

Step-by-Step Dye Sublimation Twill

Sublimated twill is vibrant and provides a wide variety of creative possibilities to your embroidery. In this guide we will walk through step-by-step as an overview for this process. A basic foundation in equipment and software used in this guide is required for success.

Start by opening desired artwork in Adobe Illustrator, adjust to desired shape and size. Save as EPS version 8 to open correctly in DesignShop V11 Professional. Complicated or highly detailed file may work best when exported as jpeg or png.

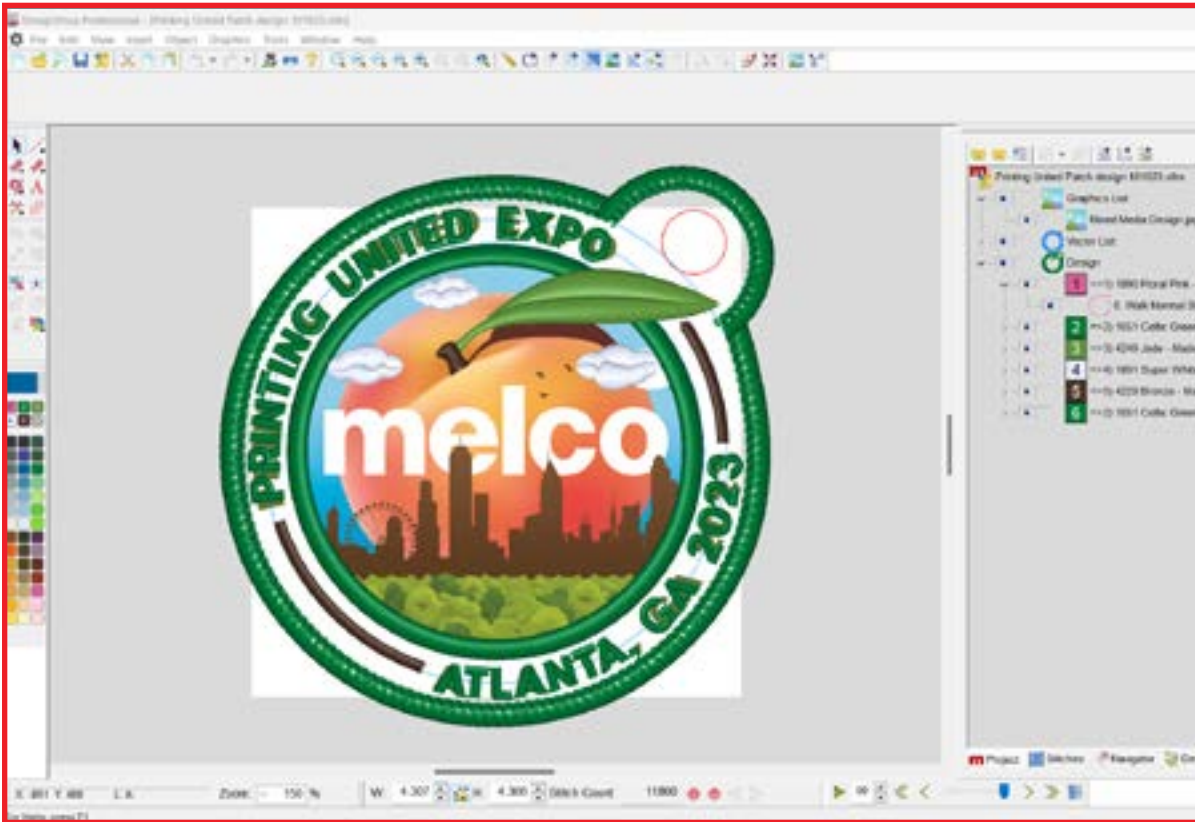


(Adjusted graphic)



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Open print design in DesignShop V11 Professional and digitize as desired. Decide which details will be sewn and which details will be printed. Save OFM file.

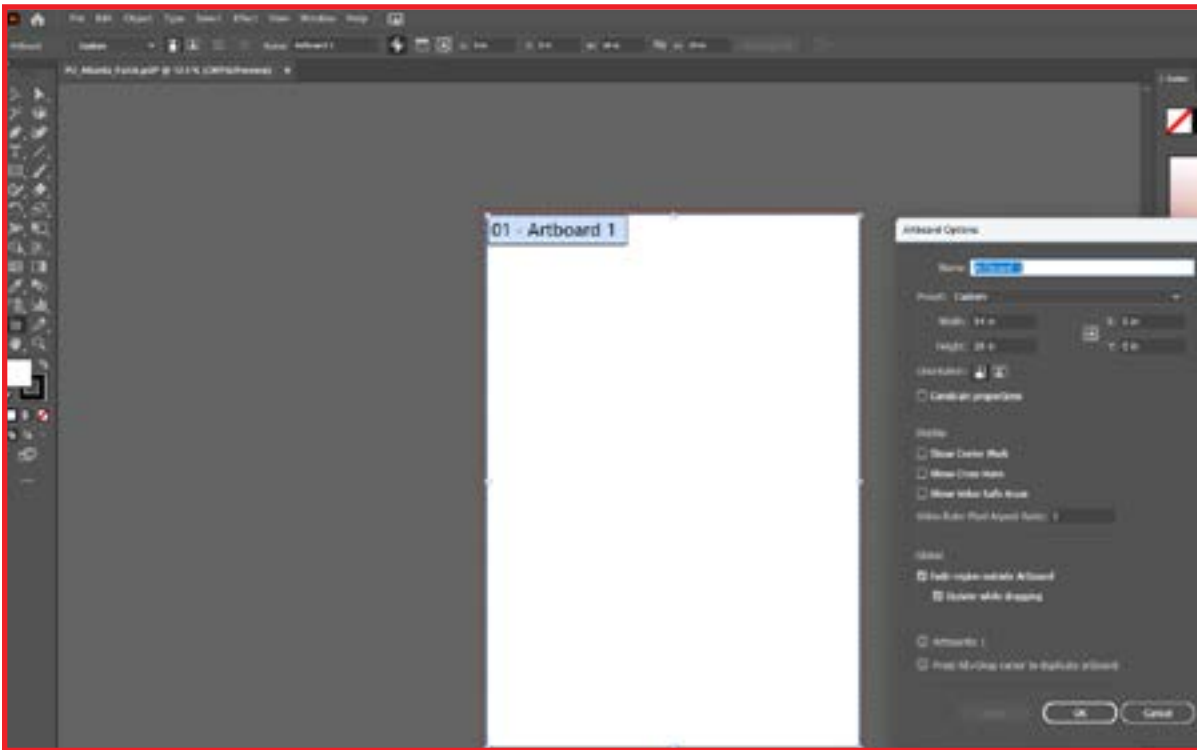


Back in Illustrator, delete elements that will be sewn as not to print. Move custom shape to a new layer above design, changing the fill to None and applying 1pt stroke in contrasting color. Rename as 'CUT' or something similar as not to confuse the two layers.

