



*all about*

INFUSIBLE INK



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The innovative Infusible Ink system delivers seamlessly smooth, professional-quality transfers that become one with your materials and last a lifetime. If you haven't tried it yet, you're in for a real treat! This material infuses into your base and permanently transfers to it. It's peel-proof, flake-proof and wash-proof which are just a few reasons we love working with this material so much. The results are vibrant, professional and beautiful.

If you're new to working with Infusible Ink or maybe you've tried it and have had a few hiccups along the way, you're in the right place. Our Craft-e-Corner team has been working with Infusible Ink since it launched and we are compiling everything that we've learned about working with this material in this guide. We won't lie to you - there have been some frustrating moments along the way. Not only will we share our successes with you, but we'll show you where we have failed too. Our hope is that you become confident in your crafting with Infusible Ink and grow to love this unique material too! When you get it just right, the results of Infusible Ink projects are unlike anything other. So without further ado, let's get started.



# 1.

Place your Infusible Ink Transfer Sheet ink side up on the cutting mat.



When you're working with Infusible Ink, the transfer sheet always goes ink side up on your mat. The ink side is going to be the color or pattern of your Infusible Ink. On the other side, you'll see a clear transparent sheet and a white sheet underneath it – this is simply a liner. Always make sure your ink is face up! Otherwise, you're going to cut your liner, which will cut incorrectly and ruin the Infusible Ink transfer sheet.



Material Size

12" x 12"

Mirror ⓘ



Just like iron-on, you always have to mirror your image in Design Space before cutting your Infusible Ink – whether it’s a transfer sheet or pens. Even though the Cricut will cut or draw your design backwards, we will be placing the Infusible Ink face down, so it will be placed correctly on your base material.

**Tip:** If you’re cutting or drawing and notice that you forgot to mirror your design, pause your Cricut or turn it off immediately so that you won’t waste anymore material! It happens to all of us.

**Tip:** If you’re using Infusible Ink freehand markers/pens, keep it mind that whatever you’re drawing will eventually be mirrored on your project. So if you are drawing words, they will appear backwards on your project. You would have to draw or write them backwards for them to appear correctly on your finished project.

2.

Mirror your image  
in Design Space.



Use the white piece of fabric that comes in the transfer sheet box to try it out before you commit to your project.

In every transfer sheet box, there will be a piece of white fabric that you can use to try out Infusible Ink before you make your project. If you've never worked with Infusible Ink before, we'd highly recommend you start here. Just cut a small shape from your transfer sheets and transfer that to the fabric. This will allow you to get a feel for working with the material. You could simply cut a shape like a circle or a heart. Then once you've done that and got the feel for it, if you're feeling more adventurous, you may want to try and cut something a little more complex.

We always recommend cutting a small sample piece when you're working with a new material, but this is especially true with infusible ink. Don't commit to a huge project if you've never tried Infusible Ink before. If it doesn't come out correctly, you'll just have wasted a lot of materials.



## 4.

Try to keep your designs on the simpler side.

In our opinion, it's easier to work with Infusible Ink when the designs aren't super complex or small. Why is this? Weeding Infusible Ink is much different from weeding iron-on or vinyl and can be a little more challenging. When you have more elaborate or small designs, this can make weeding more challenging. If you're just getting started, we'd recommend sticking with fonts that aren't super thin and images that aren't very intricate. It will also be easier to weed Infusible Ink when the design is larger, than if you are creating a really small design. For example, as you can see in the image above, we used Infusible Ink to create some custom koozies. These designs were about 3x3" and it worked perfectly. So if you're wondering where to get started with designing Infusible Ink projects, maybe consider larger and not such complex designs at first. Maybe you'll turn into an Infusible Ink weeding professional one day! Of course, you'll form your own opinion once you start working more with it – but we do think this is really important to consider when you're crafting with Infusible Ink transfer sheets.

**Tip:** If you don't enjoy weeding Infusible Ink but love the look of it, use Infusible Ink pens and markers! The results are slightly different in nature, but there is no weeding required which is a huge plus!

