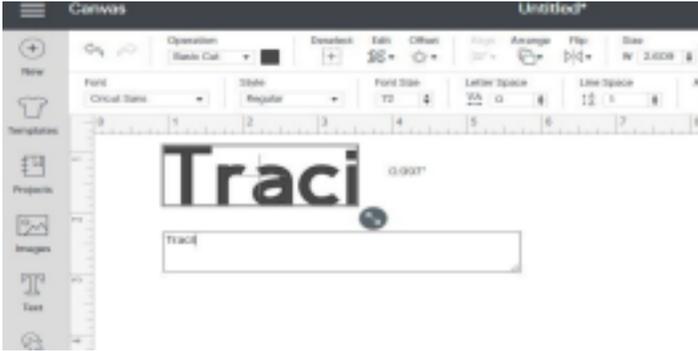
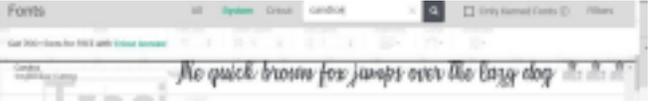


CraftyFunParties.com

Leather Key Chain

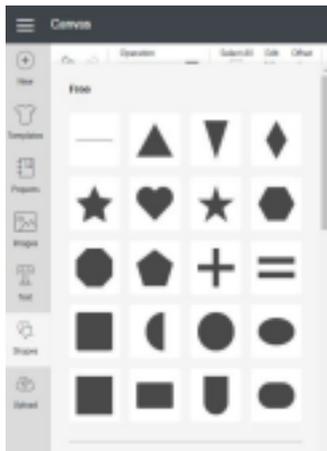
Working with Text in Design Space

	<p>Open Design Space and locate the Text button on the right hand of the screen.</p>
	<p>Type your text in the box. In the right hand corner you will see Font and a drop down box. Cricut Sans is usually the default font. Click the triangle next to it will open up Fonts.</p>
	<p>By default "All" will be highlighted (green). All gives you all fonts in Design Space and on your system. If you use a Cricut font you will be charged for it unless you pay them the monthly fee (and even sometimes then they will charge you for some.) I always immediately click on Systems.</p>
<p>You can scroll through the fonts to see which appeals to you or you can do a search. I liked the Candice font (available at DaFont.com).</p>	

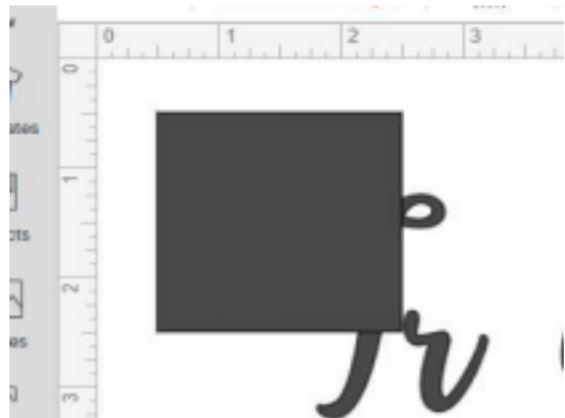


Letters can be separated from the word. Under the Advanced tab at the top you can select ungroup letters. If you had more than one line of text here you could also select ungroup lines.

I wanted to add an upstroke to the beginning of the R so that it would attach to the T. I duplicated the I so I could use the tail of the I to connect them.



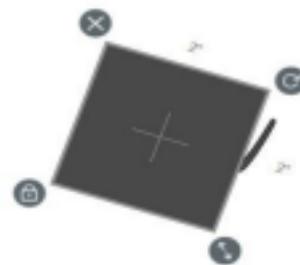
Select shapes and choose a the square shape.



