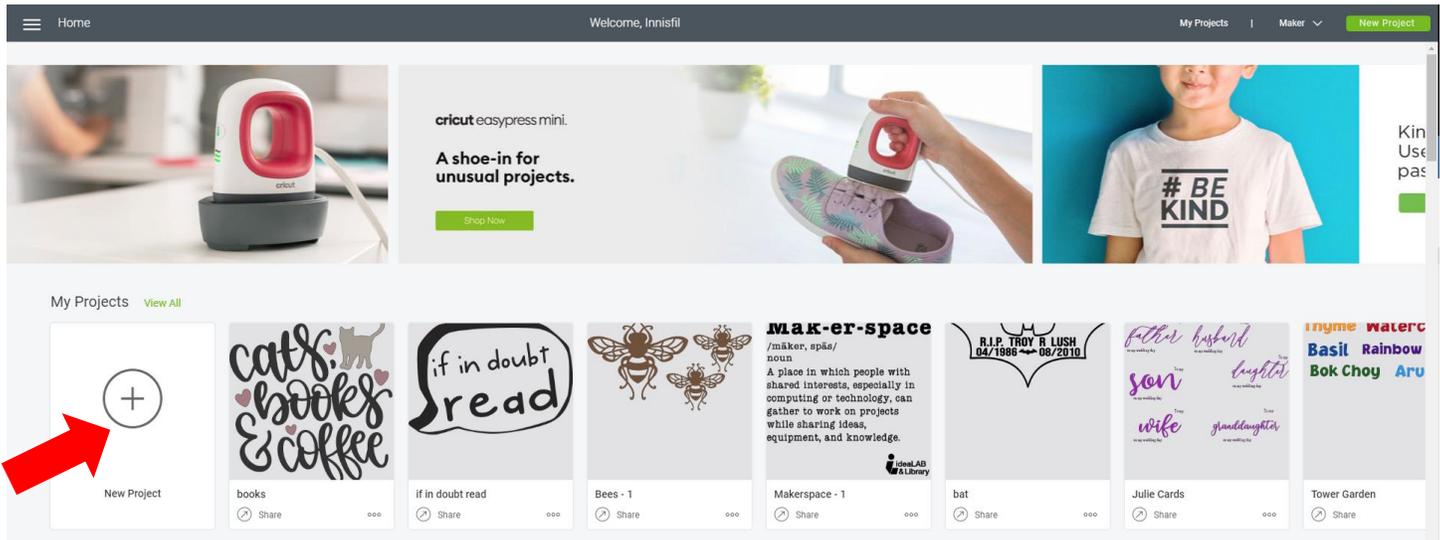


Advanced Cricut Design Space: Designing for the Cricut Air 2 & Cricut Maker

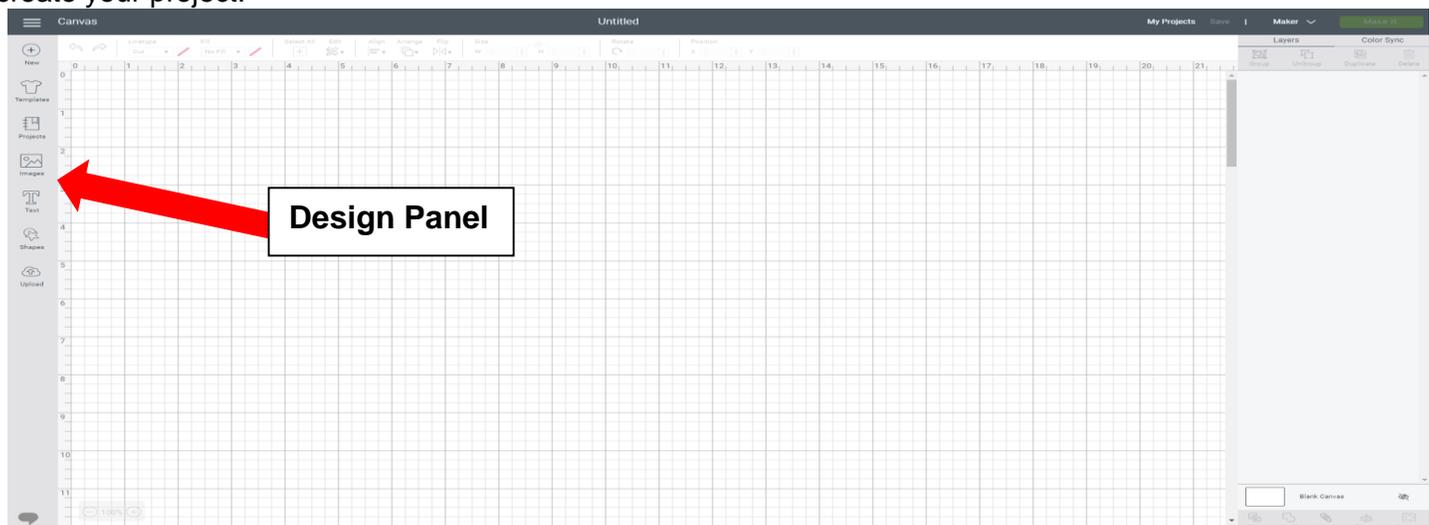
Before you begin, you must download the Cricut Design Space to your computer or device. Please visit the following link for assistance with this process - https://cricut.com/en_ca/ Once the program has been installed, it's time to begin designing your project!

