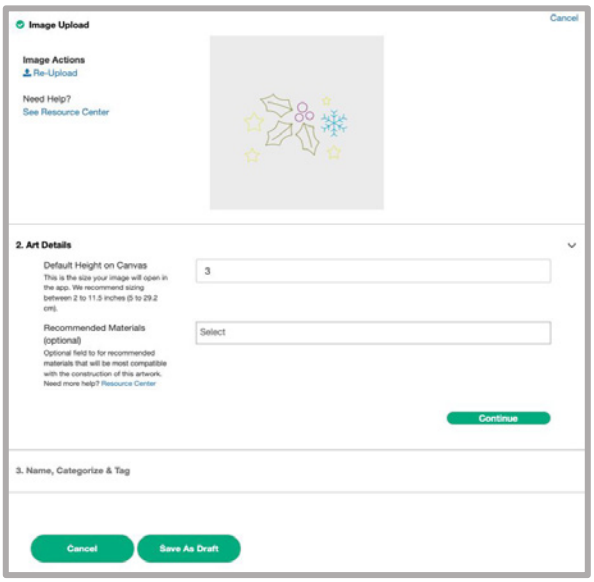
2

Close out of Design Space and continue with the upload process (naming, categorizing, and tagging will all stay the same)



3

While we encourage you to utilize Edit in Design Space to have more control over your content, you are welcome to bypass this process and upload your artwork as usual.



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Questions, or comments?

Join the conversation in the
Cricut Contributing Artist Facebook group
for more tips & tricks.

cricut

Editable Images

What are Editable Images?

Editable Images are a new type of image that can be uploaded into Design Space and will allow users to customize the text elements within the images.



The Blue Text denotes which part of the image is editable, *this will automatically be applied to any text box you include in the image.*

This image denotes the image is editable.

Contributing Artist attribution is still there!

What's so great about Editable Images?

Better Member Experience

- Members will see all the unique designs in Design Space and immediately see how they can customize the text in the design to better work for them.
- This will also make it easier for users to change the text to their language – which will help make your designs more relevant to Cricut's growing global membership!

Better Contributing Artist Experience

- You can spend more time on a single design (and get more bang for your buck!) vs. trying to anticipate and create every variation.
- The art you create can be used by a broader reach of Members (because anyone can customize the text of the design in the way they specifically need).
- This update will allow you to focus on creating the right content and template vs. uploading every single iteration (quality, not just quantity!)
- Editable Images will extend the life of your designs – if users find a template they like, they can continually adjust it to fit their needs.
- This functionality is only available within Cricut Design Space.

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How to Make Editable Images?

Get started making Editable Images in a few simple steps:

1 Create

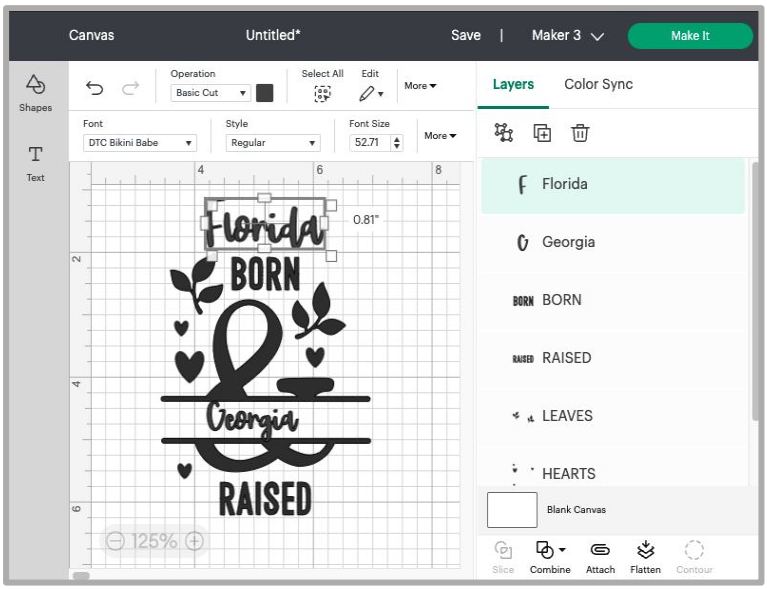
Create your SVG *almost* as normal – plan out colors, groups and layers – but consider which parts of your design will be Editable.



