

## The Heat Press Vinyl Experience



Due: 4th and 6th periods: Thursday 10/12/23

3rd period: Friday 10/13/23

Your assignment: we're going to cut out a piece of heat press vinyl with your name on it and put it on a scrap of cloth so you can see how the heat press works. If you want to press your name onto a piece of your actual clothing, that's fine, but what you create today must meet the following requirements:

- The text is your name.
- The text is in a non-default font (in other words it is NOT the font called "sans-serif")
- The font is not too complicated
- Your name is less than 1 inch tall and 3 inches wide (Another way to think of this is that it should be as tall as you can make it while keeping it no wider than 3 inches)
- Your name is not distorted (use the Control key or the lock icon when resizing)
- This sticker is JUST your name (first or last, your choice), no graphics or other designs. We're staying focused for this project.

When you have the text the way you like it do the following:

1. Select the text then choose "Object to Path" from the Path menu. The vinyl cutter only will cut paths and text in Inkscape is not a path until you do this step.
2. Reverse the image by selecting it and clicking this icon in the toolbar:  or   
This makes text backwards which is a necessary step.
3. Save your file with your name and "heat press" in the name.
4. Turn your file in here on the Google Classroom, then email it to [vinyl.makerlab@wscuhsd.org](mailto:vinyl.makerlab@wscuhsd.org)
5. I'll call you over when it is your turn to cut your design out.

Once your name is cut out, weed it, then we'll apply it to a piece of cloth (either your own shirt or a piece of a rag I will provide you). Show me when your project is completed.

Notes: T-shirt or heat-press vinyl is more expensive than regular vinyl, but it works in a similar way. You cut an image or text on the vinyl cutter, weed off the parts you do not want, then use a heat press to **permanently** fix the vinyl to cloth. The transfer tape is built in to the vinyl.

Some things are different:

- When you cut t-shirt vinyl the shiny side must be down; the dull side gets cut.
- Your image must be reversed in Inkscape or it will come out backwards on your clothing.
- You need to use higher cutting pressure than regular vinyl, set it to 50g instead of 30g.

The most common errors:

**1. Where'd my text go?** See step 1 above. Go fix it then come back and try again.

**2. Text not reversed:** See step 2 above. Go fix it then come back and try again.

We have heat press vinyl that you can buy for your own projects. The point of this project was to get you to see how this technology works.