Starting a new project

Begin creating your own project in Cricut Design Space by selecting the 'New Project' tile from the home screen. This will take you to the canvas where you can begin creating and designing.



The canvas is where you'll design your projects. On the canvas, you can add and edit projects, images, and text. The Design Panel, located on the left hand side of the screen, links you to a variety of tools to help you create your project.

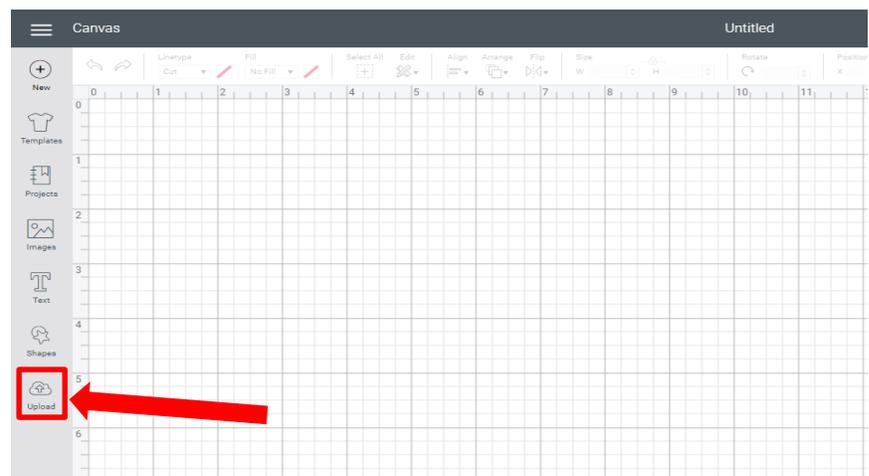


 New	<p>New - Click the 'New' icon at any time to create a new project from scratch.</p>
 Templates	<p>Templates – Select from a wide variety of templates that will allow you to visualize how your final product will look once it has been cut.</p>
 Projects	<p>Projects – Browse, select, and cut projects from the 'Projects' tab. This includes your projects.</p>
 Images	<p>Images – Browse, select, and insert images from the Cricut Image Library (this includes any images you have uploaded), to the canvas.</p>
 Text	<p>Text – Add words and phrases to the canvas.</p>
 Shapes	<p>Shapes – Add basic shapes like circles, squares, triangles, and score lines to you canvas.</p>
 Upload	<p>Upload - Cut what you want by uploading .jpg, .gif, .png, .bmp, .svg, or .dxf image files for free.</p>

