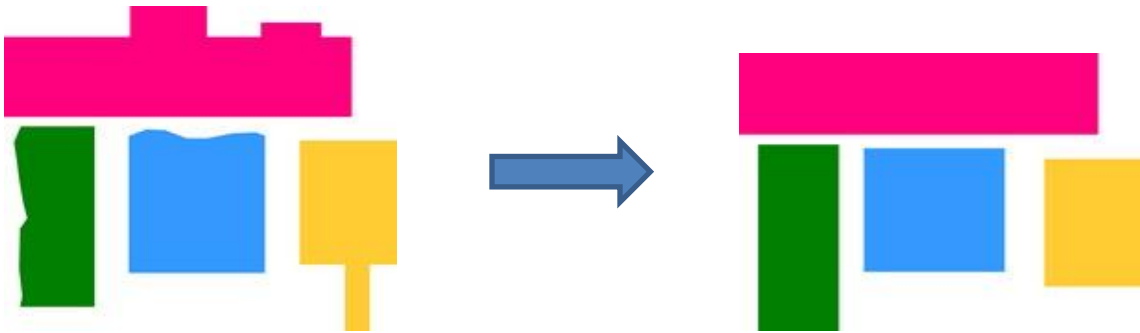


How to Cut from Scraps of Vinyl or Cardstock

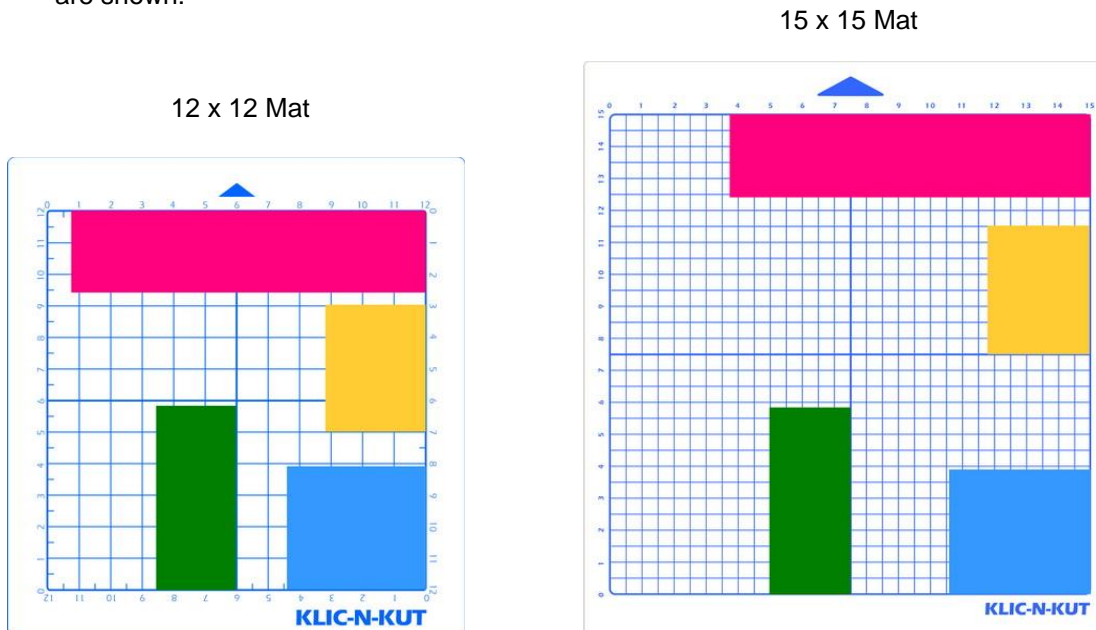
By Sandy McCauley

July 31, 2018

- This tutorial shows you how to accurately cut from scraps of material, all at one time on your KNK cutter. There are two sections to this document depending on which software you're using: SCAL or MTC.
- Four scraps of material are trimmed so that they are rectangular. Later, after you become proficient at this, you can choose to leave jagged edges or little parts projecting, but initially, just trim your scraps to make them easier to align.