# 5.

## Heat resistant tape is your best friend.

One of the enemies of Infusible Ink is movement. When you're in the middle of transferring your Infusible Ink to your blank, if any part of your project (transfer sheet, blank, EasyPress, table, etc) moves, it can cause a ghosting effect. It will look like a shadow on your project. The carrier sheet that Infusible Ink is on is pretty sticky, but you can honestly never go wrong adding more tape to be extra safe. If you are using Infusible Ink pens, you'll be drawing on a piece of copy paper so you will need a lot of tape to make sure your design is secure. The tape is relatively inexpensive and it will last you for awhile.



**Tip:** The tape you are using HAS to be heat resistant tape! If you use regular tape, it will melt. Check it out here on our [website](#).

**Tip:** Place it in a tape dispenser and store it in your craft room. It's super easy to access then!





## 6. When you are applying your EasyPress, make sure it lays completely flat. AKA: AVOID SEAMS.

Yes, we put that in caps because this is something we continually messed up and then would get inconsistent transfers. You need your EasyPress to lay flat in order for it to have consistent pressure across the entire plate. **Consistent pressure is what will give you a perfect transfer!** If you lay your EasyPress on a seam, it is not laying flat on your project surface so avoid those seams.

Check out the onesie we made above. Do you see how the top portion of the lion has some ghosting/fading? That's because when we placed the EasyPress on top of the onesie, it was placed on top of the seam and it did not lay flat on the onesie. What we should have done was bump the EasyPress up against the seam so that we could keep the EasyPress plate laying flat. This same idea applies for zippers and any other item that wouldn't allow your EasyPress to lay flat. Remember: even and consistent pressure is what helps get successful transfers.



# 7.

Avoid any and all movement once your EasyPress is applied.

We briefly talked about movement in an earlier tip, but really - any and all movement should be avoided as soon as you place your EasyPress onto your project surface. Don't move your EasyPress, your EasyPress mat, or your work surface. This also goes when you are removing the EasyPress from your project. Make sure you lift up straight and go slow. We know this can sound super intimidating, but we promise it will help you to have successful projects! Once you do it a few times, you'll get the hang of it in no time.

**Tip:** Make sure your work surface is sturdy! For most projects, you'll be applying some pressure with your EasyPress and you want to make sure your work surface can withstand any pressure and not move in the process. Note: some projects, like the coasters, won't require any pressure, but it's still a good practice to have a sturdy work surface.

# 8.

## Avoid lotion, oils or food before handling Infusible Ink transfer sheets.

You will be handling your Infusible Ink transfer sheets a lot with your hands. Any oils, lotion or residue from your fingers could ruin the ink on the transfer sheet, thus ruining your project. Check out the tote bag we attempted to make in the photo to the right. Without even thinking about it, we went ahead and made this project without realizing that 30 minutes prior, our team member had applied lotion on her hands. Do you see how the ink failed to transfer in certain spots? The lotion really wrecked this project, so make sure your hands are clean, dry and free from anything that could potentially interfere with the transfer. The worst part is that this isn't able to be recovered. This was a frustrating fail but an important lesson was learned!



**Tip:** If you have extra oily hands, you may want to wear gloves with Infusible Ink. You could test out weeding a small piece of Infusible Ink and applying it on a test piece of fabric to know for sure.

# 9.

Avoid touching your Infusible Ink transfer sheet as much as possible.



You may be thinking, “Wait, what?” But hear us out before you skip past this section! Yes, it is inevitable that you will have to touch your transfer sheets. Think through the whole process: you get the transfer sheet out of the box, place it on your mat, take it off the mat, cut it to size, weed, place it on your project, and then some. However, as you are handling the transfer sheets, there will be times that you can do your best to keep your fingers off the sheet! Here are a few tips:

- When applying the transfer sheet onto the mat, use a scraper tool or brayer tool to adhere it to the mat instead of pushing down with your hand (see photo to the left).
- When you’re weeding your design, do your best to touch parts of the transfer sheet that you won’t actually be transferring. You can also use a weeder tool to help pry up trickier pieces instead of rubbing your finger all around the area. We’ve also found using a fingernail can help too!
- When you’re handling the transfer sheet, try to only touch the back (the carrier sheet) or only place your fingers on parts of the transfer sheet that you won’t be transferring or parts that you’ve already weeded.
- If you have one, use a paper trimmer to cut your Infusible Ink. Not only will this keep everything square and straight, but it will also eliminate the need for you to hold the transfer sheet in your hand if you were cutting with a scissors.