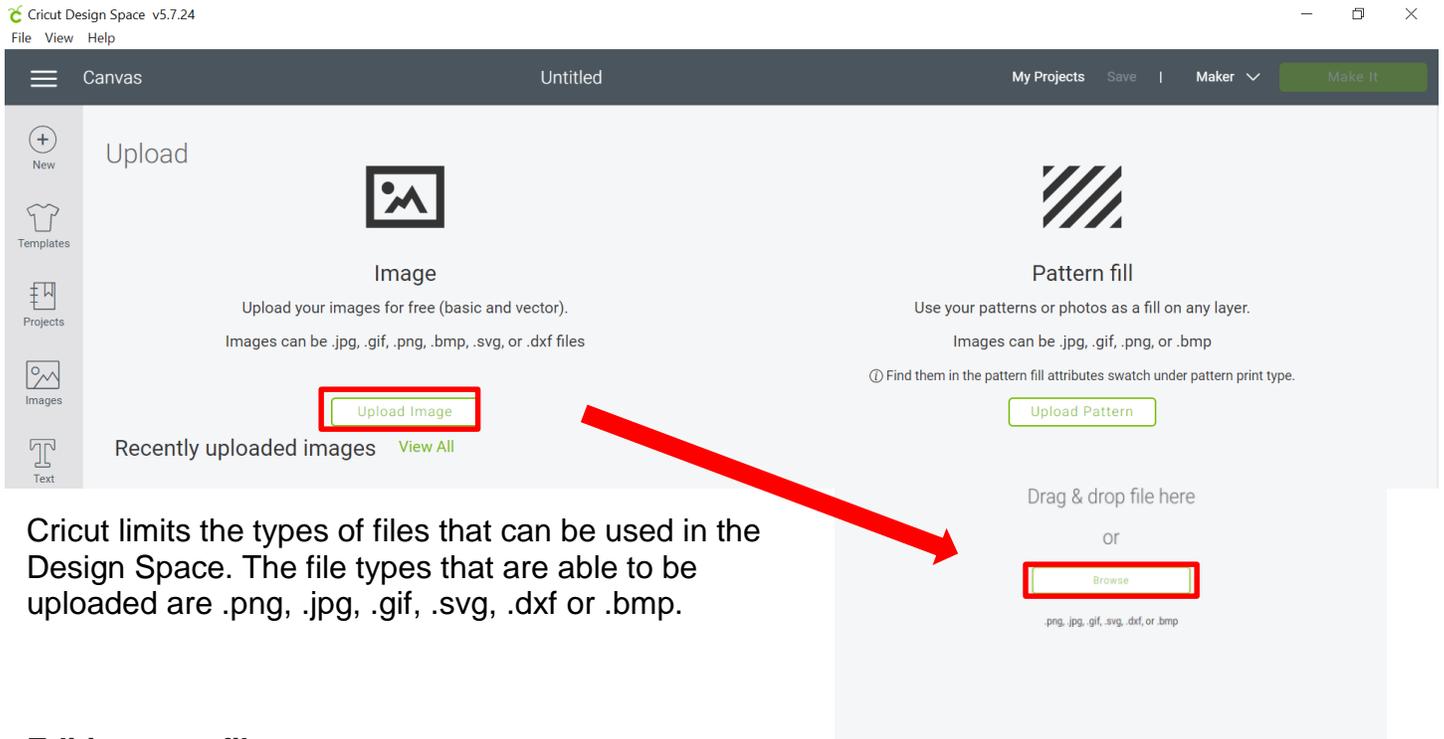
How to upload your own design

The Cricut Design Space has many advanced features available for importing and editing a file from the internet.

To import your own design, begin by clicking on the *upload* icon located on the right hand side of the screen. A new screen will appear that will allow you to select your file.



From the window that appears, select the *upload image* button. This will prompt a new window to open. Left click on the *Browse* button. Locate the image that you want to use for your project and select open. **** Please note - To import an image faster, you can also drag and drop the file into the browse window. ****

