

Screen Printing



ESTIMATED TIME

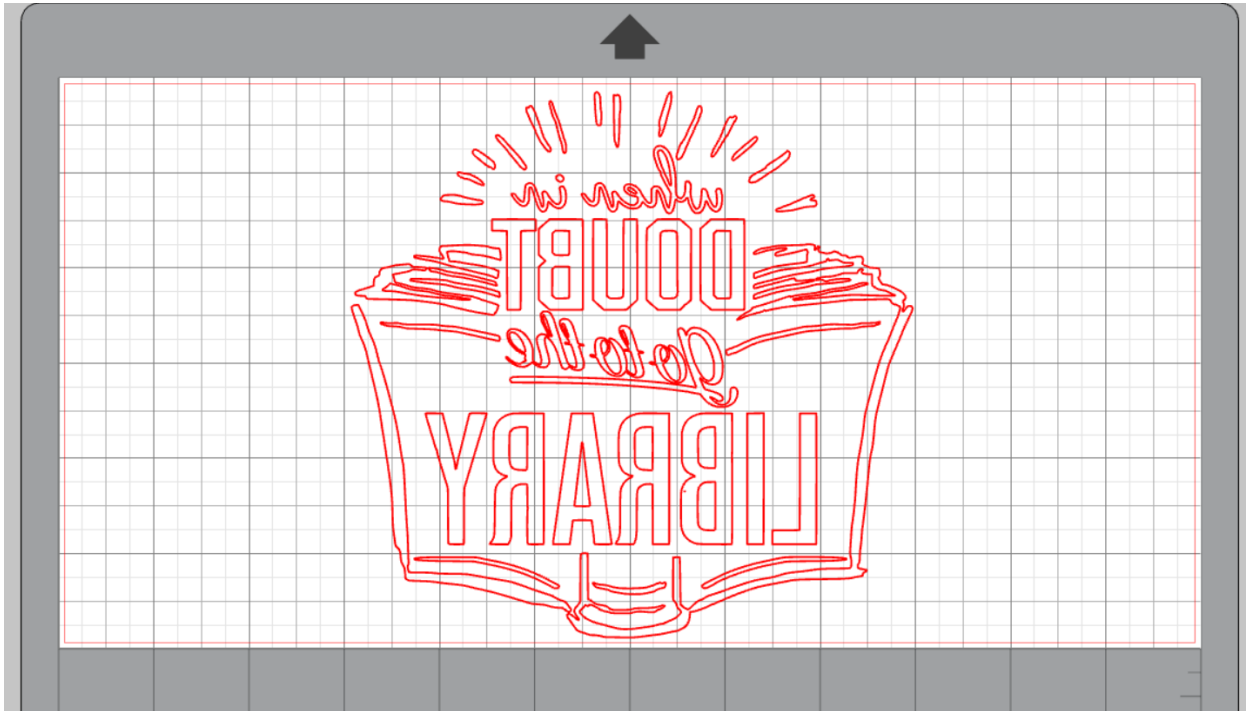
- 90 minutes


SUPPLIES NEEDED

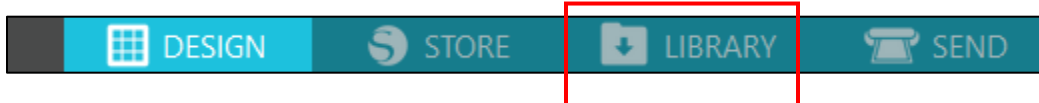
- Laptop
- Silhouette Cameo
- Silhouette Studio Software
- Stencil Paper (or Vinyl)
- Cutting Mat
- Weeding Tools/Scissors
- Tote Bag
- Acrylic Paint
- Rubber Gloves (optional)
- Squeegee
- Newspaper
- Silk Screen
- Paper Towels

Finding Your Image

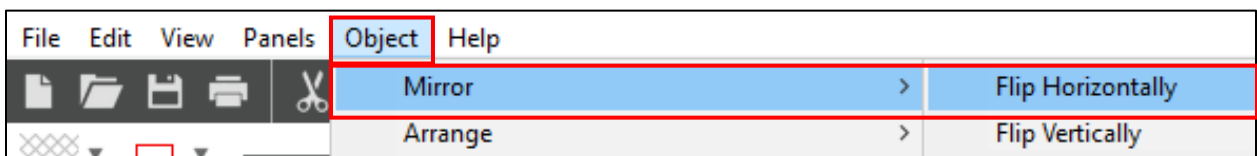
- On your desktop, open up CLASS FILES > SILHOUETTE PROGRAMS > SCREEN PRINTING > Select the image file you want to use for your screen print.