2 Edit

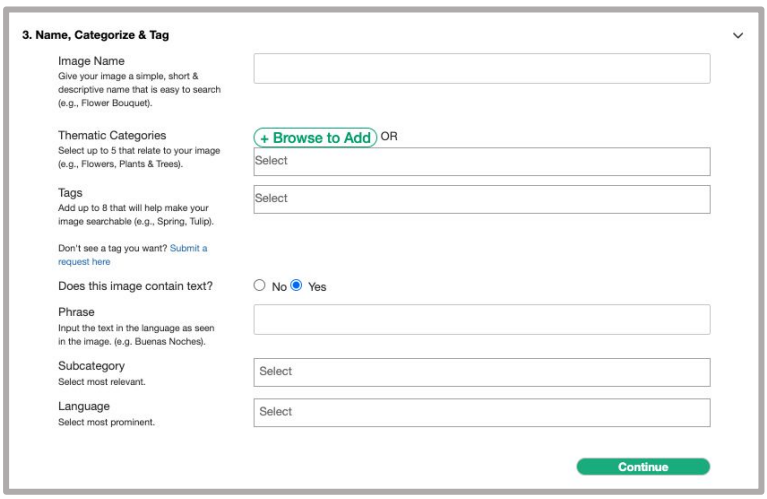
Upload art in the Artist Portal, and then open the image in Design Space.

Artwork will open in the Edit in Design Space Canvas. From here you can add in Editable text layers.



3 Tag

Editable Images will be given priority in our search. Please follow the new best practices when tagging Editable Art.



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1 Create
2 Edit
3 Tag

Making Editable Images

Setting up artwork to be used as an Editable Image takes some pre-planning

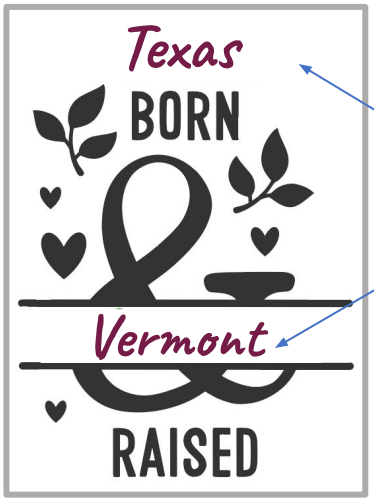
Planning

When creating art with the intent to use it as an Editable Image, consider that the end user will not have access to any system fonts used in the design. If there are words that you don't want to be Editable, they can be written in system fonts and outlined – the same process used to create regular art. Any verbiage in the design that is going to be Editable will need to be added in the Edit in Design Space Canvas after the art is uploaded.

Step by Step Guide to Setting Up Editable Images

1

Create artwork as normal. We suggest using a placeholder text for anything that will be Editable.



Placeholder Text

2

When the art is complete either delete your placeholder text or outline it and keep it on a separate layer. Double check the outlines and save as normal.



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1 Create
2 **Edit**
3 Tag

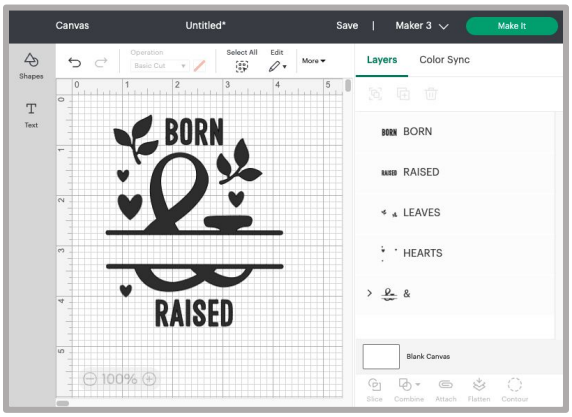
Making Editable Images

With Editable Images, Edit in Design Space is an essential part of the upload process.