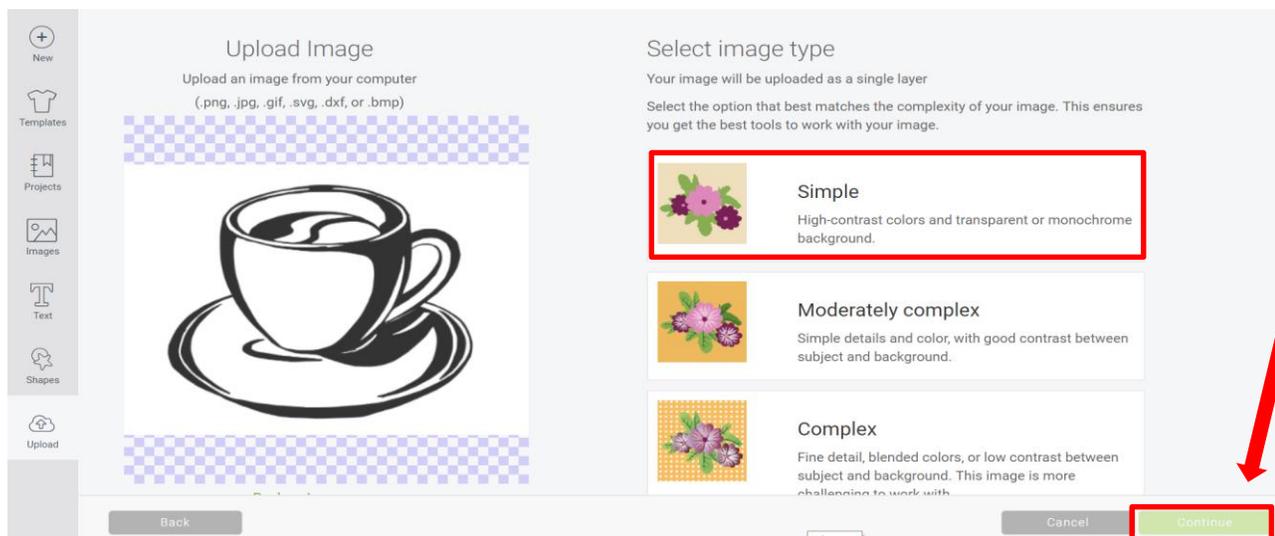


Cricut limits the types of files that can be used in the Design Space. The file types that are able to be uploaded are .png, .jpg, .gif, .svg, .dxf or .bmp.

Editing your file

In order to create a file that can be cut or drawn using the Cricut, the file must be edited to have the correct settings.

Once your image has been successfully uploaded, you will need to select *simple* from the image type located on the right hand side. Click continue in the bottom right hand corner to proceed to the next step of the editing process. For images with more details, or colour, you may need to change the image from simple to *Moderately complex* or *Complex*.



The next step in this process is to remove any white from the design. In the top left hand corner of your screen, you will see three tools:

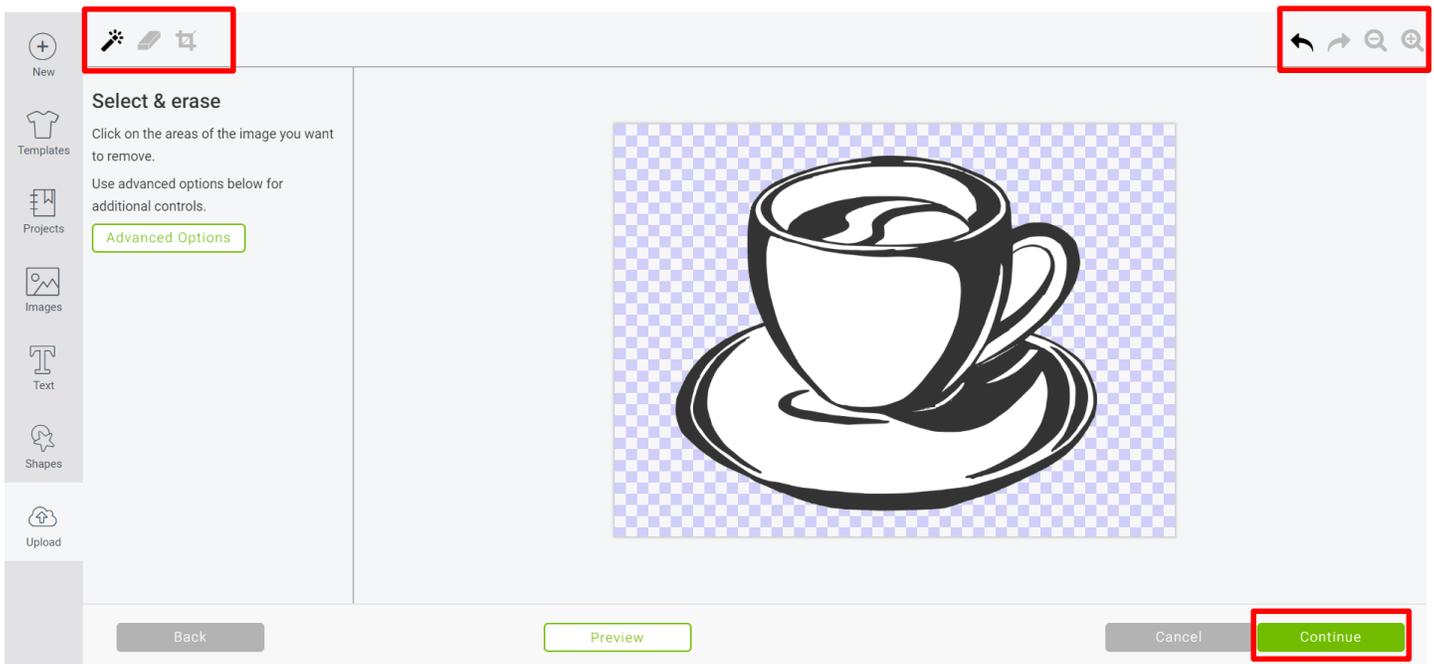
Magic Wand- This tool will remove any selected shape and color from the image.