These are just a few of the ways we can help to get successful transfers for our projects. Like we mentioned before, you obviously have to touch your Infusible Ink transfer sheets, but anytime you can choose not to touch it will help you in the long run.



## 10.

If you find your transfer didn't transfer completely, you can try laying your transfer sheet down again and repressing.

In this t-shirt project, we had some fading/ghosting on the right-hand side of the shirt – you can see it a bit in the M and D. If you remove your carrier sheet to find you had an unsuccessful transfer, check out the carrier sheet to see if there is ink still on the letters. Most often, where you see fading on your t-shirt, there is still ink left behind on your transfer sheet. You can try placing your transfer sheet back down and then repressing for the allotted time. You'll have to place your transfer sheet perfectly back on your surface where you originally had it (we realize it's impossible to be 100% perfect, but we are just trying to stress that it really needs to get lined up well!). Just as a heads up, this can be tricky, especially with more complicated designs. In the case of this t-shirt, it worked out really well and saved the project. However, had the design been more complex – we probably would not have been able to re-press to save the project.

**Tip:** As you are peeling up your design, if you notice that the transfer didn't go perfectly, stop peeling up the rest of the design immediately and place your transfer sheet back down. This will help to keep your design lined up perfectly. Like we just mentioned, it's so important to get your transfer sheet lined up back up perfectly if you're going to repress, so this will help to keep everything lined up.

**Note:** This doesn't always work, unfortunately. It's usually a last-ditch effort, but sometimes it does work – and honestly, what do you have to lose trying? We have found that it's really tricky with more complex designs because it's harder to line your design back up perfectly.

*Cricut does not recommend this because it can lead to additional ghosting/fading, but like we just said – we like to use this trick when it's our last resort and there's nothing left to lose!*

# 11.

If there is any white transfer paper residue left behind as you're weeding, get rid of it.



We've noticed that sometimes when we're weeding, we'll be able to remove the transfer sheet but it will leave behind a white paper residue. Even though there is no ink on the paper, still remove this because it could potentially ruin your project. Sometimes you can get away without removing it but we'd say it's best practice to remove it. When we see the white paper left behind, we try two ways to get rid of it:

1. Try peeling the transfer sheet from a different angle. Most times, this will remove the white paper too.
2. If that doesn't work, try a weeder tool and gently scrape it off. Just be careful that you don't puncture through your carrier sheet.

As you can see in the photo above (see the arrow), we made the mistake of leaving the white paper on and it ended up interfering with the transfer. We were actually really surprised that it did, so take it from us and get rid of any white paper that may have been left behind.

**Tip:** The white paper residue doesn't always happen, so don't fret if it doesn't happen to you. Just keep this tucked away for future projects.

## 12. If your Cricut cuts part of your transfer sheet all the way through, don't worry about it.

We get this question a lot. Your Cricut is supposed to “kiss cut” your Infusible Ink transfer sheet. This just means that it cuts the ink and not the carrier sheet it is on. Sometimes, your Cricut will cut through the carrier sheet too. If you find this is happening, don't worry about it – it shouldn't interfere with your transfer. If you are experiencing this a lot, you can try to recalibrate your fine-point blade or choose “less pressure” while you're cutting.



## 13.

If you accidentally weed off a part of your design you actually need to be on the liner, simply place it back on.

It happens. Sometimes when you're weeding, you'll accidentally weed the wrong part of your design or maybe it popped off on accident. Don't fret, the carrier sheet that the Infusible Ink is on is sticky, so you can simply place it back on the sheet. You can also use heat resistant tape to help place it back as well! Just make sure you are putting it back on ink-side up.