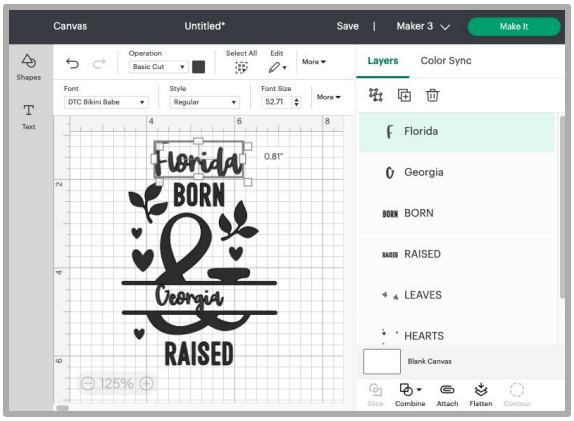
Step by Step Guide to Setting Up Editable Images

3 Follow the steps for opening your art in Edit in Design Space.

4 Use Edit in Design Space to adjust your art to how you want it to be displayed – group, weld, recolor, or rename your layers. If the art was uploaded with placeholder text, delete those layers.

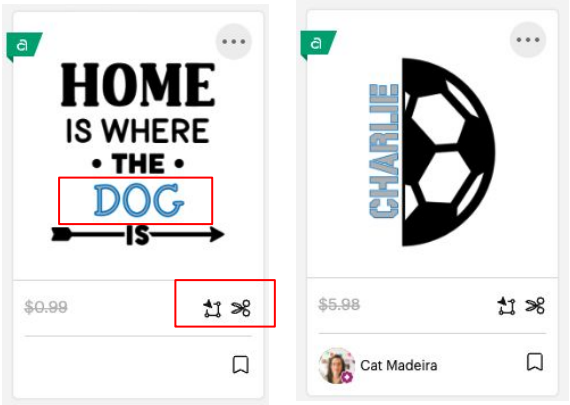


5 Add in the Editable text layers.



6 Follow the steps for saving your art in Edit in Design Space and finalize your upload.

7 Once the art has been approved, it will appear in Design Space with markers that let users know it contains Editable text.



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Editable Image Best Practices

Editable Images gives users the freedom to personalize your art to their individual needs. Review these guidelines for best practices to follow when creating art for Editable Images.

Amount of Fonts

- Artwork can contain up to 10 different fonts. You will receive an error if you use more than 10.
- Non – Access Subscribers will have to pay for each of the fonts included in your art, so more fonts will make it more expensive.
- Certain licensed fonts will not be available for you to add to your artwork (Disney, Marvel, etc.), and are already removed from the Design Canvas.

Inspirational Content

- The Editable text in your images needs to be inspirational – it cannot be an empty text box (which would not save anyway), and it cannot just say "TEXT".
- To make your design timeless but also inspirational, use the year 20XX vs. 2021
- If using a date, set it up in a universal format such as 03.04.XX (use # below 12 so it can work across multiple countries)
- When using an address, use universal something like “1, My street, Anywhere”

Good – Editable text is inspirational



Bad – Editable text is a label



Good – Editable text is inspirational



Bad – Editable sections are empty



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Editable Image Best Practices

International Consideration

- Consider how art may be translated. If there are text elements that are not Editable ("the", "a", "from") the art most likely will only be used by users who speak that language.
- Consider also how the text is laid out. If the art has very tight margins, certain languages that have a lot of characters in their words might not be able utilize the design.
- Try to diversify the inspirational names/dates/locations in your art. Having different lengths of names or dates can help users envision how their own personalization might look.

Naming Layers

- While it is not required, we strongly suggest that you rename your layers in a way that adds clarity to your designs. I.e. “Border”, “Stars”, “Trees” - while avoiding descriptions that could be changed by the user. “Yellow Star” is not a great option because the user may adjust the colors when they personalize the art.