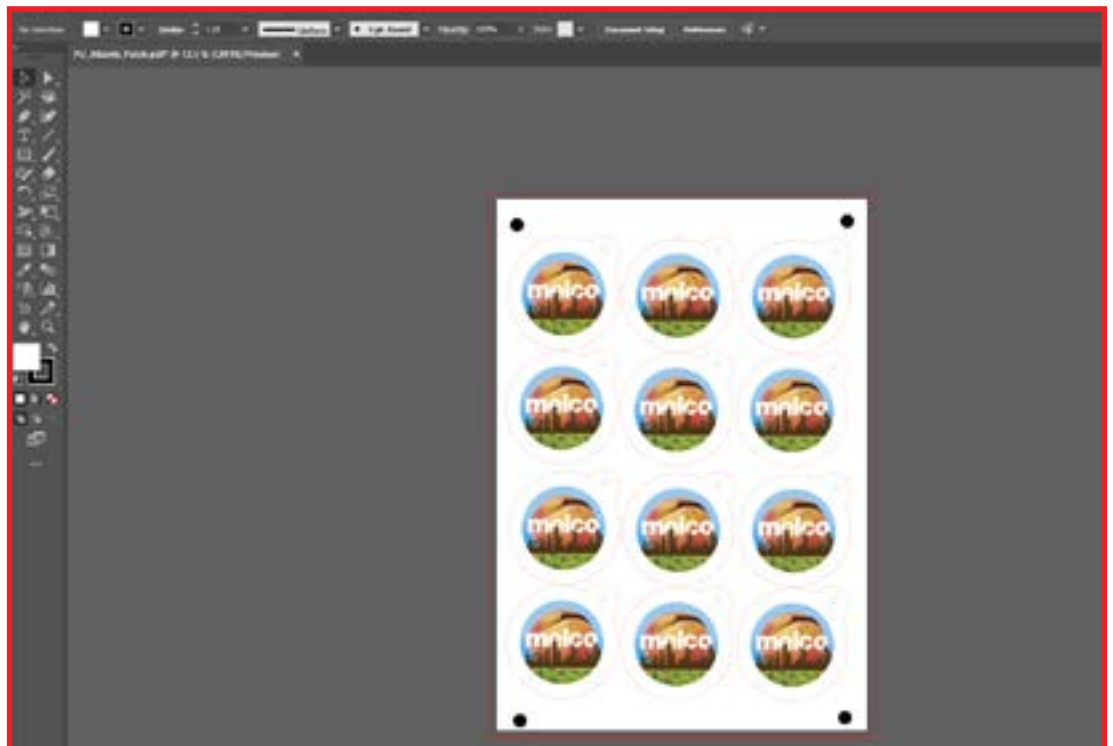


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Set artboard size in Illustrator. This is based on the platen size of your heat press.

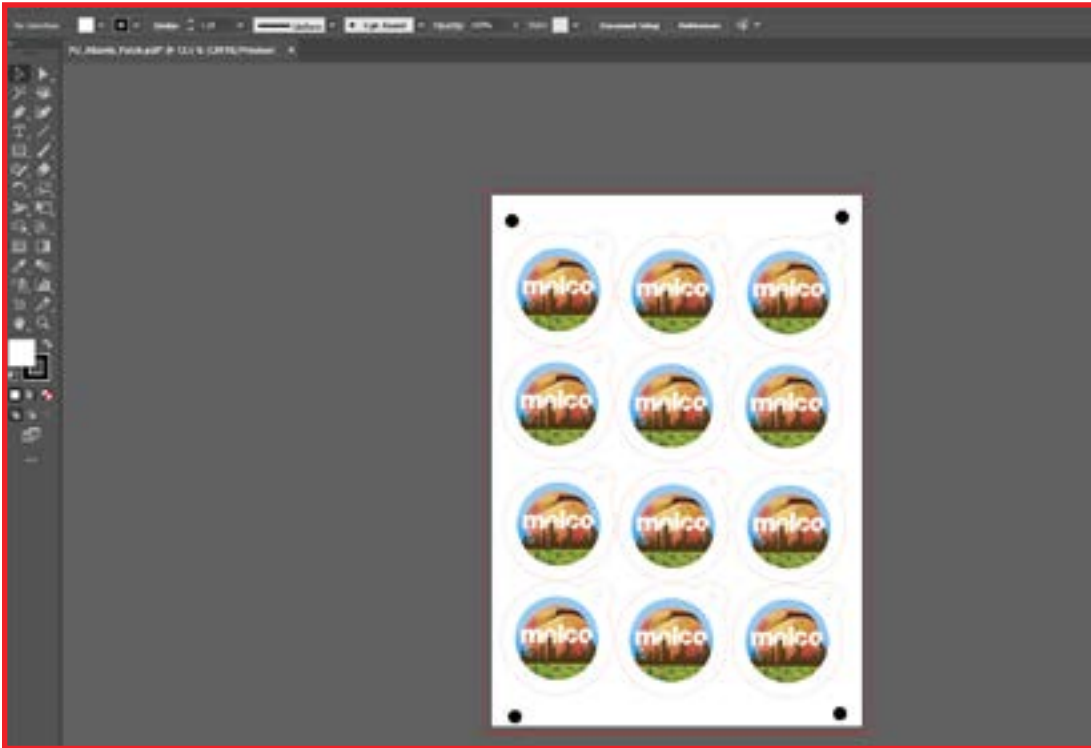


Layout your designs with cut lines inside the artboard.

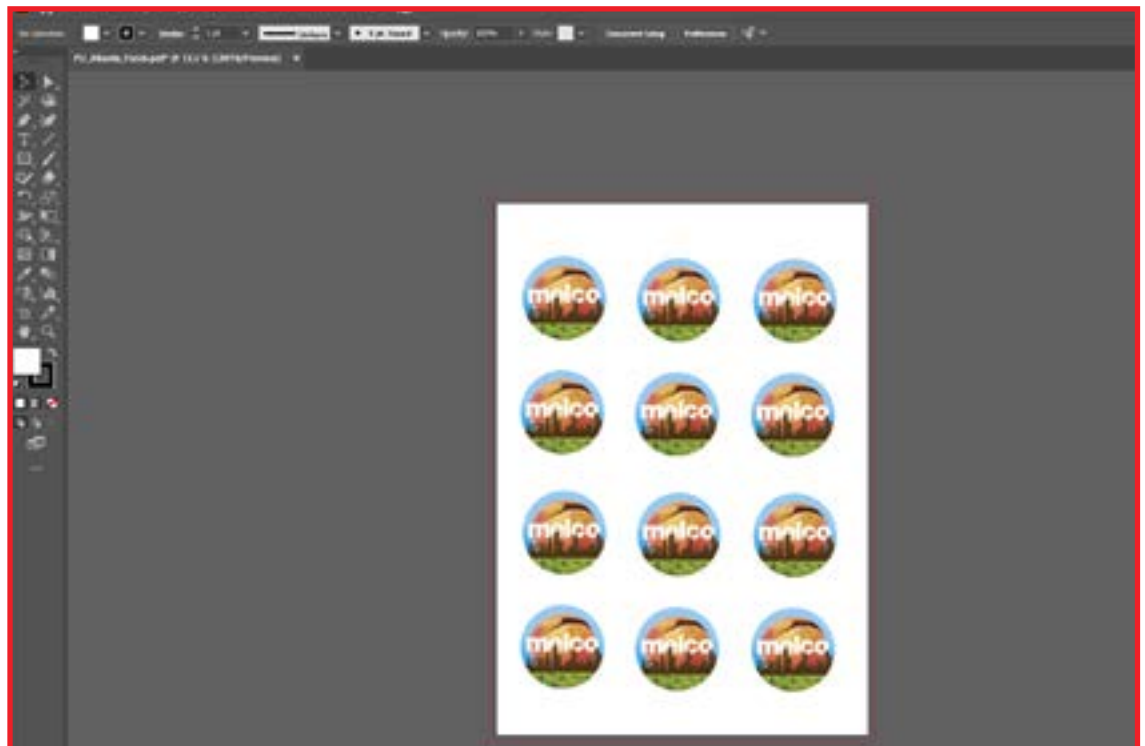


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Add registration dots and save out all layers as your main file.