Eraser- This tool will act as a free hand tool, you can click and drag to remove any part of your image.

Crop Tool- This tool will allow you to crop your image.

The *Undo* and *Redo* tools are in the right hand corner of the screen and can be used if any mistakes are made.

As you edit your image, you will want to remove all the white areas. You should see this checkered pattern appear in each spot. Once you have removed all the white areas, click the continue button in the bottom right corner.

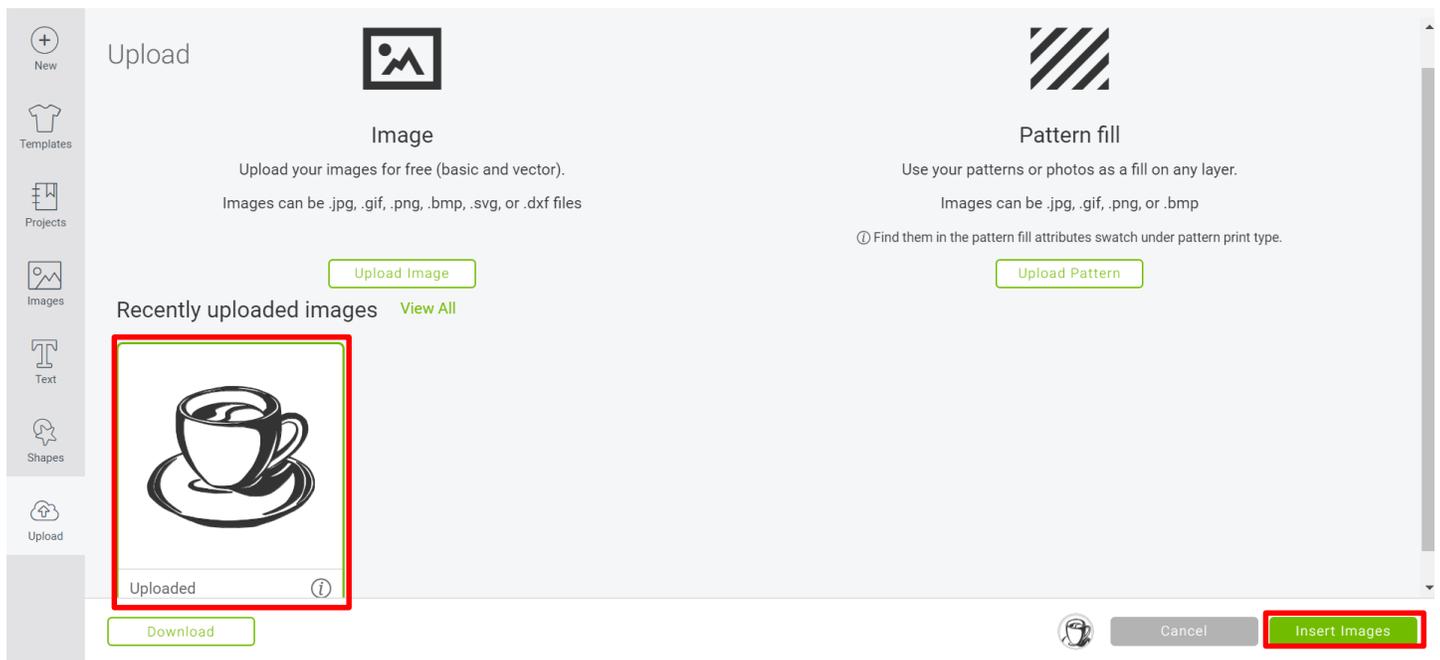


Next, select the *Save as a Cut image* and click save.