# 14.

If you find your Cricut is having difficulty cutting the Transfer Sheet, it may be time for a new blade.

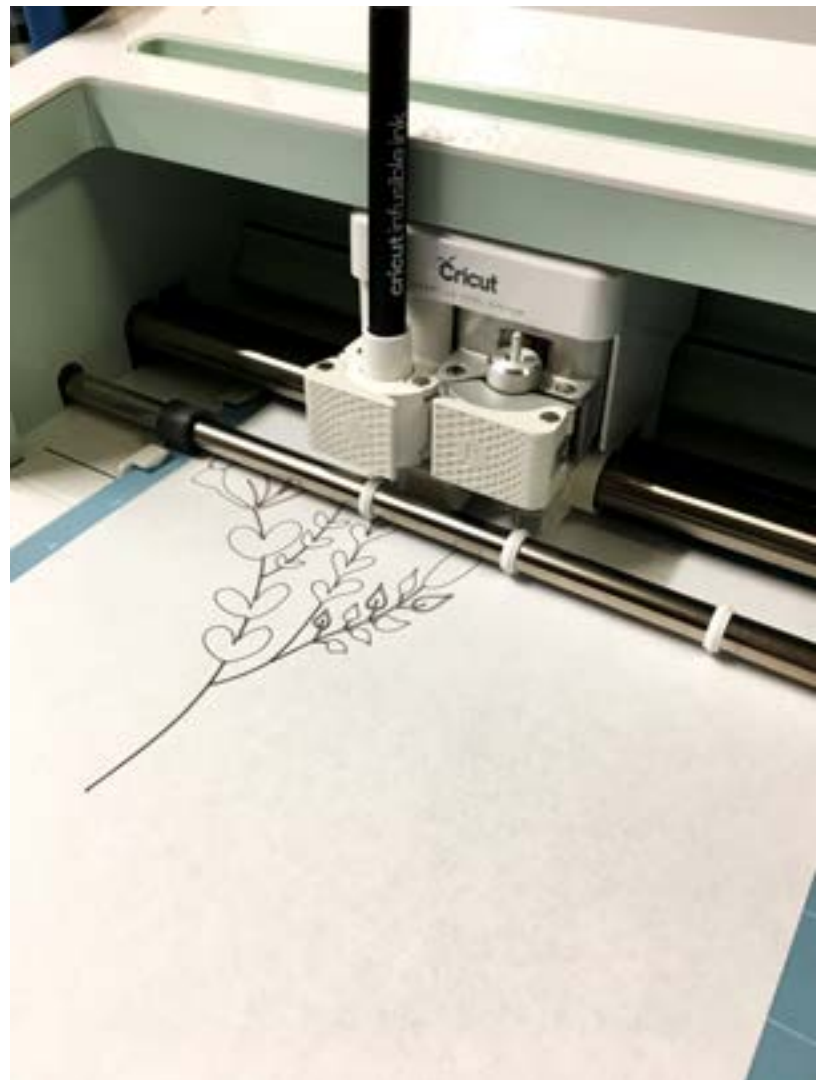
I recently put a new blade in my machine and it was night and day difference cutting my transfer sheet! It made weeding way easier.

**Tip:** You can also increase your cutting pressure to “More Pressure” if you feel like your Cricut is not cutting through well enough. Some of our team members always cut their transfer sheets on “More Pressure” – just see what works for you!

# 15.

Our most successful projects in the beginning were the ceramic and cork coasters.

This is definitely just our opinion, but we would recommend starting with either the ceramic coasters or the cork coasters when you're first starting this out. We struggled getting successful transfer more with t-shirts, tote bags, etc. than the coasters. Also, using the Cricut Mug Press to make mugs is super easy with Infusible Ink! If you are needing to make a lot of mugs, you may want to look into the mug press. Also, we found it a lot easier to work with Infusible Ink pens and markers in the beginning too! We actually never had any transferring problems when working with the pens/markers, so you may want to start there as well.







