

## User Guide: Cricut Maker Machines



### What is it?

[The Cricut Maker](#) is an electronic cutting and drawing machine. Designs created on your computer can be cut or drawn into material such as paper, cardstock, vinyl, fabric, and more.

[Cricut Maker Manual](#)

### What can I do?

The Cricut can be used to make signs, custom t-shirts, labels, greeting cards, and much more!

- Watch videos on the [Official Cricut YouTube](#) channel.
- Check out project inspiration on [Cricut's Projects page](#)
- View tutorials and step-by-step instructions on [Creativebug](#) with your Lafourche Library Card
- Additional project inspiration can be found on [Pinterest](#)

### What does the Makerspace provide?

- Cricut Maker (Quantity: 2)

## Thibodaux Branch Makerspace

- Cut mats sized 12"x12"
  - Light Grip
  - Standard Grip
  - Strong Grip
  - Fabric Grip
- Blades
  - Fine Point Blade
  - Bonded Fabric Blade
  - Foil Transfer Tool
    - Fine, Medium, and Bold
  - Scoring Wheel
  - Rotary Blade
  - Knife Blade
- Weeding tools
- Cricut EasyPress
- EasyPress Heat Mat

There is **no cost** to use the machine or listed tools.

## What do I need?

- A design prepared in [Cricut Design Space](#)
  - Cricut Design Space is a free program for your Windows, Apple, and Android devices.
  - Cricut will upload a variety of file types: JPEG, PNG, SVG, DXF, EPS
- **All materials** to create your project (see below)
- **Transfer tape** for applicable projects (see Tips and Additional Info below)
- Additional **cardstock or butcher paper** for heat press projects (see Tips and Additional Info below)
- Anywhere from 30 minutes for a small design to several hours for a larger/more detailed design.

## Thibodaux Branch Makerspace

- The Library currently **does not sell or provide** materials, including pens and copy paper, to use with the Cricut.

## What materials can I use?

Material must fit within the size of the work area:

- Width: 11.5 inches maximum
- Length: 11.5 inches maximum

Common materials include:

- Copy paper (white, patterned, printed, etc.)
- Cardstock (adhesive, chalkboard, glitter, etc.)
- Vinyl (printable, adhesive, matte, glossy, stencil, etc.)
- Heat Transfer (Iron-On) Vinyl
- Cricut Pens and Markers (Must be Cricut brand to fit in machine)
- Foil transfer sheets
- Fabric

Cricut has a many materials you can purchase for use. Except for Cricut pens and markers, you can purchase off-brand materials from most craft retailers.

## Learn

- Use project tutorials and classes on [Creativebug](#)
- Visit Cricut's [Learn](#) page
- The [Official Cricut YouTube Channel](#) has videos of tutorials and project inspiration
  - Find project tutorials on [Instructables](#)

## Tips and Additional Info

### Adhesive Vinyl Projects

## Thibodaux Branch Makerspace

Adhesive vinyl is great for decorating and customizing everyday items like wood signs, cups, picture frames, laptops, and more! This vinyl comes with a layer of adhesive so it is ready to stick on your item, both in permanent or removable options. Avoid tiny or thin lines in your design. You will need transfer tape to move your design onto the item you are decorating.

Materials you will need to complete your project:

- Vinyl
  - Permanent is recommended for outdoor or washable items
  - Removable is recommended for laptop or wall décor
- Transfer tape

## Heat Transfer (Iron-On) Vinyl Projects

Heat transfer (iron-on) vinyl is great for customizing t-shirts, bags, or other fabric items! Unlike regular vinyl, it does not have a layer of adhesive and is meant to adhere to fabric using a heat press. The end result will have a layer of vinyl on top of the fabric. Most brands of heat transfer (iron-on) vinyl have built-in heat resistant transfer tape. The heating process for each brand can vary, so read the accompanying directions carefully. The [Cricut Heat Guide](#) has suggested temperature settings.

Materials you will need to complete your project:

- Heat Transfer (Iron-On) Vinyl
- Heat Resistant Transfer Tape (only if not built-in)
- If there is no transfer tape, patrons need to supply butcher paper or cardstock to protect the heat press and their project

## Reserve a Cricut Maker

### [Reserve](#)

- Call (985) 447-4119 or email [thibodaux@lafourche.org](mailto:thibodaux@lafourche.org) about your reservation.
  - Reservations are held for 15 minutes after start time.
  - Cardholder must be present during reservation.