Cricut Crafts: Floral Pop-Up Card with Courtney Cerruti

Chapter 1 - Cricut Crafts: Floral Pop-Up Card
Overview
(upbeat music) - Hi, welcome. I'm Courtney, I'm one of the artists here at Creativebug, and if you've checked our early Cricut classes using the explorer, then maybe you're already a Cricut fan. We're gonna pair two of my favorite things, paper engineering to make a pop-up card, and painting. I'll walk you through using the Cricut design space, so you can customize your card just a little bit. I'll show you some easy techniques for painting a really sweet floral bouquet. And we'll pair it all together in a two layer card that you made with the help of your Cricut maker. (upbeat music)

Materials
- The materials for your pop-up card are really simple. You can make this project on a Cricut Explorer, but we're gonna be using the Cricut Maker. It has a ton more pressure for cutting with accuracy, which is why I love to use it. You'll also need some gold card stock. This is for the inside of your card, or you can pick another color if you like. This one's from Paper Source, it's called Antique Gold. I have watercolor paper and I've cut it down to 11 by 12. It just needs to fit on your 12 by 12 mat. You're gonna need a couple of Cricut tools, the precision knife blade, a weeder can be helpful for getting the text off of your mat. You'll definitely need the scoring stylus. We'll be using a standard set of watercolor paints, just whatever you have is totally fine. My favorite color is Opera Rose, so I'm definitely gonna be using a little bit of that. You'll need a few brushes. I've got a six round and then a zero round, and that's for detail. I also have two hardware store brushes that are really well-loved, not even entirely washed out, and we're gonna use them for a painting technique. A bit of water, the light grip mat, which is really important for this project. You want everything to stick just enough for an efficient cut, but you don't want it to stick so much that it tears your card. And then you'll need a variety of adhesives. You can use a Tombow Mono Adhesive, the permanent one if that's your favorite. I really like these glue dots for adding our little floral bouquet. You can also just use a permanent double-sided tape. Of course, you're gonna need your laptop because we're working with our Cricut.

Cutting outer and inner card
- We're gonna start by designing and cutting our card, and then we'll watercolor paint it and assemble it. Everything that you do is through the Design Space, to operate your Cricut. You don't have to have a subscription to the Design Space, but it is actually really handy, because it allows you to get a lot of free templates and free fonts. You don't have to have that subscription to make this project. You can just follow the link in the material section on our site. So this is what our Design Space looks like. It says my name and my home screen here. There are a ton of projects. And you guys will be navigating to this project, but because it's my project, it actually shows under my projects. Once you save it, it'll show up under your projects. And there are two components, the card interior and the card exterior. So let's do the exterior first. We're gonna open this, it shows you all of the elements. So here's the card, here's our little floral bouquet, which is gonna be cut out really nicely before we paint it. It also has a score line, so that's what all of these shapes are. Let's click to open. And then you can see everything laid out in your Design Space. This works a little bit like Photoshop, so some of it may be really intuitive. It's pretty easy to use. You've got layers on the