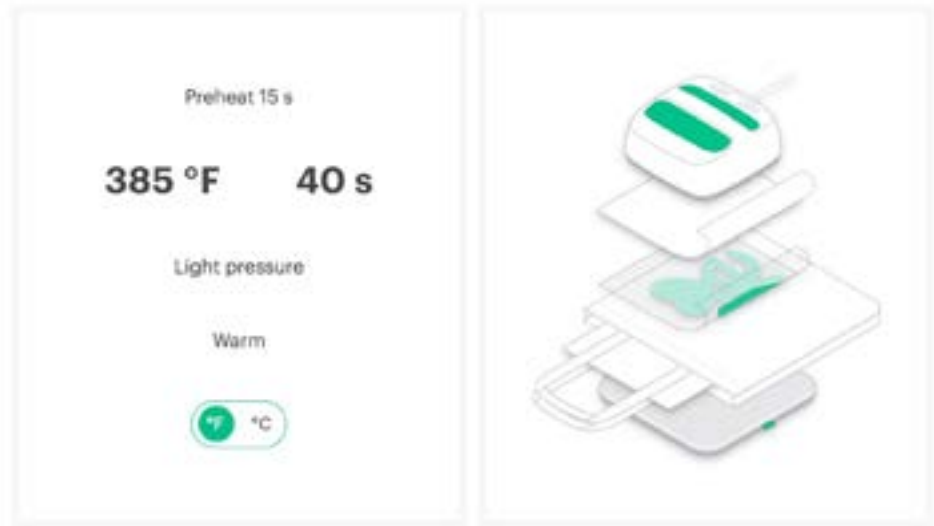
# 16.

Add more pressure for linen projects (t-shirts, body suits, pillow cases, etc.)

For the past year, the biggest problem one of our team members struggled with was getting inconsistent heat transfers on linen projects such as t-shirts, baby onesies and tote bags. Please take a look at the photo above and let's have a moment of silence for this failed Infusible Ink project (sigh). We even tried repressing the design but it didn't matter.

Up until this point, our team member had been consistently struggling with getting successful heat transfers for linen projects. She had a lot of success making coasters but consistently struggled with t-shirts, tote bags and anything that was the polyester material fabric. Why was this continually happening? We weren't sure. So as you can imagine, this was driving us nuts. We chatted with Cricut, bloggers and as co-workers and couldn't figure out why. Our first thought was that her hands were just extra oily, but knowing what we do now, that wasn't the case.

Let's take a look at the EasyPress heating settings:



Our team member followed the instructions to a T and still got failed results. And like we mentioned, this had been happening nearly every time she made a tote bag, t-shirt or other fabric project. Then she wrote,

"I showed the failed project to my husband, who's actually pretty crafty himself, and he suggested adding more pressure! At first I was like, "But I followed ALL. THE. RULES. so that can't be it" (I'm a die-hard rule follower at heart). The next morning, I repeated the same project and instead of doing light pressure – like the Cricut heat guide suggests – I took my husband's advice and literally pressed down with all the strength I could muster and I was shocked at the results.

*\*side-note: I didn't have the same exact transfer sheet color for the apple – the one I used in the second attempt is more of a rustic, brown color compared to the red in the photo above. Just didn't want to confuse you! Here are the results:*



I'm not going to lie, I was so mad that it worked but I was also so relieved to finally have a SUCCESSFUL project for a fabric project. Since then, I've consistently applied more pressure for linen projects, even despite the Cricut heat guide instructions. This is just my personal experience, but I can't imagine I'm the only one out there who has/was been consistently struggling with making the t-shirts, pillows, etc." So there you have it! If you're experiencing the same struggles, perhaps try adding more pressure to your projects.

There you have it! All of our best tips and tricks for working with Infusible Ink. We hope that this helps you in your crafting journey as you work with this fun material. Remember to offer yourself grace along the way – you've got this! We're always here to help in any way we can too. Make sure to follow along on our social channels and join our Cricut Community Facebook group ([tinyurl.com/CricutGroupCeC](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CricutGroupCeC)). Happy crafting!