Save out just the designs and registration dots as a .pdf. Be sure no cut lines are visible.



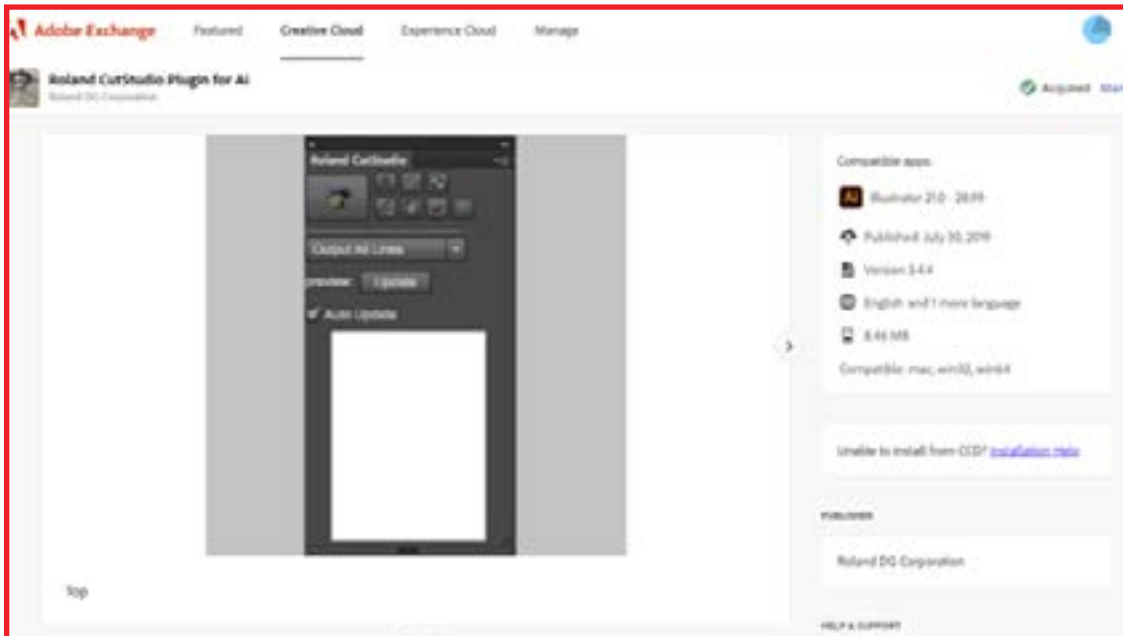
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Install Roland CutStudio. This comes with the Roland GS-24.

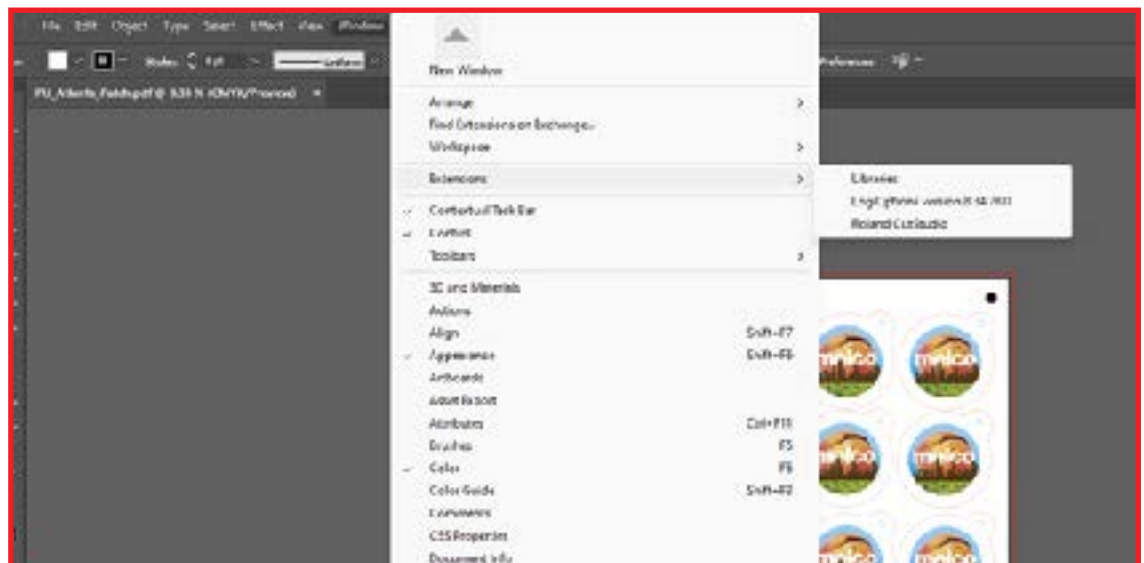
<https://shopmelco.com/roland-gs2-24-cutter-with-stand/>

Install Roland CutStudio plugin for Adobe Illustrator

<https://exchange.adobe.com/apps/cc/15901/roland-cutstudio-plugin-for-ai>

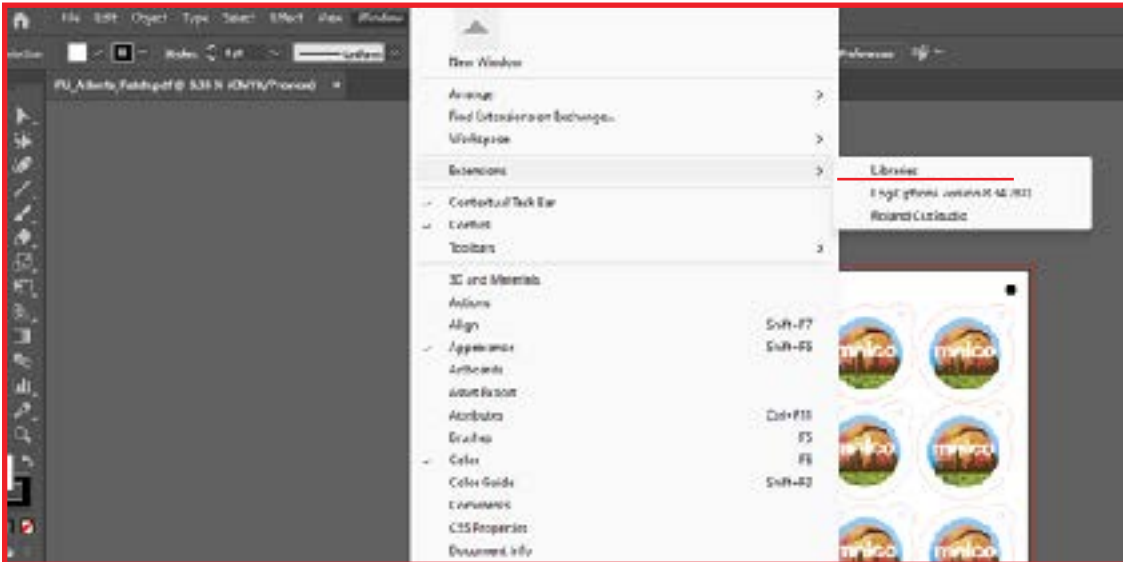


Restart Illustrator, open the main file. Click on Window, then extensions, Roland CutStudio.