right hand side and then call-to-action buttons here at the top. You can even start inserting your own text and images, if you like. So what we have is the outer card, and I've already sized it so that you get a little border from the outer to the inner card, to show some of that watercolor patterning that we're gonna do later. And then the little floral bouquet, which is just a line drawing that I added. The solid lines are cut lines, and the dotted lines are score lines. Because we're gonna be working with watercolor paper and cardstock, those score lines are really key. They're gonna allow us to easily fold both our card and our little floral popup, which gives it a really clean and professional look, and that's an awesome use for the Cricut. You can see all of my layers here, which are attached, that allows everything to cut on one mat, and you can also see what kind of layer it is. This little indication shows that it's a scoring layer. This is a cutting layer, scoring layer, cutting layer. And I can click on that, and you can see that you also have the option to write. There is a pen tool that you can put where the scoring tool goes, and there's also a print. This does not actually print, but it does allow you to print something at home and then cut it in the Cricut Design Space. The other thing that you'll see on this screen, for example, if we look at the floral cut, there's a little color here. Automatically, most shapes are black, and what'll happen is if you have black selected, when you go to cut it, it'll say that you need to cut this on two mats, and you don't. So you just want to make sure that you are selected for white. Everything is set up for you here, so all you have to do is click Make It. Make sure that your Cricut is on, the power lights. And then it shows us, here, our 12 by 12 mat, the card, and the floral element, and where it's gonna be. Press Continue. It already knows that we're using a Cricut Maker, and it's gonna ask us to select our material. We're gonna be using watercolor paper for this particular part of the design, and I would select medium cardstock, but I've noticed that the watercolor paper's actually a little bit thicker, and to get around that, we're gonna do what's called a double cut. That means we're gonna run our mat through the machine twice to get a really accurate cut, and that's fine. Select cardstock. Now it's asking me to load my scoring stylus, my fine point blade. Dropping in your tools is really easy. On the left side that says A, this is where your scoring stylus or your pen tool would go. Place it face down. It will not let you push it any further, so it'll tell you when to stop, and you just close that little clamp. And on the right is where your precision knife blade, your knife blade, or your rotary cutter goes. So there's your little knife blade. And that's super-easy. From here on out, both our computer and our machine are gonna prompt us what to do next. If we look at the Cricut, there's this little flashing arrow. That means to load or check your mat, and the screen is telling us to do the same thing. We're gonna be using the LightGrip mat. And I'm just gonna align my paper to the left. It's 11 by 12, which is an odd size. It's just because I cut it down from a larger sheet of watercolor paper. But everything'll fit, because that's what it shows us on the screen. Place it under the little guides here, and then, once you can't push it any further, you'll feel resistance along this bar, you can go ahead and press the flashing arrow. Once your mat is aligned, both the machine and the computer are gonna tell us you can go ahead and press the cut Cricut button, so we'll do that. Now, it's gonna prompt us to eject the mat, but we don't want to do that yet, because we're gonna do a double cut. Because I selected the cardstock that's just a little bit less in weight than the watercolor paper, I'm gonna do this double cut to really ensure that I have nice, clean edges. Even though the flashing arrow is on right now, instead, we're gonna press the cut button one more time for a double cut. And this is a good technique, if you have something that's a little bit thicker, if you've tried one cut and you didn't get the perfect, precise, clean cut, then you might want to try a double cut for your project. Once your second cut is done, then you can eject your mat, which is what the Cricut machine is gonna prompt you to do. You can see that, with the double cut, there's been a little bit of paper that's been cut

away, which is fine. I'd rather have it be really well cut than not at all. But so that this doesn't stick to my mat, I'm actually just gonna use one of these lint rollers to pick those up. And now we can peel away, which is always the fun part. This card is going to be an A6 card. Just get off any little fuzzies, but you can see how intricate this edge is. We wouldn't have wanted to hand-cut that, and it's going to give our floral bouquet a really lovely shape. That score line is gonna make it really easy for us to assemble our card later. I'm gonna give my mat one more quick swipe with my lint roller, because we're gonna use this mat to cut the interior of our card. When you look at your Design Space, it's gonna ask you to finish your project. And then you should save it, especially if you want to make this card again, and you can Save or Save As, and then it'll allow you to rename it. Let's say it's for a particular friend, or you want to change your text when we get to the next screen, and you can name it whatever you want. I'm just gonna save it as it is. I'm gonna go back to my home and find my card interior. Remember, I'm working from my own projects, so these already show up in my project scroll here, but you'll find these in the materials list. This is for card interior. And just like we did for the exterior, it shows all of the elements used. We've got a cut line, the shape of the card itself, and I've got two different types of fonts here. Go ahead and open. Now, this one'll, gonna look a little different, because there are a lot of layers at work. I actually built this card, the score lines and the cut lines, in the Design Space itself. If you haven't checked out the customizability of the Design Space, you should, because you can actually build a lot of really cool things in here. So every solid line is a cut line. Every scored line is a dotted line. And then I wanted to have something that looked a little bit like watercolor, because that's what's gonna be showing through from our outer card to the inner card. So this is a font that exists in the Cricut Design Space, if you have the subscription. And you can see that layer here. It's welded together, which I'm gonna explain in just a minute, and certain layers need to be attached or welded before you can cut them, so that they recognize this entire card as one shape, cut on one mat, as opposed to little tiny shapes cut on many mats. We've added a text box for you, so that you can customize your own sentiment. If you don't want to do celebrate, and you want to navigate down to the right, where your layers are, and hide the celebrate, just by clicking the little eyeball, and that'll make it disappear. And if you want to customize your text, you want to click on the layer that says, Cricut Sans, your text here. And you're gonna double click. And then you can add a new phrase, like bon voyage, for example. Now it does have to fit in your card, and you have to remember that we're gonna have this little floral bouquet popup, so you want to make sure that it actually fits. And it's very easy to click on and off layers, so make sure you have the correct layer selected. And with this little lock in place, on the left here, you can slide to make your text larger or smaller. If you unlock it and you slide, then it will distort your text, which maybe you want, maybe you want something nice and tall and skinny, or really long and drawn out. Whatever you prefer. I'm just gonna do Command + Z, which is undo. If you're familiar with Photoshop, that's something that I often use. And you can also, if you look at the top of your palette here, there are some other options, like arranging the actual size of this text box. You can also change the font here, the letter spacing, so we can make it grow wider or shrink the space between each letter. And you can also choose your line spacing. If we had more than just bon voyage, maybe if we said someone's name, you can choose how much space is between each line of text. So that gives you some options. You do want to make sure that, once you've selected your final phrase, so let's place this guy in here, it needs to be welded. Text has to be welded to create sort of an image, so that everything cuts on one layer, as one part of your card. So you want to make sure you select that, and I'll show you. You would highlight that layer and go down to the bottom of your screen and select Weld, and then that makes it one thing, as opposed to individual