- Or open Silhouette Studio  and click on the LIBRARY to select the image



Don't forget to mirror the image if you are placing it on the bottom of the Silk Screen. Select your object. Click on OBJECT, select MIRROR, select FLIP HORIZONTALLY

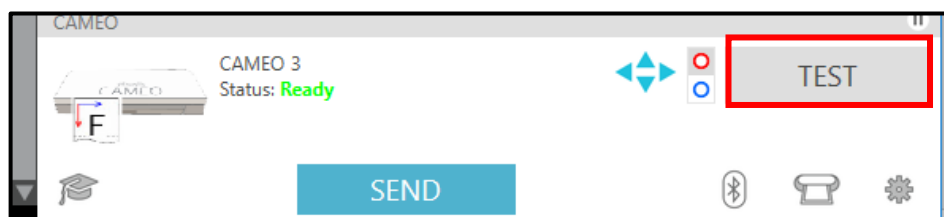


Cut Your Image

- Connect your laptop to Silhouette Cameo Cutter to connect to the machine
- Put your vinyl on the sticky mat
- Load the mat into the Silhouette Cameo Cutter
- Place the top edge of the cutting mat gently against the rollers with the left edge lined up with the line and arrows on the left side of the machine.
- Hold it in place with one hand while tapping **LOAD** or **LOAD MAT** on the touch screen with the other hand.
- Select the **SEND** tab in *Silhouette Studio*. In the **MATERIALS** drop-down menu, choose **STENCIL MATERIAL**. The setting is pre-programmed, so make sure the blade is set to 3. Adjust **SPEED** to 5; Adjust **FORCE** to 25.



- Click **TEST**
 - Note: Test Cut feature helps to find the proper settings for any material type



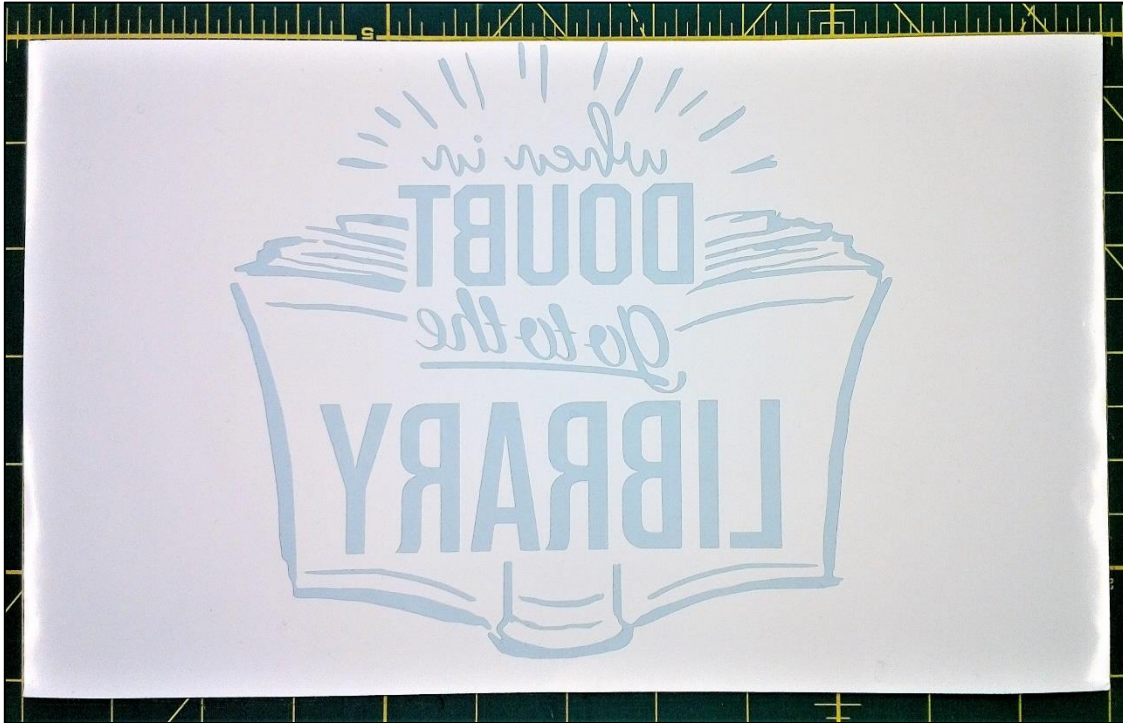
- After the test cut is done, tap **UNLOAD** on the touch screen
- Check if the vinyl has cut correctly
- If yes, load the mat again and click **SEND** button
- Tap *Unload* on the touch screen when the design has finished cutting