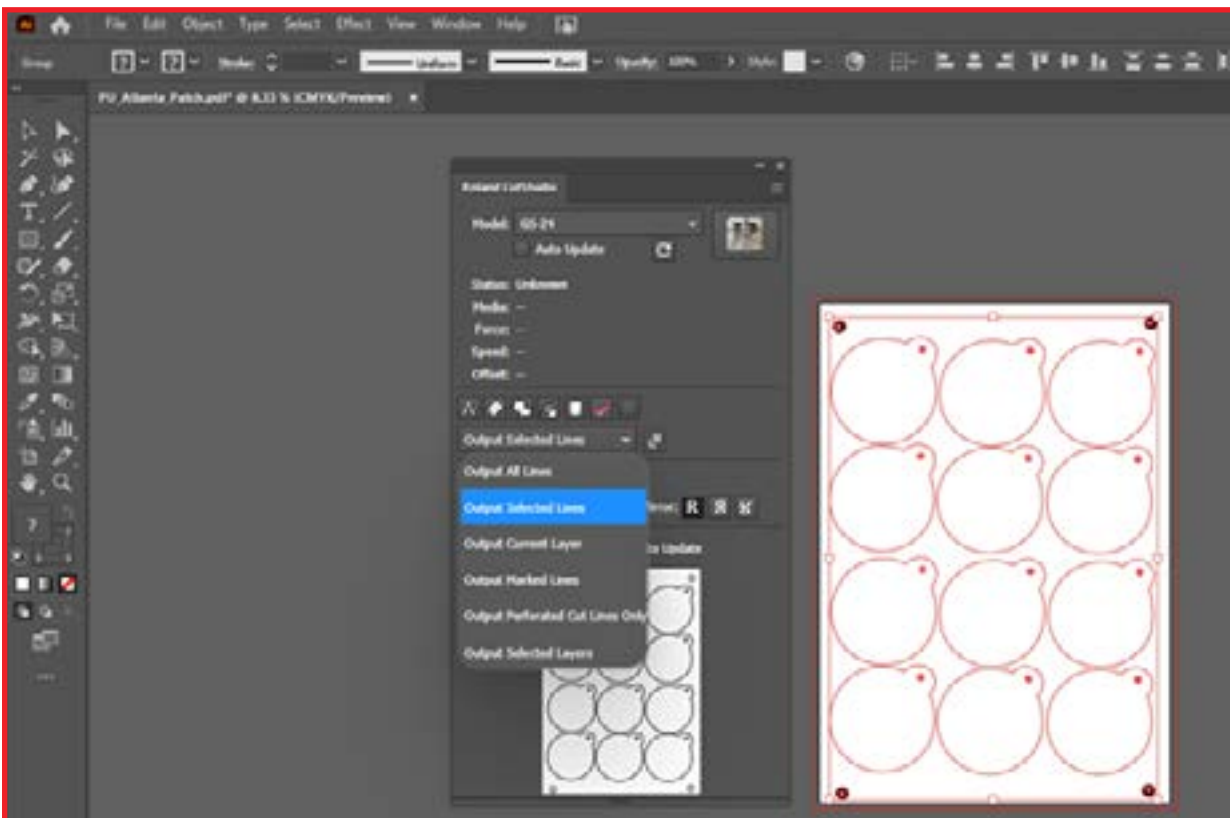


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Restart Illustrator, open the main file. Click on Window, then extensions, Roland CutStudio.

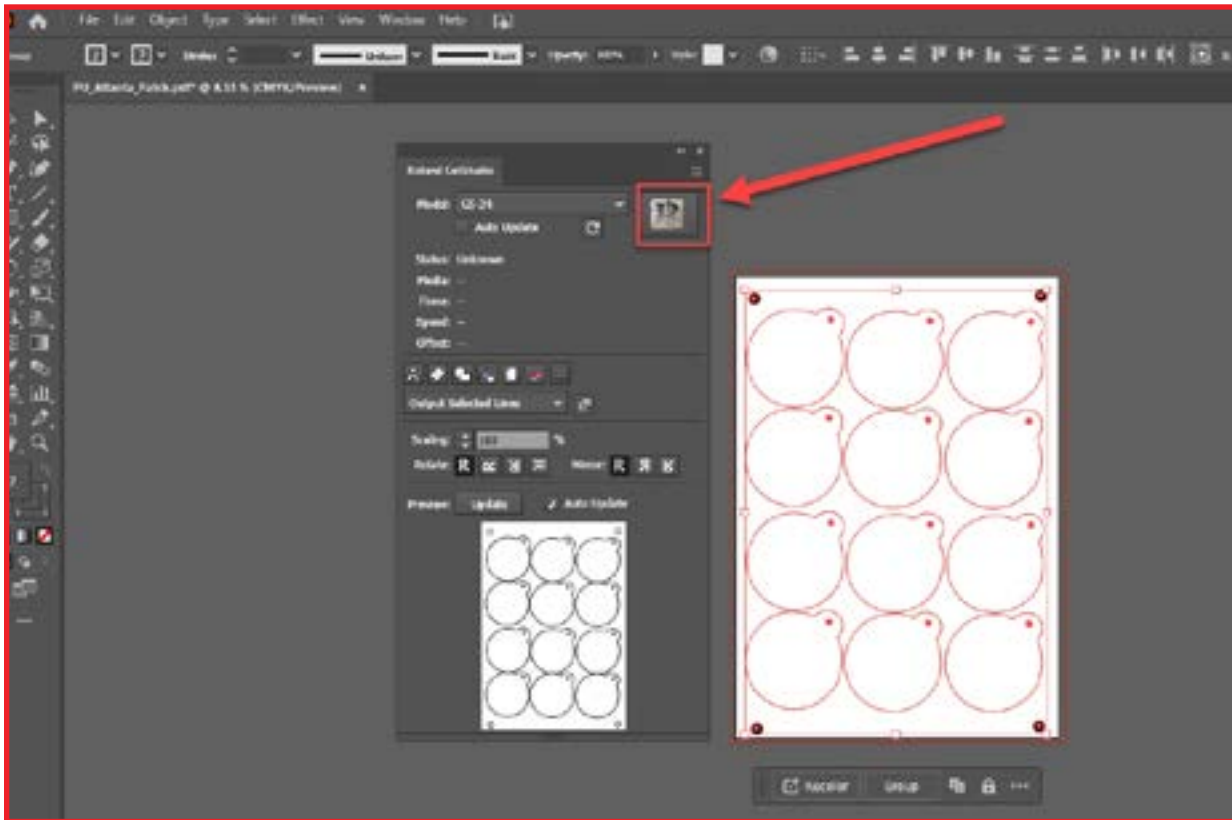


Turn off the designs layer and select the cutlines for designs and registration dots. In the Roland CutStudio popup in Illustrator select the "Output Selected Lines" from the drop-down.