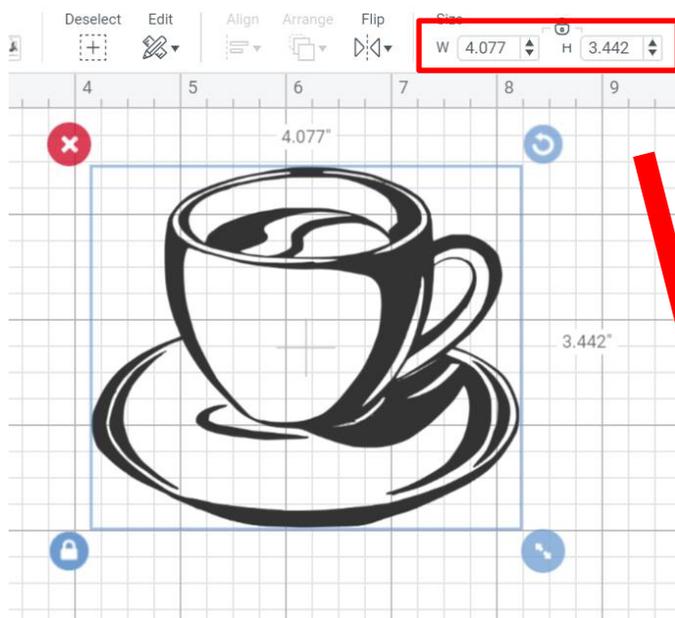
Importing the image onto the canvas

Once your image has been edited, it will appear in the 'Recently uploaded images'. Select your image by single left clicking on it and click *Insert Image*. This will now add your image onto the design canvas.



Sizing an Image

Cricut Design Space allows you to cut or draw images up to 11.5" by 23.5". To size an image, begin by selecting it on the canvas so that a box appears. Once your image is selected, you will see its dimensions under the size section of the edit bar at the top of the canvas.

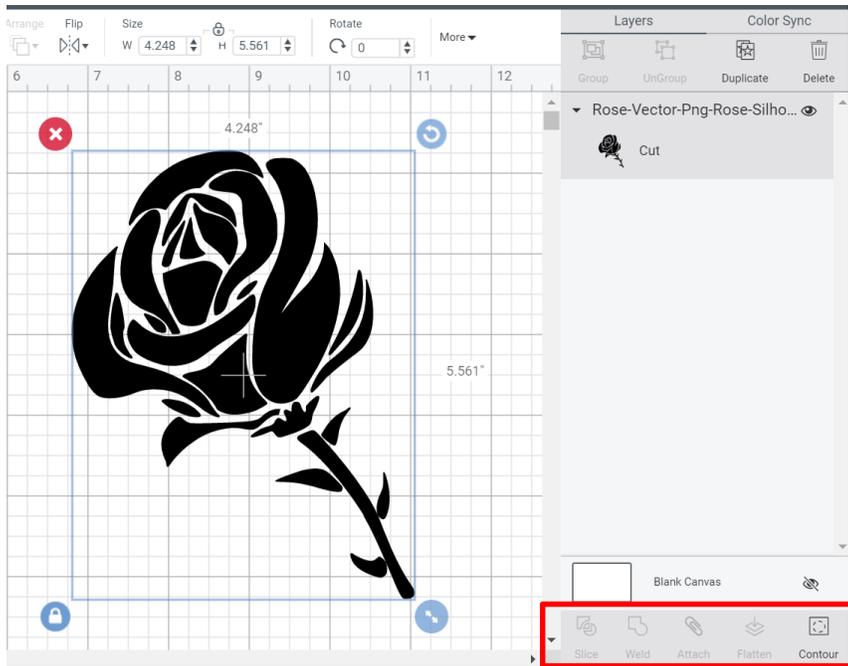


Click in the box next to W or H and type in your specific size. You can also use the arrows to increase or decrease the size. The closed lock icon indicated that the width and height will change at a constant size ratio, keeping the image proportionate.



