
Cricut Crafts: Print-Then-Cut Flair Pins with Amber of Damask Love

Chapter 1 - Flair Pins

Overview

(playful music) - Hey, guys, welcome to another class with me, Amber from Damask Love. Today I'm gonna be teaching how to make your own flair pins. Now flair pins are super popular. Everyone's wearing them on their denim jackets, on their tote bags. And today we're going to use our Cricut Maker to create your own with any image and design space. I'm gonna show you how to use the Print Then Cut feature, and then I'm gonna show how to assemble your flair pins from front to finish so you're ready to rock them on your favorite denim jacket.

Materials

- To make our flare pins, here's what we're gonna need. You'll need two mats, a green mat and a blue mat. One's gonna be to cut the bast wood and the other one's going to be for doing the print and cut. You'll need a piece of bast wood, a hot glue gun loaded with a hot glue stick, Mod Podge, craft glue, some white craft paint, masking tape, a foam brush, some pin backs. You'll also need a computer to access design space, your Cricut Maker with both the fine point blade and the knife blade, and you'll also need access to a printer.

Cutting out pins

- To start making your flare pins go ahead and open up Design Space. Now if you go to the materials PDF there is a link there for this project that I've already created for you, but I'm gonna show you how you can do this on your own to create any flare pin you want. Click on New Project, then click Images. For this project one of the images I really liked was a cactus. I feel like it's a flare pin, cactus, it makes sense. So I'm gonna type in the word cactus and see what I find. Right here is a great cactus that's part of the subscription service of Cricut Access. That means that you already paid your yearly subscription and you don't have to pay more money to access this image. Now that I've got my cactus in Design Space I'm going to delete one part of the layer that I don't need, that background. Now I have the piece of the cactus that I wanna turn into a flare pin. Before I do anything else I want to duplicate this image, I'll need two of them. For the first image, go over to the bottom right corner and click Flatten. This is how we make an image printable. Instead of it cutting, now Design Space knows that I want this image to Print Then Cut. For the second image I'm gonna go down to the bottom right hand corner and click Weld. Now this creates a solid image that's going to be the back of my flare pin, this is gonna be the part that I cut out of the wood. Now that we've done that we're ready to send this to the machine. The only thing I'm gonna do now is jump over to the file I created that has a few more designs. In this Design Space file I have four different flare pins and four different backgrounds. All of those backgrounds are the same color, because they're gonna print from the same color of wood. Over here I've got my Print Then Cut designs, and now I just go up to the upper right hand corner and click Make It. The first thing you'll do is Print Then Cut. So I'm going to click Continue, select my maker. Now go over to Send to Printer. Once you click that this file will be sent over to your printer, so that you can cut it out from your machine. I would recommend printing on cardstock. I find that it's easier to cut out on your machine and it's gonna give a little more thickness to your finished project. When you're using my project file this is the printout that you'll get. You'll see it has black lines all the way around the images and those are

registration lines that tells your machine exactly where to cut. Now I'm gonna load the mat into my machine. Make sure your machine is loaded with the fine point blade here, because that's what we need to cut cardstock. Now we're ready to select our materials. And I'm gonna select Medium Cardstock, because that's what I'm using. And then we're ready to cut. When using Print Then Cut the first thing your machine is gonna do after you load the mat is scan those registration lines. This way the machine know exactly where to cut every single time, so you can get a precise cut from those printed images. Now that we've got all of our images cut we're ready to cut the basswood. I'm gonna put it on my mat and then use some masking tape to tape it down. This is always a good practice to use when using the knife blade, so that your wood doesn't shift around on the mat. At this point you'll also wanna make sure you switch out that fine point blade that we were using for the knife blade. You'll also wanna make sure you move all the star wheels over to the right. Any time you're cutting with a thick material, like the basswood, you wanna move those over. I'm also gonna change my material to basswood. In this case we're using 1/16 thickness, so that's what I'll select. And now we're ready to cut. Once the machine has made one pass through all of the cuts it will give you a time estimate on how long it will take to complete the entire project. In this case we're making four flare pins and it's telling me it's gonna take about 30 minutes. Now we have all of the pieces and it's time to put them together.

Assembling pins

- The first part of assembly is painting the wooden backgrounds. I like to paint them white, just to give them kind of a nicer finish. You don't have to do this. You could leave them natural but I'm gonna give them a quick coat of white paint. For this, it's really about getting those edges because that's what's gonna be showing once we adhere the images to the front. And if you're like me, you'll paint the back, too, even though no one's gonna see it. You'll know and you'll know that it looks good. Now that that's done, you wanna let that paint dry completely. It's a pretty thin coat, so it should dry almost instantly. Once it is dry, it's time to grab some glue and glue on the images to the front. I like to add a little dab of glue to the front and then use that same paintbrush to get a nice, even coat from edge to edge. Once the glue is on, place the image right on top and they will match up perfectly. And now you can see how those pieces of wood and some printed images came together to create the perfect flair pin. We wanna go ahead and add a little bit of Mod Podge to the top as a sealant. It doesn't matter what finish you use. I'm using matte, you could use gloss, you could even use the glitter kind. This really is a way to protect our flair so we can wear it for a long time. Once the Mod Podge is on, again, it will dry really quickly, and once we're done with that, we're gonna add the pin backs, and we're ready to wear our flair. Alright, it's time to add the pin backs, which is super simple. All I'm gonna use is a hot glue gun. Turn your flair over and add a... thin bead of glue. And then sit your pin back right into it. That's it. Keep going until all your flair is done and you're gonna feel so good about these. Our flair's all done and even though I only created four, really there's no end to how many you can create. You now know how to use print and cut, which is all you need to know to make these, and now you can head over to Design Space and really discover all the different images that would make flair that's perfect for you.