letters. And we're not gonna do bon voyage, we're gonna do the celebrate, so I'm gonna go ahead and actually just remove this layer and turn my celebrate layer back on. And you can see, I selected celebrate just so that our watercolor, when we paint it, shows through. So this is actually a font that is supposed to be like a brush font. It's already been welded and we're ready to cut. You want to make sure that all of your layers are grouped and attached, and again, that allows all of these elements to cut on one mat instead of lots of mats. And you'll see in the next screen if you did something wrong. If you forgot to group it or attach it, if maybe you selected one layer as a drawn layer, as opposed to a cut layer. Just make sure that all of your layers are in order, they're all attached, and then when you go to click Make It, everything should show up on one mat. And here we go. So we've got everything on this one mat. Again, I'm using my LightGrip mat, and I have my gold cardstock already on it. Just like we did before, we need to select our material. We're gonna select medium cardstock, but because this is a thicker weight cardstock, we're gonna do a double cut like we did last time. The machine is prompting us to load our mat, so we're gonna press the mat right up to that first bar. It's gonna ask us to cut. Remember, instead of ejecting our mat, we're gonna do a double cut, so we'll press the Cricut cut button again. This is the fun part. We get to eject our mat and see our cuts. We can peel away this outer later, and our text is really tiny, so whatever doesn't stick, ooh, that one came out really clean, but if you have anything that doesn't stick, you can use this little weaving tool to pop out any of your letters. And this you can just clear away. And what's awesome about the engineering of this and the scoring tool, is we're gonna get a really nice, clean fold in the center of our card, and we're gonna reverse fold this little tab here, so that something pops out. So you can see, you get these really clean folds, and this is where our floral bouquet is gonna go after we paint it. Now, you don't want to forget about your project. You're gonna select Finish on the computer. And you should save this, remember, like I said, if you want to name it something new, this is your card interior, and it's actually designed, I designed it so that you have a nice little border from the exterior to the interior, so you can see some of the watercolor patterning show through. We've cut all of our elements, and next, we'll paint and assemble our card.

Painting and assembling card
- This is my favorite part, because we get to paint. I'm gonna start by working on the outer card, both the front and the back, because both sides are gonna show. I'm using my hardware store brush that has these really irregular bristles because it's been used many, many, many times. I'm just gonna dip the tip into water and then pick up some of my opera rose, which is this really beautiful kinda hot pink color. It's the closest we can get to hot pink in the watercolor world. And I'm working on a piece of newsprint. I'm just gonna test to make sure I'm getting sort of stripes, which I am. If you're not getting stripes you may have too much water on your brush, so just wipe it off on a scrap piece of paper or paper towel until you get nice separation of your bristles. And we're just gonna stripe across. I can see a little bit of texture here so I'm just gonna pick up some more water. How simple is that? You wanna let that side dry. Flip it over and do the exact same thing on the other side. You could choose to do different colors if you want. I like the hot pink color, so I'm gonna use that for both sides. And then set that aside to dry and we'll work on the little floral bouquet. I paint a lot of these. They're just really loose. So give yourself some patience and forgiveness. These are gonna look like big watercolor blobs. That's how they start, so that's fine, and then we're gonna refine them a little bit with a smaller brush. I'm starting with my size six round. Dipping into a vermilion red. I'm just doing these really loose, blobby, o's, like big Cheerios. And then I want some