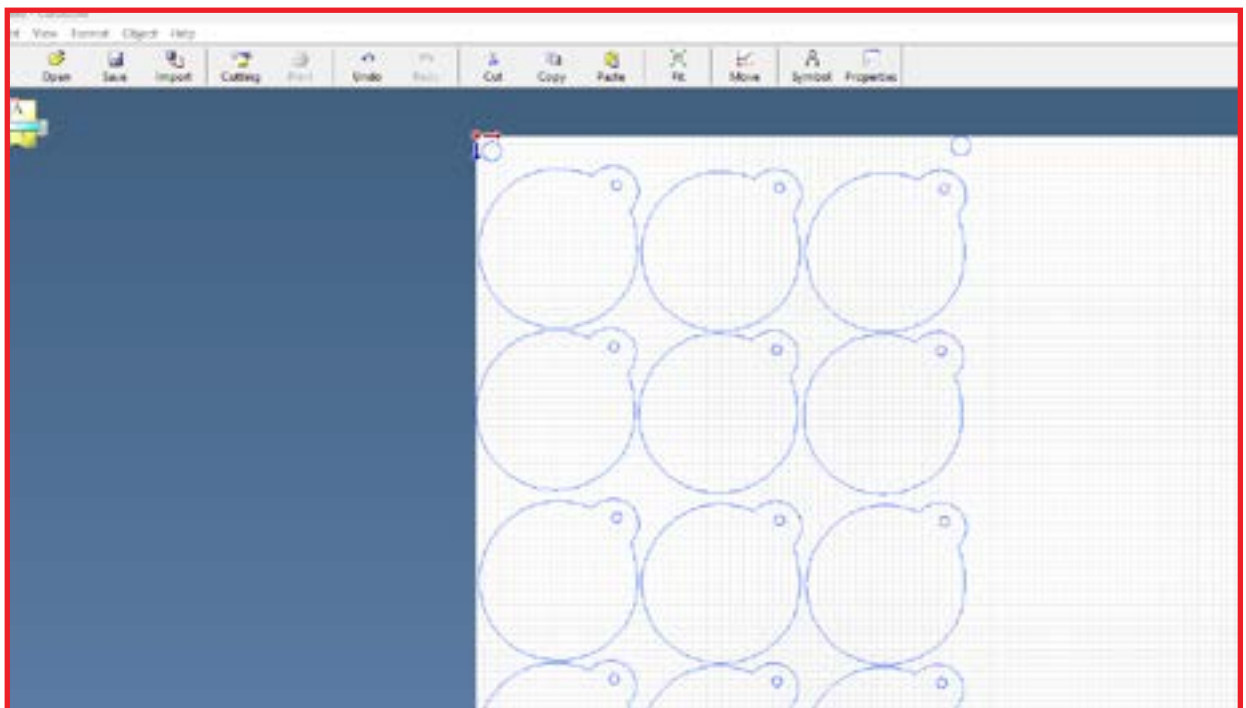


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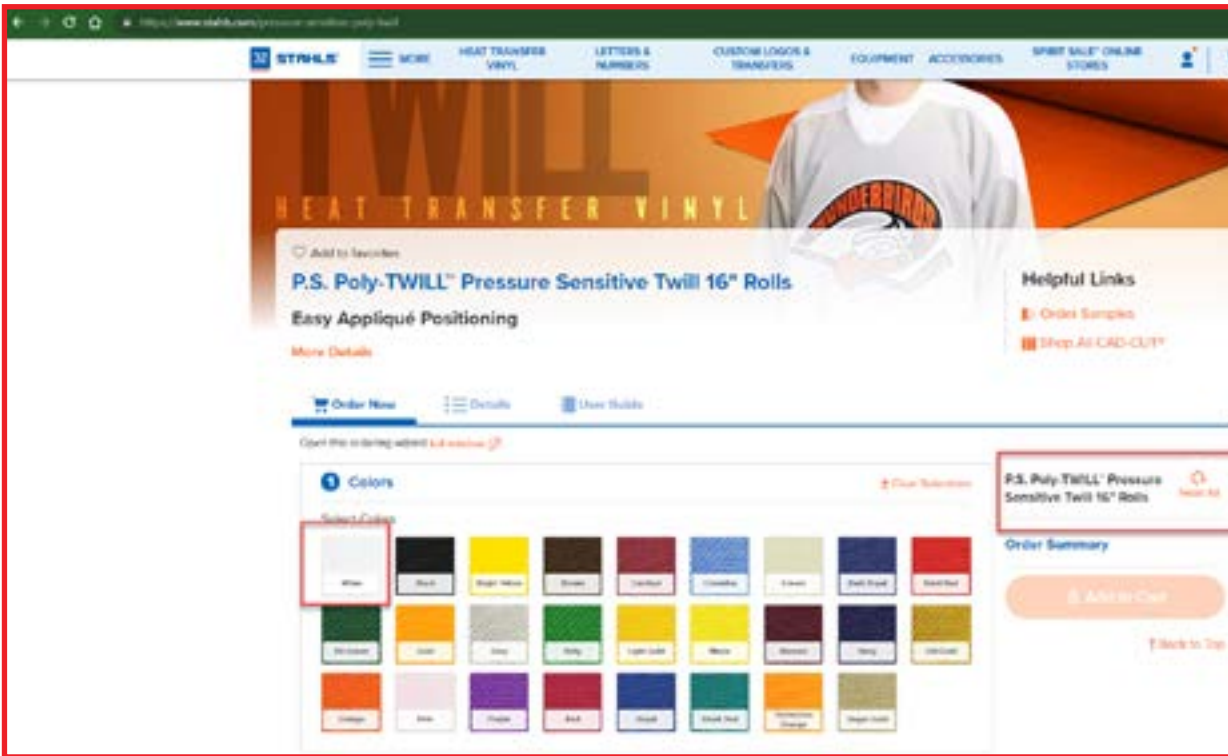
Click the "R" button.