Weeding the Stencil

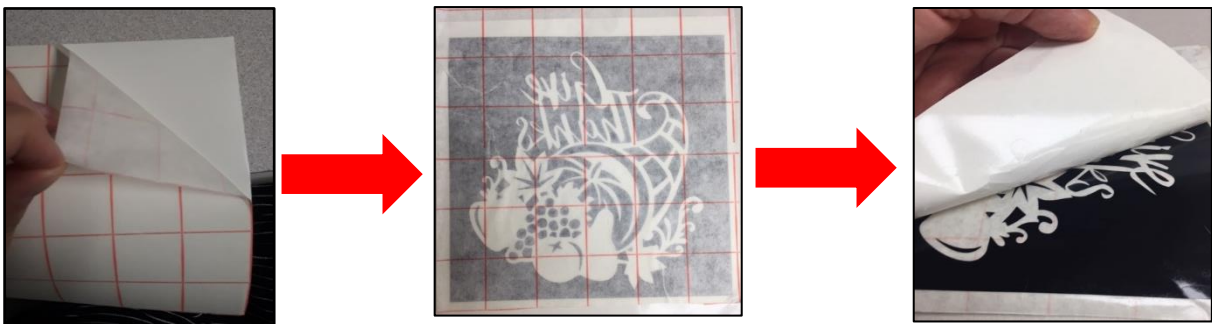
- With the Silhouette hook tool, carefully remove THE DESIGN from the vinyl so that you create a stencil with the remaining negative space. This is a little tricky because it's different from what you do with regular vinyl. Be sure to remove the pieces of the **actual design**. Remove the vinyl **CAREFULLY**. Use the pick tool for smaller portions of the design. **TAKE YOUR TIME**.

Refer to the original artwork to guide you in removing the parts of your stencil.



Transfer Paper

- Cut a piece of transfer paper to the size of your image
 - This will keep all the little pieces of your image together.
- Peel off the backing of the transfer paper
- Line up the transfer tape with your design and press the sticky side down, using the scraper tool to make sure the vinyl adheres to the transfer paper
- Peel the backing off of your design, revealing the sticky side and your design on the transfer paper.
- TIP: It helps to keep the weeded design on the sticky mat and THEN put your transfer paper over the design. The sticky mat helps keep the weeded design from rolling, especially if the material isn't flat to begin with.



Apply your design to the Silk Screen Frame

- Place the sticky side of the stencil paper to the **UNDERSIDE** of the Silk Screen. **Make sure the top of the design aligns to the top left hand of the Silk Screen.** Make sure the vinyl adheres to surface. You don't want any air bubbles. Use your hand to get rid of any air bubbles

To Screen Print

- Once your stencil is on the underside of the Silk Screen—you'll notice that it is NOT A MIRRORED IMAGE at this point, which is CORRECT—tape off the areas of the Silk Screen that is exposed. This will prevent any of the paint from getting on your tote bag that you don't want paint on.



Stencil placed onto the underside of silk screen



Tape off (masking) exposed areas of the silk screen with masking tape or a combination of masking tape and paper.

- Open up the paint bottle and using a spoon to blot a thick line of paint across the top of the stencil. But not too much. Make sure that the paint isn't on the design just yet. Always use more than you think you'll need to ensure the entire design gets enough paint throughout.
- Lift your silk screen up with one hand. With your squeegee in your other hand, lightly pull the paint across the design. This is called FLOODING your screen.
- Now, lay the silk screen frame back down onto your tote bag. The blot of paint should now be at the bottom of the stencil design.
- With one hand pushing down on the silk screen, use your other hand to push the paint across the design with the squeegee again.
 - The squeegee should be held at a 45-degree angle
 - **HAVE A PICTURE REFERENCE FOR THE RIGHT AND WRONG WAY TO HOLD SQUEEGEE**

You just screen printed a design!

Congrats!

Your project is finished!

**You aren't limited to just one color. Try
screen printing with multiple colors!**