Good – All text is editable





Bad – Editable text is a label (not all text is required to be editable, but it will increase the diverse usability)



There is nothing wrong with the way these designs are set up. Just consider diversifying the names used.







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Name Inspiration

Feel free to use names that aren't listed here – these are just some examples to get you started and to come back to if you get stuck.

Female	Male	Gender Neutral	Surnames
Imani	Reggie	Lee	Devi
Nia	Reginald	Spencer	Ivanov
Jada	Xavier	Sam	Kim
Gabrielle	Darryl	Kay	Ali
Laila	Jayden	Corey	Garcia
Maya	Santiago	Sloane	Müller
Lucia	Miguel	Blaise	Silva
Lola	Matias	Noah	Nguyen
Isla	Mateo	Logan	Anderson
Elena	Juan	Kai	Gonzalez
Luise	Jose	Remy	Rodrigo
Jade	Javier	Kit	Hansen
Sofia	Luke	Jude	Li/Lee
Aoife	Gabriel	Asa	Patel
Ciara	Carlos	Hunter	Smirnov
Saoirse	Hugo	Kai	Sari
Chloë	Gabriel	Sawyer	Tan
Mila	Francesco	Zephyr	Smith
Li	Cian	Sage	Anderson
Mozomi	Callum	Everest	De la Cruz
Kaori	Lucas	Charlie	Chen
Layla	Raphaël	Lowen	Chang
Olivia	Wei	Tatum	Sato
Emma	Liam	Wren	Cohen
Mia	Lucas	Azriel	Martin
Grace	Benjamin	Blake	Rossi
Violet	Henry	Ash	Popa
Riley	Theo/Theodore	Timber	Lopez
Sophia	Hiroshi	Sol	Quispe
Harper	Ali	Lux	Latu
Ava	Nasir	Kingsley	Watanabe
Charlotte	Reza	Amari	Liu
Mariam	Seo-jun	Finley	Kumar
Ha-yoon	Eun-woo	Emerson	Yang
Mei	Bowen	Koda	Singh

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1 Create
2 Edit
3 **Tag**

Tagging & Taxonomy

Once you create your art, it's important to tag it correctly or Design Space members won't be able to find it. When you add text to your image, Cricut will know it's an Editable Image so no need to add an additional Editable Image tag. By following these guidelines your image will appear for both exact match, and partial match on the non editable text

The Title (Image Title) needs to be the entire phrase of what users see in the preview. Title matches the complete phrase of the editable image including the example word. If there is just an image and editable text (no other text) then the "name" of the image and the editable text words (see mountain below)

The Phrase matches the words that are NOT Editable, if there are no words that are not editable, put 'customizable' in the phrase.

Note: when editable text is in middle of text add the non editable text that is round it (see "I'm the creative one")

Tags and Categories will be similar to other images with these additions:

- Tag as Name if the example editable text includes a name .
- Tag as Address if the example editable text includes an address.



Title = Will You Be My **Maid of Honor?**
Phrase = Will you Be My



Title = I'm the **Creative** one
Phrase = I'm the one



Title = **Grumpy Cat**
Phrase = customizable
Tag = Cat



Title = Mountain
Phrase = customizable
Tag = Name

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FAQs

Is there a way to fix the kerning between specific letters of a font, without selecting the whole segment of text?

- No - but this may be included in a future update.

Can you select a section of text and transform the whole selection to capitalized or lower-case?

- No - but it is on our wishlist.

Why doesn't my thumbnail show the edits I just made?

- The thumbnail on the upload page doesn't update in real time. Once you submit your art or save and close, your changes will show in your artist portal overview.

Can I just insert an empty textbox and let the users fill it in?

- No - if you leave a textbox empty, it will not save with the file.

Can I download my edited art out of Design Space?

- No - Artwork cannot be saved to your computer from Design Space.

Can you send me the .OTF or .TTF files of Cricut Exclusive fonts?