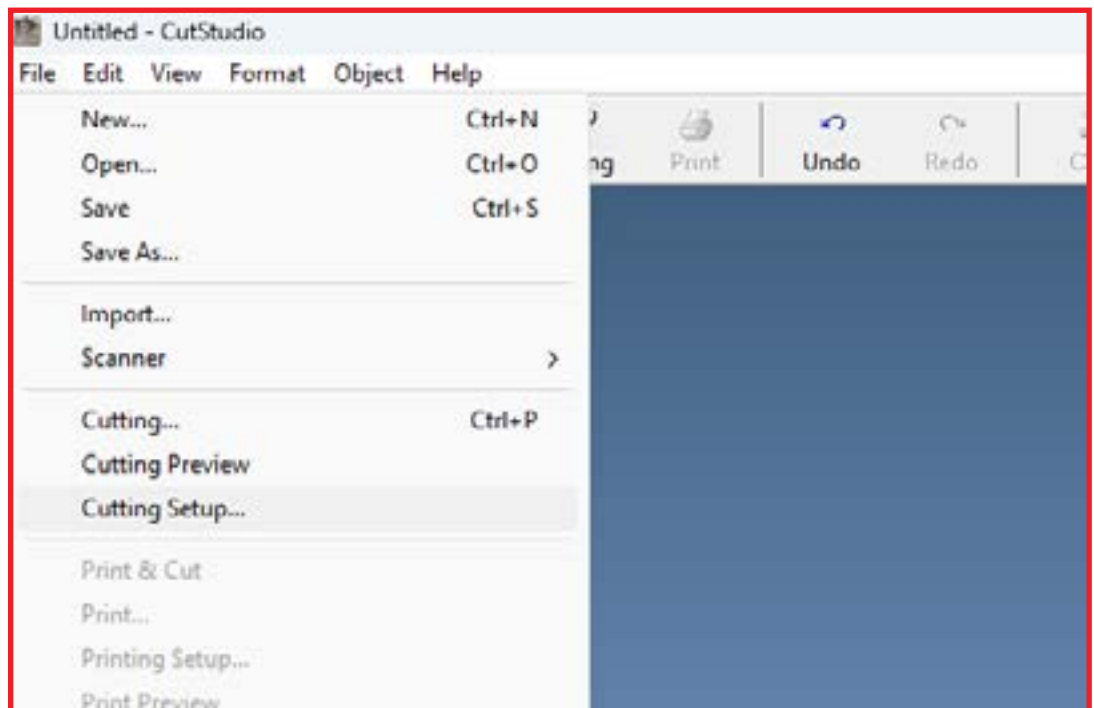
This will open Roland CutStudio and show the cutlines.



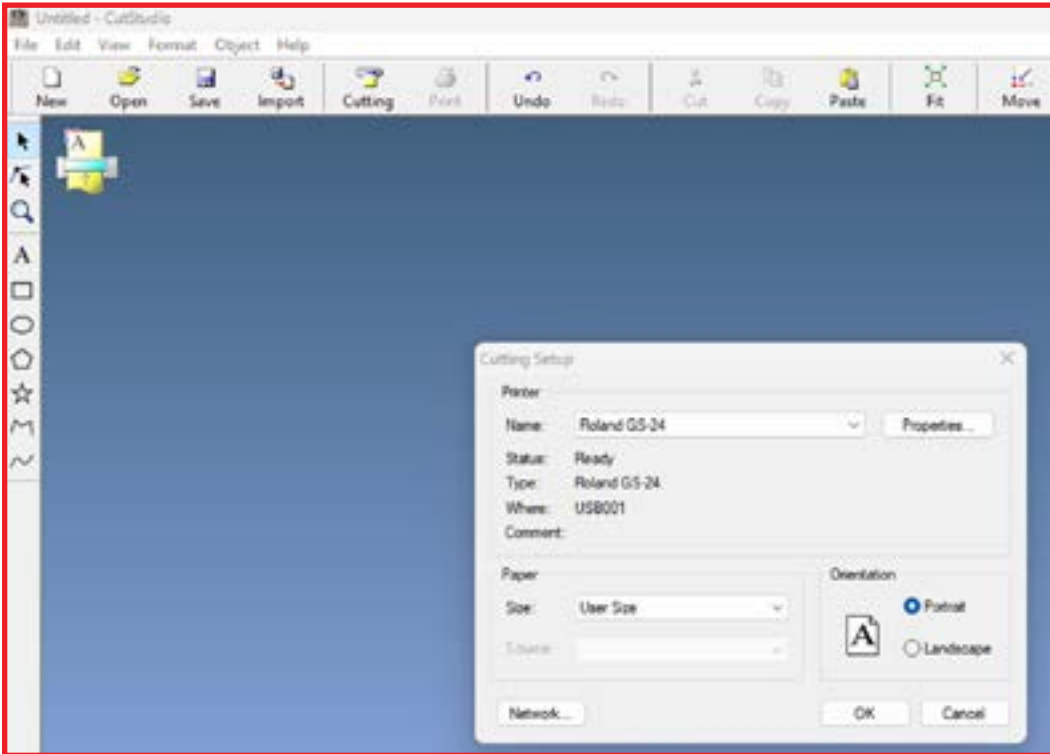
Load your tack twill onto the Roland GS-24. Turn on Roland GS-24 and connect to PC. We suggest using P.S. Poly-TWILL from STAHL'S.



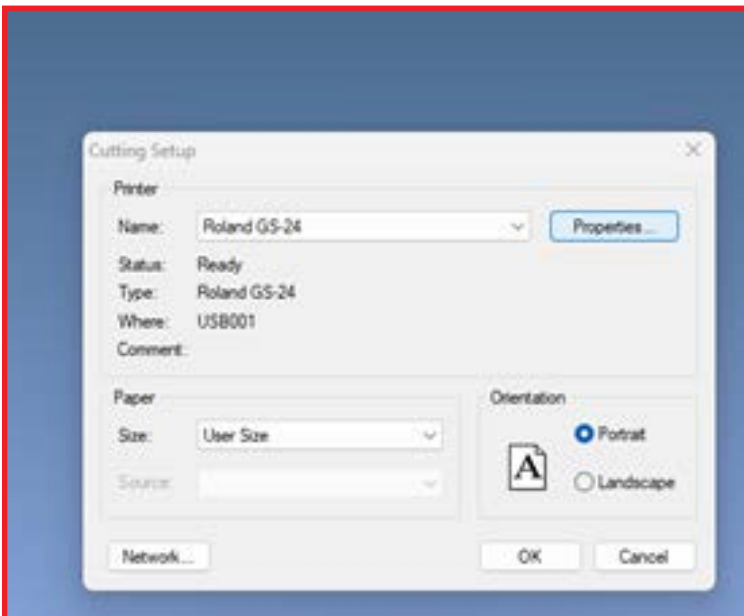
Press enter on the Roland GS-24. In the CutStudio software click on File/Cutting Setup.



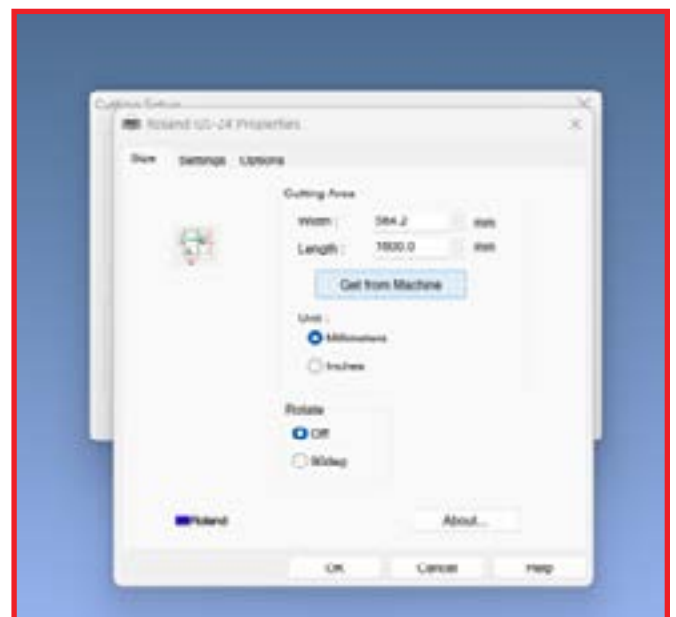
Select the Roland GS-24 from the Printer Name drop-down.