Repeat this process for all images added onto the canvas.

Additional advanced tools:



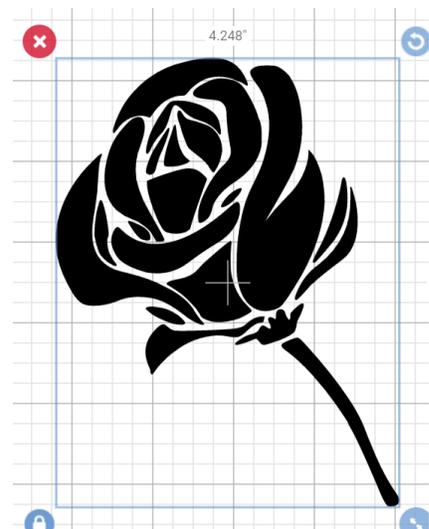
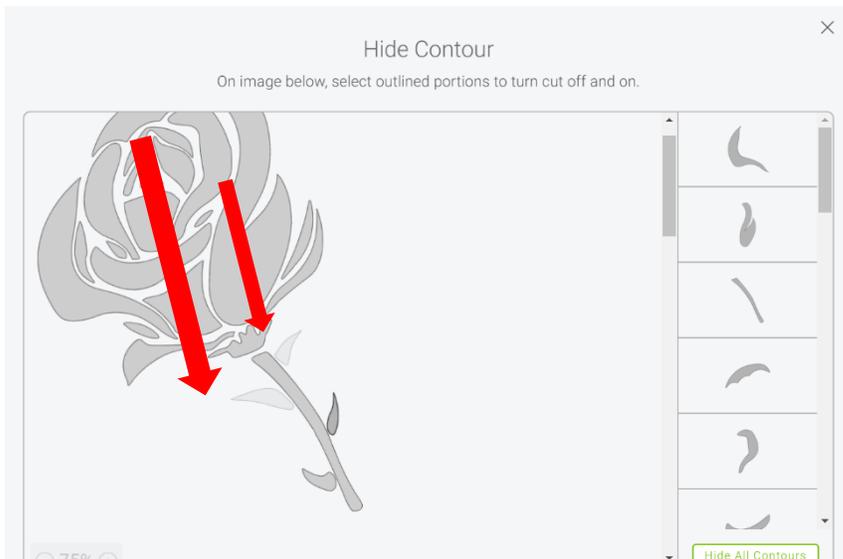
Slice: The slice tool splits two overlapping images or text into different parts. Slice creates new cut paths from two images, resulting in three or more completely new shapes.

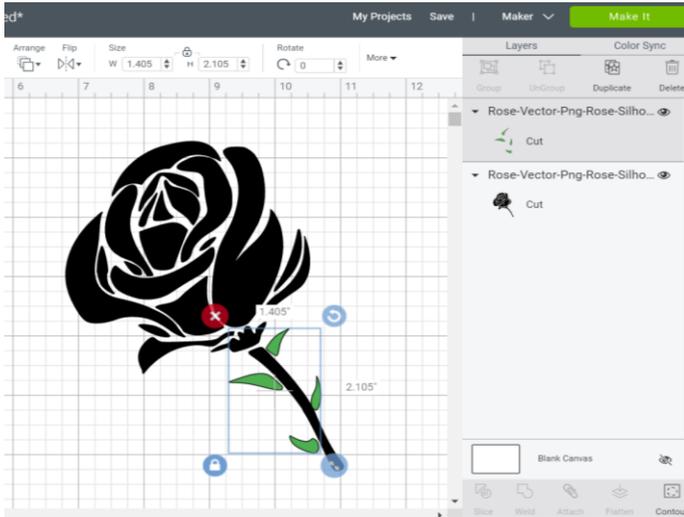
Weld: The Weld tool allows you to join shapes to create a single customized image by removing any overlapping cut lines.

Attach: The attach tool helps to hold your cuts in the same position relative to each other on the cutting mat and on the canvas.

Flatten: The flatten tool not only turns your images into a printable image, but also flattens them into a single layer.