- No - at this time, these fonts cannot be used outside of Design Space. If you want to add non-editable text to your art that utilizes Cricut fonts, you have to add it in 'Edit in DS' and outline the text layer. You can do this through Offset > set the offset to 0 > Apply > delete the textbox layer.

How many layers should I have in the non-editable part of the art?

- That is up to you, and how much freedom you want the users to have with the layout. If your artwork has tight margins, it could be beneficial to break up your design into sections that could be rearranged to accommodate longer phrases, or languages that have more characters in their words. If you have an additional border or floating elements, consider having these on a separate layer to give users more customization opportunities.

Does all art need to be in English?

- No! You are welcome to make artwork in any of Cricut's currently supported languages (we are continually working to support more languages and add more language specific fonts)

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FAQs

Additional Tips:

- In order for your text alignment and formatting to save with your art, you need to have ‘Wrap On’ selected in the Alignment panel. Pull the text box handles or go into the 'Align' drop down and turn 'Wrap On', and then select the align features that you want to include (center, left, right).
  If you don’t have ‘Wrap On’ selected, your alignment won’t save with the art, and your textbox might not load in the location you intended.

- Consider making your text box longer than the inspirational word you decide to use - with ‘Wrap On’, if a user types a word that is longer than your text box it will start ‘wrapping’ onto a new line.

- You can also use letter spacing and line spacing with 'Wrap On'. These will save to the image.

- Remember to Attach layers of the same color - not just Group them - or your layers will be separated on to different mats when the artwork is sent to Make.

- You cannot use the new Combine features with your Editable Text layers, but you can use them on other layers within your artwork.

- Besides the new combine features, you can edit the text as normal - add curve, rotation, adjust scale etc.

- Please don’t use a name/surname in the title of your art.

- Don’t write instructions in your layer names - “Weld this layer to green layer” would not be accepted.

- **(Only Temporary) Make sure you are in Beta in Design Space. You can find this under Settings > Application Experience > Beta**

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Content Inspiration









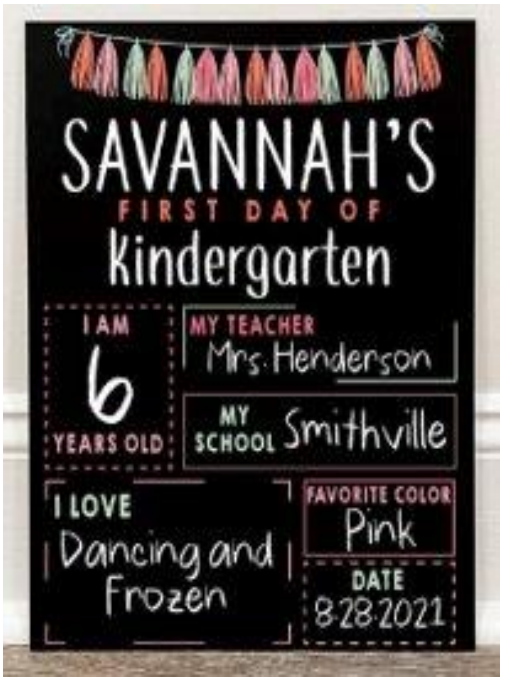




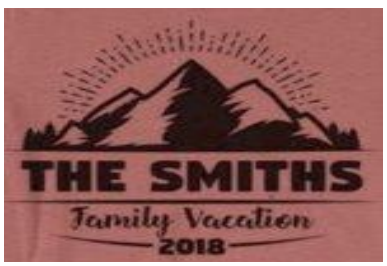












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Upload Checklist

Before You Submit Your Art:

- ❑ Make sure your Design Space is in Beta
- ❑ Editable texts needs to be inspirational
- ❑ Don’t have Editable Text overlapping static layers
- ❑ Make sure Editable Text boxes are appropriately sized
- ❑ Weld excessive layers
- ❑ Attach layers that are meant to be cut from the same color/material

And most importantly, have fun!

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