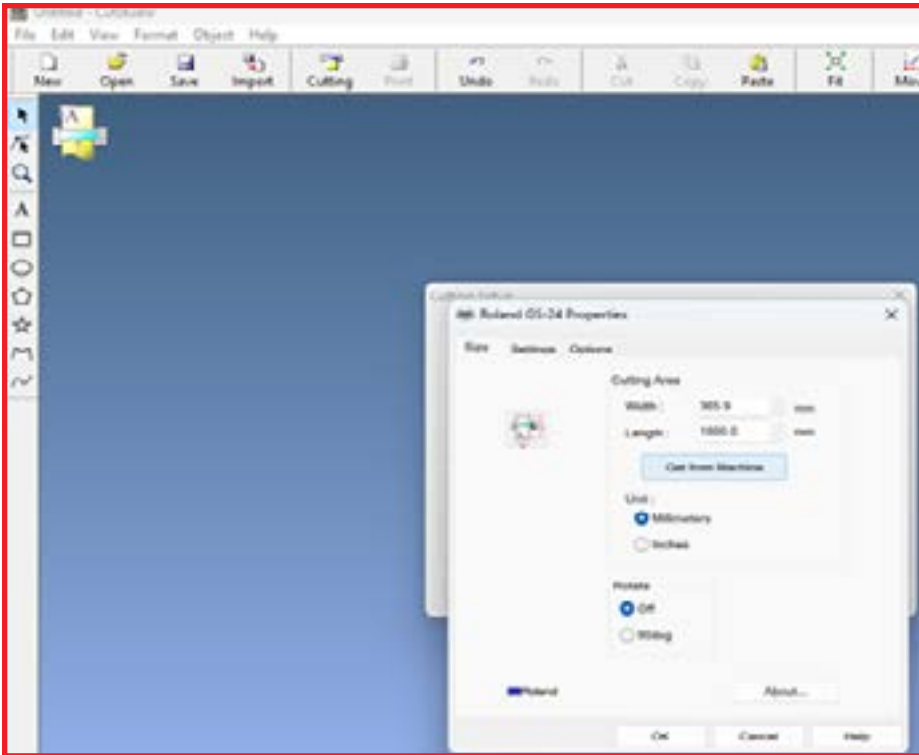
Click on Properties.



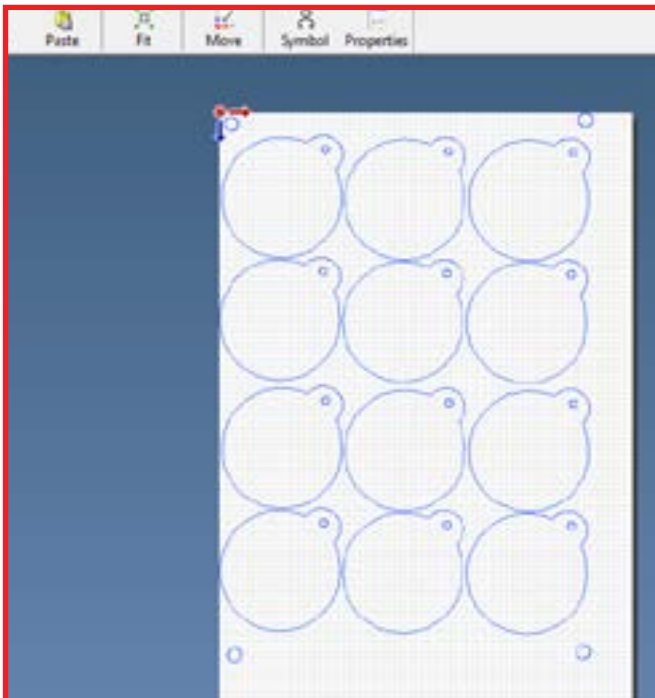
Click on 'Get from Machine' button.



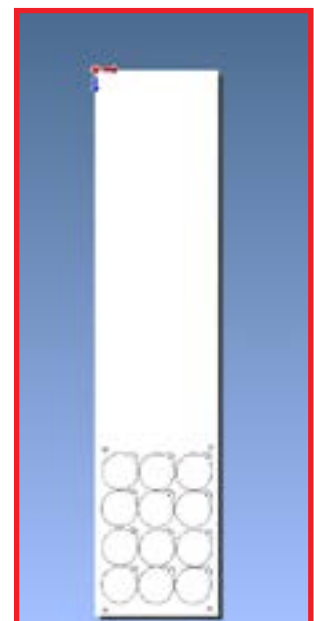
You should notice the width change.



Click ok. And ok on the Cutting Setup popup.



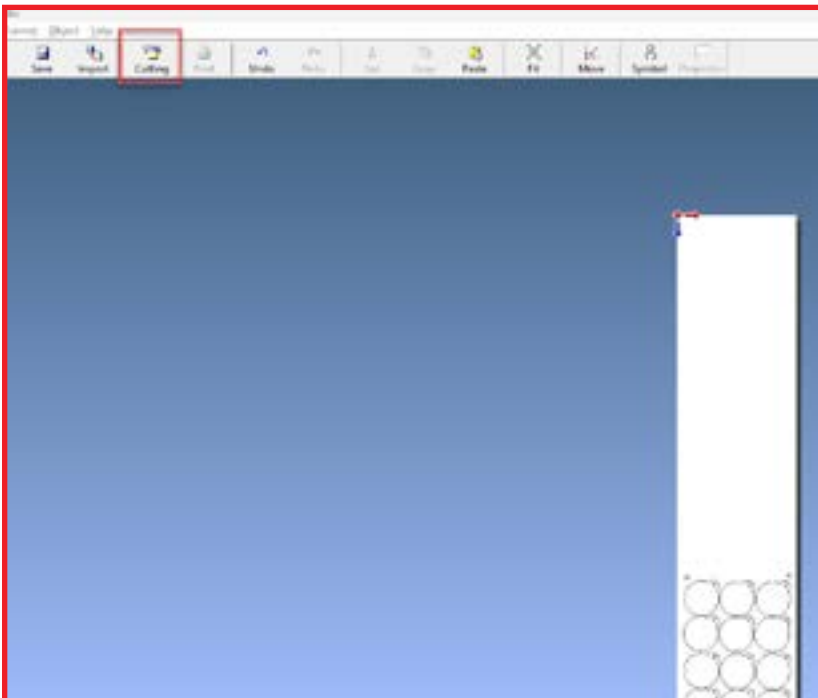
Click and drag the cutlines to the bottom of the page in Roland CustStudio.



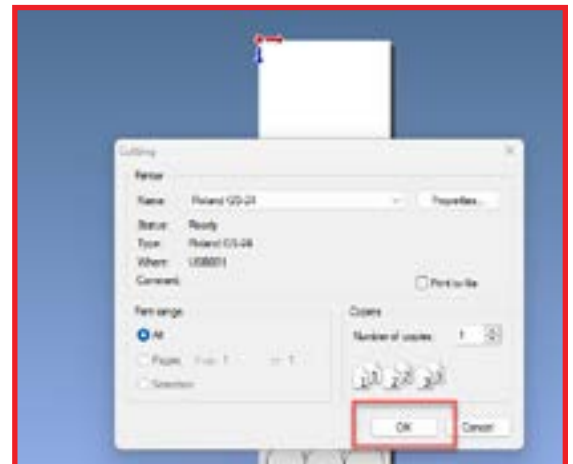
Load and set knife depth with a twill knife and test cut on Roland GS-24.



