Calibration

The Print then Cut feature allows you to print your images from your home printer and then cut them out with high precision on your Cricut Explore® machine.

When using the Print then Cut feature for the first time, you will be prompted to calibrate your machine for the most precise cuts. Print then Cut calibration is a series of simple cuts, questions, and answers designed to help your Cricut Explore® machine cut out printed images accurately.

**Step 1** Once you’ve created a project including a printable image and have reviewed it on the Mat Preview screen, load white 8 ½” x 11” paper or other printable material into your printer and click “Print and Continue.” When it has been printed, set it aside—you’ll be able to use it after calibration is complete.

**Tip:** The Print then Cut feature should always be used with white materials, as colored materials may prevent your machine from accurately reading the cut sensor marks.

**Note:** If you are prompted to perform a firmware update at this time, do so. When the update is complete, you’ll be returned to where you were. See “Firmware Update” for more information.

**Step 2** You will be prompted to calibrate your machine. In this process, you will print out a calibration sheet, cut it, and check that the machine is cutting accurately. If it isn’t, you’ll repeat the process until everything is picture-perfect. Click “Continue” to begin.
Calibration

Step 3 Load white 8½” x 11” paper into your printer for the calibration sheet and then click “Continue.”

Step 4 In the print dialogue box that appears, check that the destination is your printer and then click “Print.”
**Calibration**

**Step 5** Make sure your Cricut Explore® machine is powered on and connected to your computer. Once your machine has been detected, place the printed calibration sheet on the cutting mat and load it into your Cricut Explore® machine. Turn the SmartSet® dial to the Paper setting and then press “Go” on your machine.
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**Step 6** First, your machine needs to detect the cut sensor marks around the images, and then it will make a test cut around the small center square. When it is finished cutting, DO NOT unload your cutting mat. While the mat is still loaded into the machine, take a look at the cut lines around the small box in the middle.

- If the cut line touches the printed line all the way around the box, select “Yes” and click “Continue.”

- If your cut lines don’t match up with the printed line, no worries! Just select “No,” click “Continue,” and follow the onscreen instructions. You’ll be walked through the same steps as we cover here, just repeating a few of them to get everything just right.
Calibration

**Step 7** Your Cricut Explore® machine will then make a series of horizontal and vertical cuts on the calibration sheet. Once your machine is done cutting, DO NOT unload your cutting mat. Take a look at the lines on the top and along the right side of the test print page. Determine where the cuts are centered on or closest to the print line.

Select the corresponding number or letter in the drop-down menus. Once you click “Continue,” the machine will cut around the large rectangle.

![Print Calibration](image)

**Tip:** Results may vary. Please closely examine the printed calibration sheet to determine the number and letter most closely matching the cuts from your machine.
Calibration

**Step 8** Examine the cut around the large rectangle.

- If you are satisfied with the accuracy, select “Yes” and click “Continue.” You’re done calibrating and are ready to save the settings. You can then go on to cut the images you already printed out.

- If not, select “No” and click “Continue.” After the cutting mat has been unloaded, remove the calibration sheet from the mat and discard it. You’ll be prompted to repeat the process in order to improve the calibration of your machine.
Calibration

Step 9 You are finished! Now that your machine is calibrated, simply click “Save & Close” to proceed.

Tip: Calibration is generally a one-time procedure. If at any time you feel the cut alignment does not meet your expectations, you can return to the Account menu (the green button in the upper left corner of the window) and select “Calibration” to recalibrate.