Contour: The contour tool allows you to hide a portion of an image layer by removing any unwanted cut lines. For example, removing the thorns on the stem of a rose. Begin by clicking on the Contour button. This will launch a new window on your screen. Click on the shapes you would like to be removed. This will deselect these elements and remove them from the image.





The above tools will allow you to edit your image in a variety of ways or even break them up into different layers. For example, if you make a copy of the rose (right click on the image and select duplicate) and use the *Contour* button, you can remove the rose and leave the thorns. You can then change that layer to a different colour, allowing your image to be multicoloured.

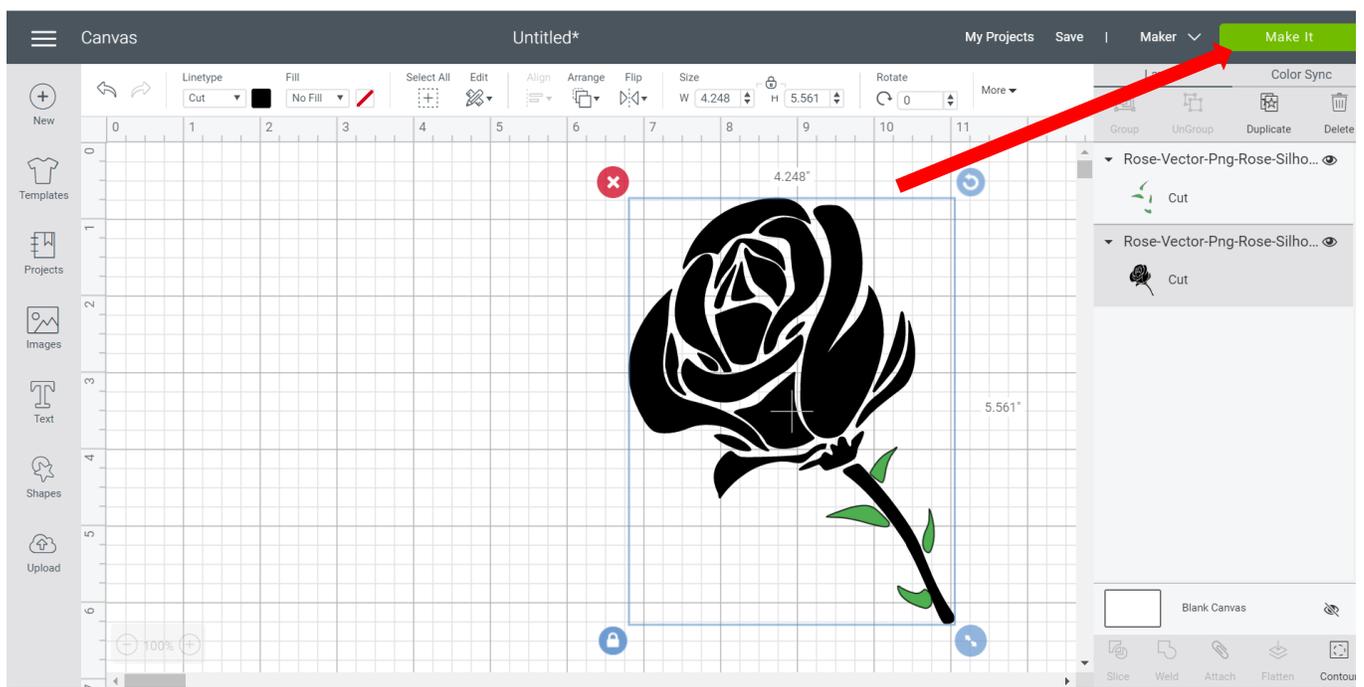
Saving your Project

You can save a project at any time during the design process. Select 'Save' from the top right hand corner of the screen and name your project. Once this process has been completed, your design has been saved and can be revisited at any time.

Getting Ready to Print

If you're working with iron-on material, you must mirror images so they can be correctly applied. Images will appear reversed when cut. If you do not mirror the images, they will appear in reverse when ironed on.

Once you are done designing your project, click *Make It* in the top right of the design screen.



Select the mat you will use for your vinyl. If using iron-on, check the box labeled 'Mirror Image'. Repeat for each mat that will be used.

When you are ready to cut, click continue in the bottom left right corner to send your print job to the Cricut. Select the correct material (either from the table or on the machine) and follow the instructions to cut your design.