Once successfully performed test cut on Roland GS-24
Click on Cutting in CutStudio.

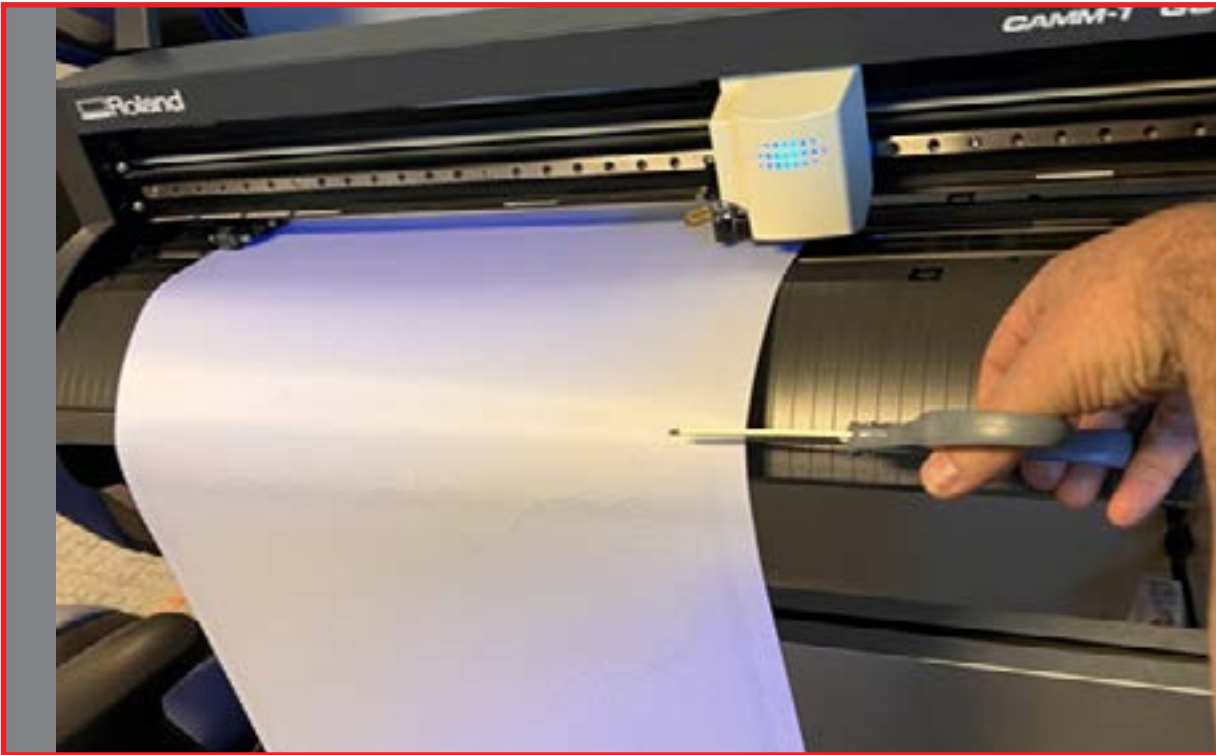


Click OK on Cutting popup window.
The Roland GS-24 will begin cutting.

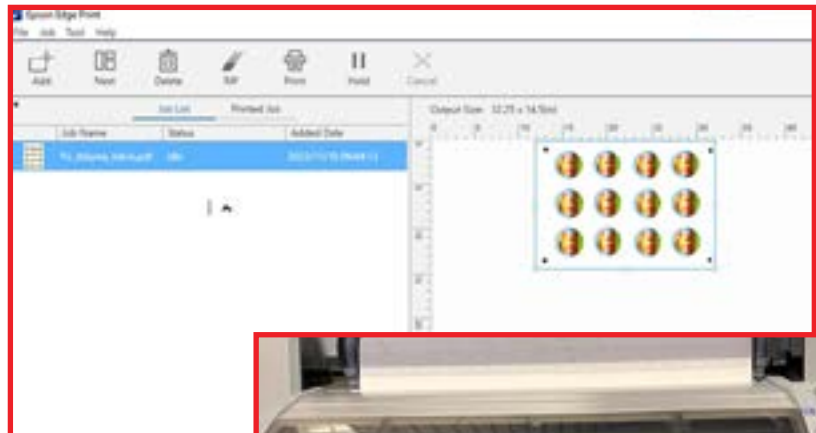


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Once it is completed take and cut the twill from the roll that has been completed.



Open the design and registration dots into your dye sublimation software and print using your dye sublimation printer.



Cut the dye sublimated piece down to size and remove the cut registration dots from the twill.



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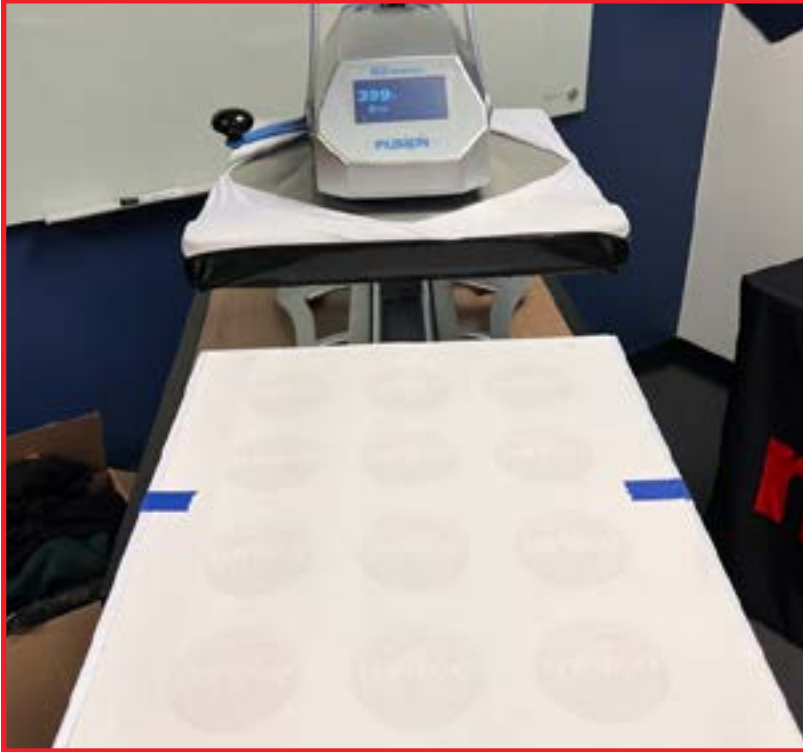
Line the printed registration dots on the dye sublimated print up with the cut registration dots on the cut twill.



Using painter's tape, tape the dye sublimated print to the cut piece of twill.



Put the combined piece with dye sublimated print on the top onto the heat press. Heat on the press should be set to 400 degrees Fahrenheit, time to 40 seconds, and pressure set to high. Close heat to sublimate.



Open heat press when 40 seconds is complete and remove dye sublimated paper immediately.



Final production ready result.



Be sure to test your OFM file created, using one or two of the dye sublimated pieces created prior to final production as a quality check. Make any necessary changes as needed to your final embroidery file.