

Heat Press – Using Heat Transfer Vinyl

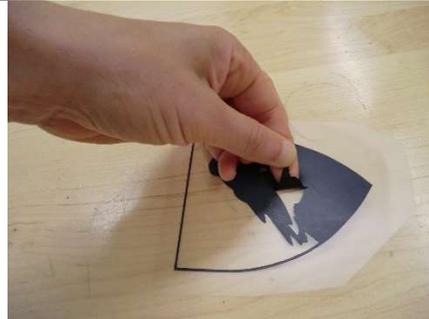
Step 1: Cut your design

- Create your design in Silhouette Studio. Refer to other Technique Tutorials for guidance on this process.
- Load the heat transfer vinyl into the Silhouette cutter shiny side down.
- Cut your design using “Heat Transfer, Smooth” as material type. When you start the cut it will ask if you want to send the design mirrored. You do.



Step 2: Weed your design

- Peel everything that is not part of your design off the clear plastic backing. Leave the actual design on the backing.
- Discard the pieces you peeled off.



Step 3: Prepare the press

- Refer to the Technique Tutorial “Using the Heat Press” to set the time and temperature on the press.
- Wait while the press reaches temperature.



Step 4: Position the design on the item

- Use the sticky backing to adhere the design into position on the item.
- If the item is a wearable like a shirt, it is often helpful to try the shirt on with the design adhered in place to double-check its positioning



Step 5: Insert the item in the heat press

- Position the item on the lower platen so that the design is roughly centered on the platen.
- Seams, buttons, and other things that make ridges in the item can prevent optimal adhesion. In that case, place a folded washcloth or similar item under the design to raise it above the ridges.
- Be careful not to touch the hot upper platen while doing this



Step 6: Cover the design with a sheet of parchment paper.

- Place a sheet of parchment paper over the top of everything.
- Forgetting this step can cause the design to adhere to the heat press instead of your item, which causes considerable problems.



Step 7: Press the item

- Swing the upper platen back into position.
- Use the main handle to close and lock the press.
- The timer should start counting down.



Step 8: Remove the clear plastic sheet

- When the timer beeps, use the main handle to open the press and swing the upper platen out of the way.
- Carefully remove the item and the parchment papers from the press, being aware that everything is still quite hot.
- While the item is still hot, peel off the clear plastic sheet.



Step 9: Press again

- DO NOT FORGET to replace the parchment sheet over the top of the item!!
- Press the item again for 5 seconds. (Rather than resetting the timer, it is easier to simply close the press, let it count down for 5 seconds, and then open it.)



Step 10: Remove the item

- When the timer beeps, use the main handle to open the press and swing the upper platen out of the way.
- Carefully remove the item and the parchment papers from the press, being aware that everything is still quite hot.
- Turn off the heat press when you are done.