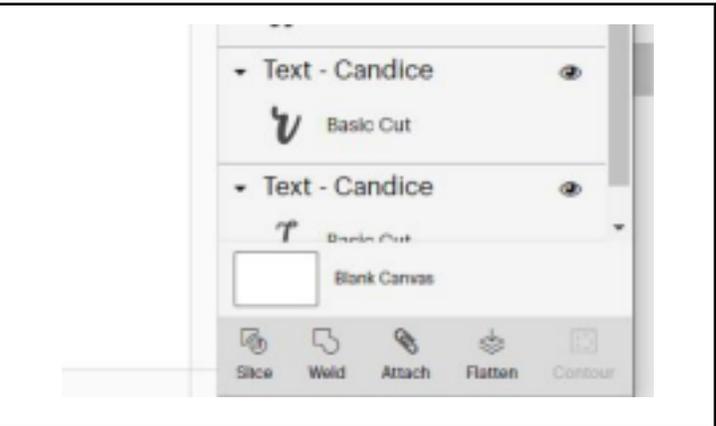
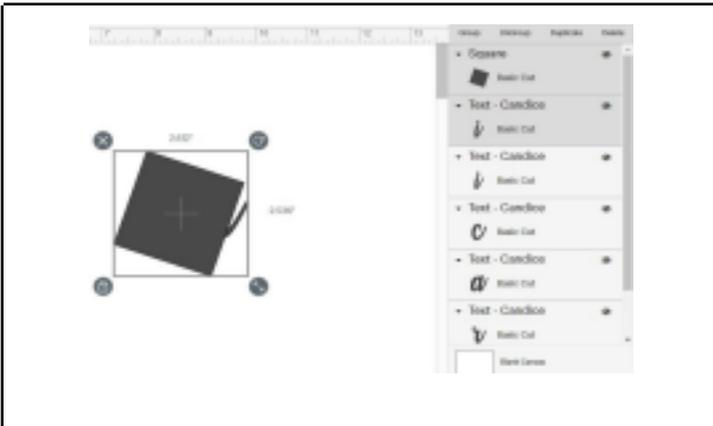
It will be added to the canvas.



Drag the box over the I....

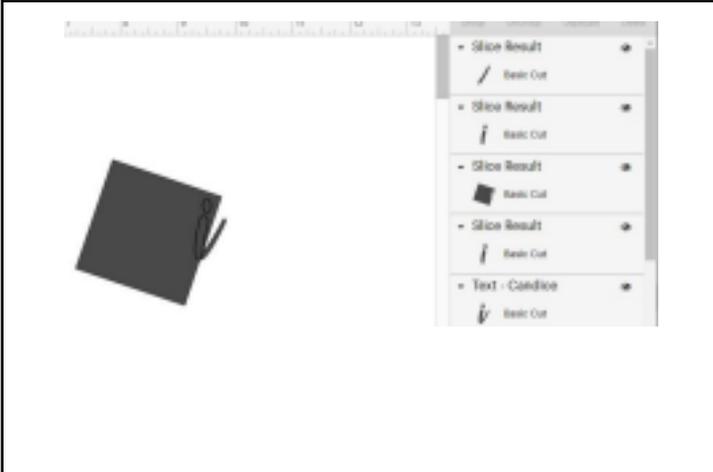


Grab the corner with the circle arrow and rotate the box so it only covers what you do not need.



Select both the Box and the I

And select Slice from the lower right hand tool bar.



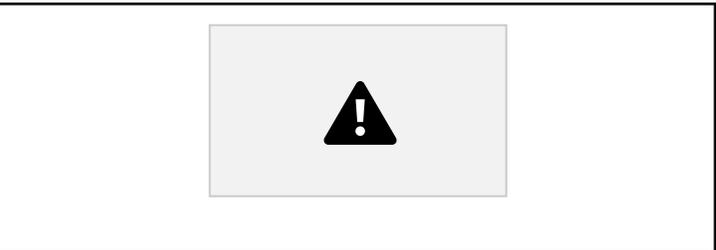
You can see the slice results in the tool bar on the left.

Highlight the pieces you do not need and delete them.



Place the sliced piece of the i so that it connects to the T.

I want to make sure that the word is in a straight line. Right now the grid on my canvas is turned off. So I will go to the upper left hand corner and click on the 3 bars to open the drop down menu.





