

USING CRAFT ROBO/SILHOUETTE SD CUTTERS

Supported Models

The following cutter models are officially supported, and are known to work with our files:

- Graphtec Craft ROBO CC200-20
- Graphtec Craft ROBO CC330-20
- Quickutz Silhouette-1
- Quickutz Silhouette SD

The North American and European/UK versions of the Craft ROBO are both supported.



A Graphtec Craft ROBO CC200-20

The Quickutz Silhouette-1 is a rebranded Graphtec Craft ROBO CC200-20, and the Quickutz Silhouette SD is a rebranded Graphtec Craft ROBO CC330-20. Quickutz sells these models in North America.

The following cutter models are **not** supported due to software or hardware issues:

- Graphtec Craft ROBO Lite CC300-20. This model does not have an optical eye.
- Xyron Wishblade (all models). The included software is problematic to work with.
- Provo Craft Cricut (all models). They are not designed to handle print-and-cut tasks.

Cutting Our Models

If one of our models is specified as machine-cuttable, that means the PDF files are specially prepared to work with the optical eye on supported cutter models, and a set of ROBO Master GSD files are included. The GSD files contain the cutting path data that the machine needs, and the PDFs include the registration marks that the cutter's optical eye needs to accurately position the blade.

Print the PDF normally. Mount the first frame on the plastic carrier sheet that came with your machine, and feed it in according to the instructions that came with your machine.

Next, navigate to the “/gsd/” directory and open the GSD file that corresponds to the frame that you just fed into the cutter in ROBO Master. (The frame number is specified in the upper right corner of the printed frames, and the GSD files are named by frame.)

Click File>Craft ROBO. Click the “OK” button on the dialog that appears next. The Craft ROBO Controller will then open. Choose the media setting that best describes the stock you are using (“Card without craft paper backing” is a safe default), make sure “Search Registration Mark” is selected, and click the “Cut” button. The machine will then scan for registration marks. If it successfully finds them, a little dialog will pop up that says “Ready to cut”. Click “OK”, and the machine will cheerfully cut the page. Once it finishes, simply unload the carrier sheet and peel the parts off.

By default, fold lines will be perforated in a 1mm/1mm dashed pattern. If you would rather score or crease the parts by hand, click on File>Output Settings, click on the “Cutting Settings” tab, then click the “Cutline Settings” button. Uncheck the boxes next to the blue (mountain folds) and red (valley folds) layers. The machine will then cut out the parts, but will ignore the fold lines.

CRAFT ROBO/SILHOUETTE SD TIPS AND TRICKS

Registration Marks

If your machine fails to scan the registration marks, make sure you have done the following:

- The bottom of the sheet is the end that should be fed into the machine first.
- If using a carrier sheet that is wider than the paper you are using, make sure that you are inserting the carrier sheet in such a way that the paper itself is centered between the rollers.
- If you are using the UK model of the Craft ROBO cutter, you will need to feed the carrier sheet in a little bit farther because of the taller height of A4 paper.
- If you are using a glossy paper or overly glossy toner, glare may be interfering with the optical sensor. Close the cover while cutting, or try to eliminate any direct illumination from other light sources in the room. If neither solution works, use a matte paper instead.
- Your printer may be distorting the printout. Measure the horizontal and vertical distances between the registration marks—they should be spaced approximately 7.25 inches apart horizontally and 9.51 inches apart vertically, measured from outer edge to outer edge. If the actual measurements do not match, the registration mark scan will fail because the registration marks are not where the machine expects to find them. (This issue mostly affects HP printers.)

Cutting Problems

If your machine fails to cut completely through the material, the possible causes are:

- Your blade may be dull. Try again with a fresh blade. If the problem disappears, then the older blade was indeed dull. If the problem remains, your paper is too thick.
- Your paper may be too thick. Try cutting it twice.
- Your plastic carrier sheet might be warped, dimpled, or curled. Replace the carrier sheet.

Making Your Own Carrier Sheets

A more economical and reliable alternative to using the plastic carrier sheet included with cutting machines is to make your own. You will need the following items:

- Cheap and lightweight cardstock.
- A repositionable spray adhesive such as Krylon Easy-Tack (7020), or Sulky KK-2000 quilt basting spray. The Krylon spray should be used outdoors and with adequate ventilation, while the Sulky spray can be used indoors with some ventilation.
- A roll of wax paper.
- Newspapers or other suitable protective material for the surface you will be spraying on.

Lay down some newspaper sheets. Arrange several sheets of cardstock on top of the newspaper. Spray an even and light coat of adhesive on the cardstock sheets. Wait 60 to 90 seconds, then unroll a few feet of wax paper and press the sprayed cardstock sheets onto the wax paper. The wax paper will protect the glue until the sheets are ready to use.

If you are using Sulky KK-2000, use these sheets immediately, as the KK-2000 will disappear and leave behind no residue within a few days.