



# HOW TO MAKE: BUTTONS

FORT FRANCES PUBLIC LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

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### YOU WILL NEED:

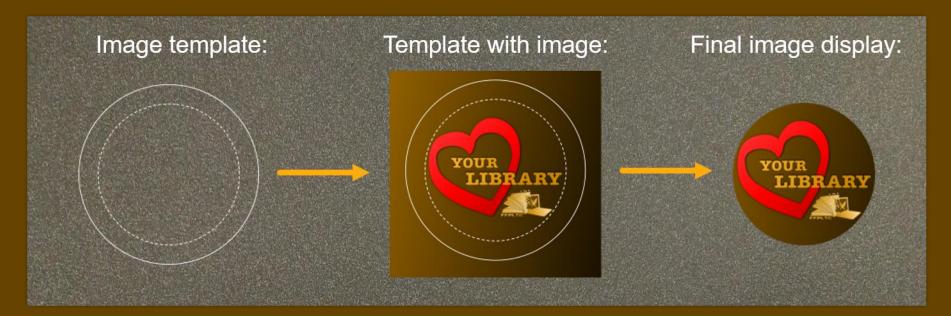


#### Materials from left to right:

- O Shell
- O Image
- O Mylar (plastic cover)
- O Pin Back

### **RESIZE AN IMAGE**

Ensure the image being cut fits into the image template. This is best done by having a digital copy of the image that can be scaled to fit as desired. The <u>image being displayed fits the inner circle</u> of the template while the outer circle represents the "<u>bleed area</u>" that will wrap around the button's edge.



Remove circles from the template for a clear image. Print the images when they are the correct size.

## **CUT THE IMAGE**

- Roughly cut a strip around the image so that it is able to fit inside the circle punch.
- Insert the strip of paper in the slot and centre the image to be displayed.
- Be mindful that the <u>edge of</u> <u>image will be in</u> <u>the bleed area.</u>



\*Do not attempt to cut metal with this tool\*

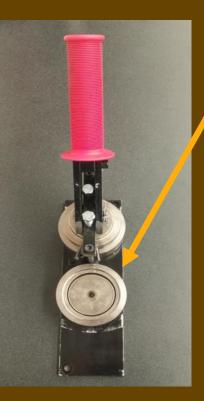
- Push the lever all the way down <u>away from</u> <u>yourself.</u>
- Push the image out from the bottom with your fingers, or the lift when using the small circle punch.
- Return the lever to it's upright position and remove any scraps.

### **BUTTON MAKER**



Handle: Begin with the handle upright

Die Table: This area rotates to expose each die individually



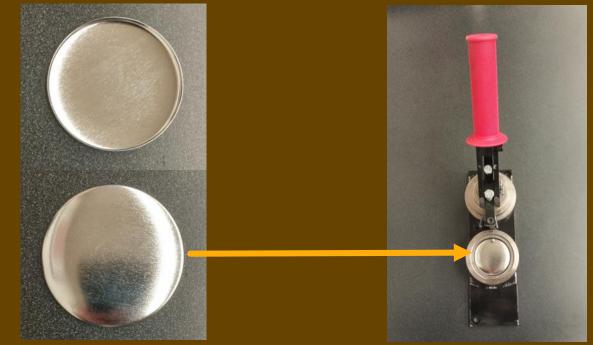
Pickup die: The flat surface ensures the shell, image and Mylar are level

Crimp die: The recessed area ensures room for a variety of accessories



- Bounce the shell against a hard surface. This ensures that there are not two shells stuck together.
- Ensure the handle is raised to its complete upright position.
- Place the shell with the <u>sharp edge down</u> and the dome edge facing up into the pickup die (flat side of the press).

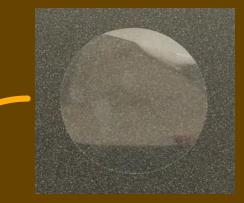
#### Sharp edge



Dome edge

- Place your image on top of the shell, making sure that it is straight
- Place protective layer of Mylar (plastic) over the image





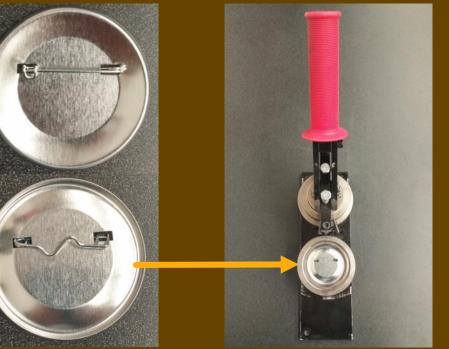
Mylar is a layer of plastic that covers and protects the button image.

- Spin the die table fully until <u>a click is heard</u> and the image can no longer be seen. The crimp die is then exposed.
- Pull the handle firmly all the way down to a <u>horizontal position</u> then raise it to its full <u>upright</u> <u>position</u>. The front portion of your button will now be held in the <u>upper die</u>.



- With the crimp die exposed, place the pin back with the safety pin down (inside the recess).
- Ensure it is lying straight and level. It will not lie flat if placed the wrong way.
- Spin the die table until the click is heard.

#### Safety pin side





Pin back interior

- Pull the handle firmly all the way down to a horizontal position then raise it to it's full upright position.
- Spin the die table to expose the completed button!









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### WANT TO MAKE MORE?

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