Here you can change your DS. The one I am interested in right now is the Settings. From settings I selected partial grid. So that I have some lines to line up my text on.



Move each letter into place

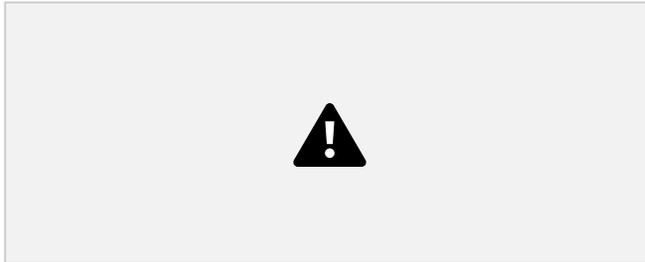
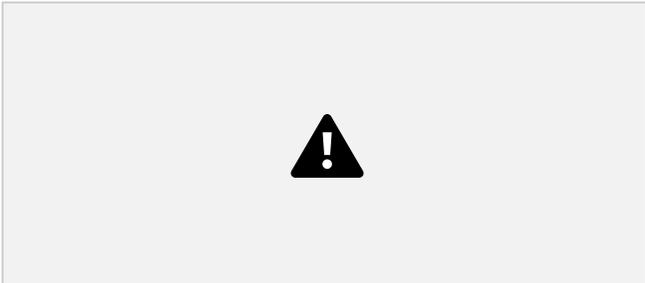


I have all of the lower case letters resting on the line.

Once everything is where you want it you can select Weld from the lower right hand tool bar. This will bring the word back into one piece.



Select the Weld results by clicking on it in the tool bar on the right, or drag a square around the word on the canvas to highlight it. Select Duplicate from the upper right hand tool bar.

	<p>Selected both names and clicked the arrow next to <i>Align</i> and selected the <i>Align bottom</i>. While both names were still highlighted, click on the arrow next to <i>Offset</i> on the top tool bar. <i>Offset</i> draws a line around the shape. Dragging the dot to the right will draw a line around the outside of the shape. Dragging the dot to the left will draw a line around the inside of the shape.</p>
	
	<p>If you want to make your text longer or higher you can unlock the lock in the lower left corner and use the arrows to stretch and drag the image.</p>



Once you have your image the way you want it you can select **Make IT**



You can see the items on the mat. I found that this faux leather cuts better with the leather side down, because it sticks better to the mat. I positioned mine toward the center of the mat and added a little tape on the edges so that I knew it would not move around during cutting.

***Just make sure that if you don't place the leather in the upper right hand corner of the mat that you move your items on the DS mat so the machine knows where to start cutting.

*** If you have placed your faux leather face down make sure to slide the Mirror button over to turn on mirroring. Once the first mat is set up, do the same for the second mat.

When they are both set select Continue.



Select Set Base Material. Click on Browse all materials in the upper right hand side. You can search for materials by their type or you can type in a word to narrow down your search.

I typed in Faux Leather and it gave me the option of Faux Leather (paper thin.) Because this is a small project I went ahead and just tested it on the project.

If you have a big project that you are doing and the material is expensive or you don't have a lot to make mistakes on. DO A TEST CUT. Put just a small circle or square or star on the canvas and try and cut just a little shape to make sure that it is cutting properly through the material you are using.

If your test cut doesn't go all the way through try again with the same setting on select more pressure.



I had no issues cutting through the Faux leather with the fine point blade.

Load mat and press the *C* to start the cut.

Once your first piece is cut remove mat from Cricut and secure the second color to the mat. Make sure that you have aligned the design with the placement of the leather on the mat. Cut the second piece.

Remove the second pieces from the mat and you are ready to put it together.

I used Aleene's original Tacky Glue to glue my pieces together. If there is fuzz on the back of the pieces that stick out, they can be singed off with a lighter to clean up the end before gluing. I glued the letters to the background and let it set before gluing the piece around a key ring.