pink. You can pay attention to these edges or not. They're really loose so they could be flower edges or leaves. I'm gonna grab a little bit of ochre. I really like that color mixed in. I'm using more the tip of my brush. I'm gonna come in and create some like fillers, some little filler flowers. Trying to get all the edges, so we don't have any white space here. Maybe I'll do some true lemon yellow in here. And everything's blending and that's great. I'm not overworking it. I don't wanna scrub and get a muddy color. Let's try a little bit of green mixed in. It's really deep green. Maybe I want something a little bit more blue. I'm just working with things that are already on my palette. And please believe me when I say you can use whatever paint you like. You don't have to use what I'm using. I switch my watercolors all the time. I work with lots of different brands. This one happens to be Winsor Newton, but you can play around and use whatever you have on hand. That's pretty good. I wanna make the base of this a bluish tone. I can't remember what colors were over here. Yeah. I love this color. It's kind of like an indigo. Go back in and use that same color. Maybe I'll add a little bit of red so it's more of a deep purple. And I wanna make dark centers. You can choose to do something different entirely. Maybe go back in with a little more pink in some places. Do some like little dark flowers, hidden in here. Alright. Smooth out my fingerprints. I don't want any white space for this particular one. If you want white space, that's fine and you can leave it. But I think if I paint it and it allows those really nice cut edges that the cricket did for us to really show through. And if they're white you can't tell how nice they are. I allow that first layer to dry a little bit, so that I can come back with my zero round brush and add a little bit of fine detail. You can also do this with a pen if you want. You can try a brush pen so that you still have a kind of watercolor brush feel. But just something that gives you a little bit more fine detail. You can come back with a ball point pen. Really, you wanna make this your own, so whatever your preference for material and style, feel free to do so. I'm just gonna define some of these really loose shapes with a little bit of dark color. And this is really just like a little scribble, also. It's really fun. Looks really pretty, too. You can leave this as loose as you like, or you can come in with a finer brush and just add some definite strokes in here. Yeah, that looks good. Once everything is dry, we can assemble our card. Your little floral bouquet is actually going to fold back on itself. If you have any cracking, you can go back in with your watercolor brush and touch that up. This is pretty minimal so I'm not worried about that. This is already folded, and then we wanna fold our card on the score line also. And you can pick which is the inside and outside. The inside is gonna show through on your celebrate and through your pop-up so, whatever you like best, feel free to select that. You can reverse this fold if you need to. I think I like that. Alright, I'm actually going to attach the inner card to the outer card first and then we'll attach our floral bouquet. To attach these two elements, you wanna make sure that you're not running your tape runner over where it says celebrate or into your pop-up. That needs to be clear. You always attach your adhesive, your glue or your tape to the smaller object. My favorite really is the double-sided permanent tape, but you could also use the tape runner which I'll show you both just so you can get a sense of it. If you use your double-sided tape then it's gonna go around your edges. I like to work in short strips just so I don't have any air bubbles or create any weird random tension on anything. You can also use your tape runner if you've never used that before. What ever is your preference. I think the double sided tape works best. So steering clear of my word and my pop-up elements. But I do wanna make sure that the edges have enough tape on them. This card stock, because it's metallic, is coated with plastic, which means that anything that's not permanent is not gonna stick to it. So just make sure you're using a permanent double sided tape. Alright, you're gonna eyeball this and center it on your card. I designed it so that there's a little bit of edge peeking through. Your center fold line should line up and then you should have a little margin all the

way around. You can just press down with your hands. If you have a bone folder you could use that. And make sure everything is in place. Because you have this pop-up element, you wanna make sure it'll still fold. So yo have to kinda play with it for the first part, and then once everything is really nice stuck down then you can press really hard. Alright, so that looks good. Now, our little floral element, because it is a pop-up, you wanna kind of center it. Figure out where it's gonna lie best on your card, and then I like to use the glue dots, because this can pop out if you don't use a permanent enough adhesive. So I'm gonna put my glue dots here on the back. They don't need to run the entire length, because you're gonna have a little bit of play here in the fold. See there's your little glue dot. Maybe we'll add one more, for good measure. Those are the permanent glue dots. Make sure everything is folding. And then I like to place this. Give it a press. And then you have this really sweet celebrate card, with your hand painted floral inside. I love this card because we get the precision of the cricket cutting. That really intricate exterior for our floral bouquet, but then we get the playful looseness of the watercolor, and it's a nice combination of using your technology to help you out in your crafting, but still have an artistic approach to your card. I love the watercolor exterior, and I wanted to show you how it can look paired with different envelopes. This fits in an A6, and you might be inclined to go all gold. Solid gold. So we've got a gold card here that matches our antique gold. Because, like I mentioned, this is metallic, it does have a plastic finish. If you wanna write your message on top of this, or on your envelope, you will need to use a permanent marker. Something like a Sharpie or a Micron if you let it dry. You could also mimic your watercolor and go something like a bright pink, which is really fun. It's a nice compliment to your floral bouquet. My favorite is actually using a deep blue envelope. I like that it's a contrast to the pink and then it references our little vase. You should coordinate your card with whatever envelope suits your painting. You can also watch our envelope liner class to make your own envelope and include a liner that you've painted yourself. I really love to give a handmade gift for a present, and making this pop-up card is the perfect hybrid, because you get this really cute little surprise in the pop-up, but then you have a hand painted element inside.