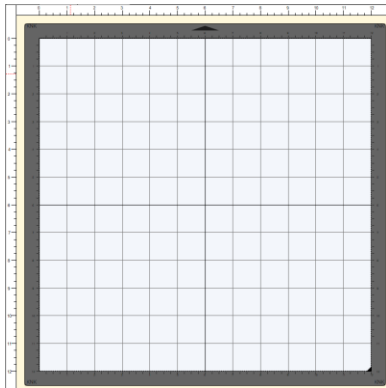
- Align the scraps onto the actual cutting mat using major grid lines as guides. Two typical mat sizes are shown:



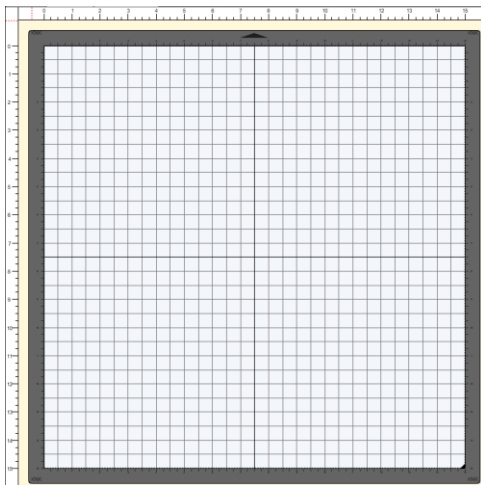
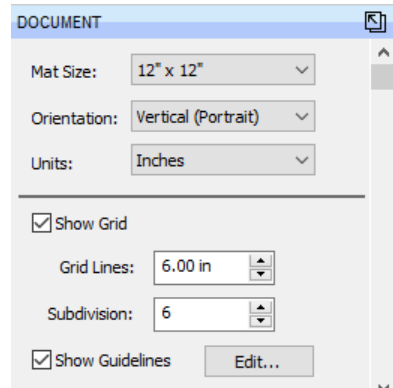
Note that the far left side of the mat has been deliberately avoided. Because users often set the origin too far to the left, there's the added risk of cutting outside the cutting range of the cutter and causing the cutter to stop. Thus, keep the scraps towards the right, when possible.

A. Using Sure Cuts A Lot (SCAL)

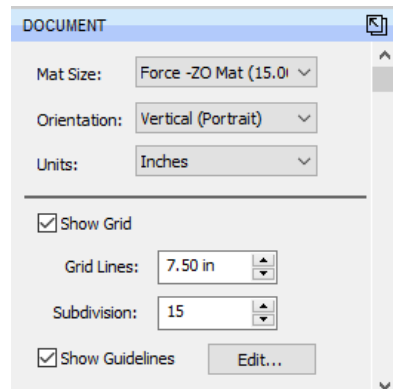
- In SCAL, set up a **Cutting Mat** that is the same dimensions as the cutting mat being used for cutting the scraps:



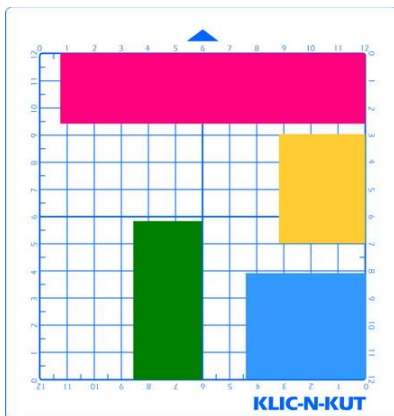
12 x 12 Mat



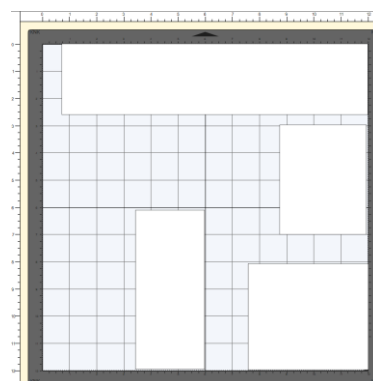
15 x 15 Mat

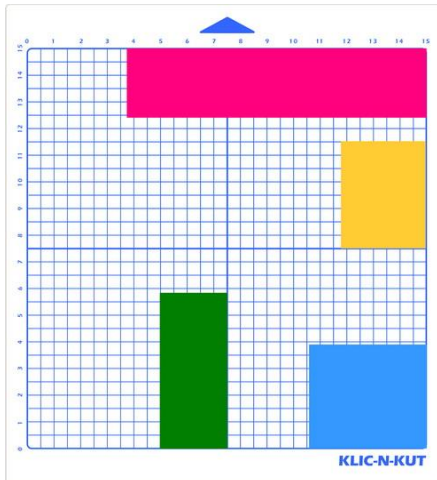


- Draw rectangles that are the same size as your scraps. You don't necessarily need to measure each scrap because you can adjust the sizes based on the grid marks. Change the **Fill** color to white and add a black **Stroke** so that you'll be able to more easily see shapes that you arrange on top:

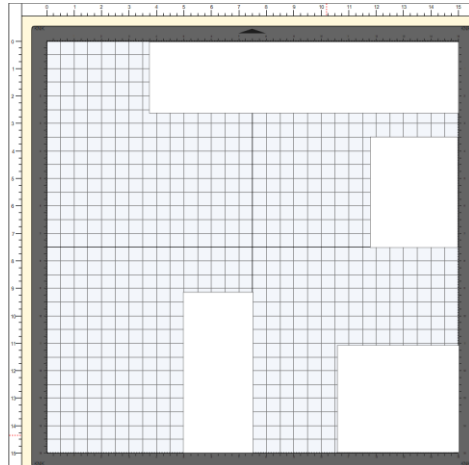


12 x 12 Mat

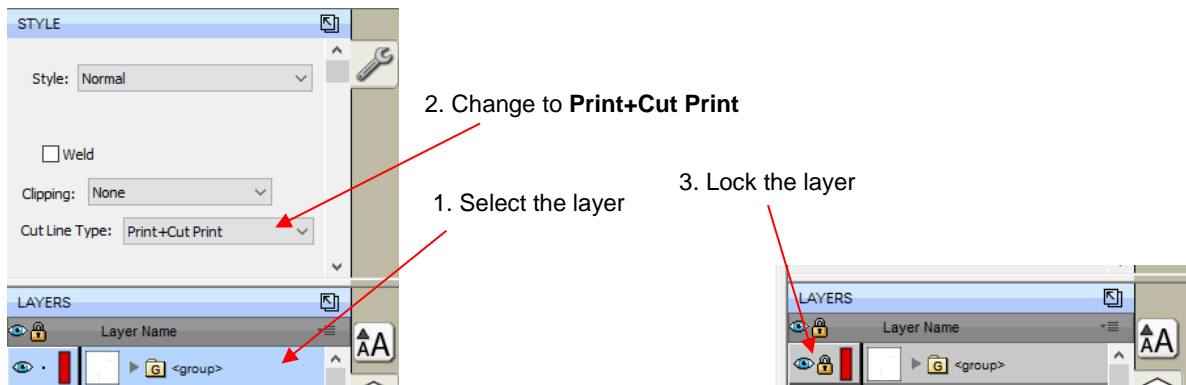




15 x 15 Mat



- Select all 4 rectangles and apply **Object>Group**. Then, select this layer and change the **Cut Line Type** to **Print + Cut Print** on the **Style Panel** so that these rectangles will not be cut. Also, **Lock** this layer so that the rectangles cannot inadvertently be selected while adding and arranging the shapes you want to cut:

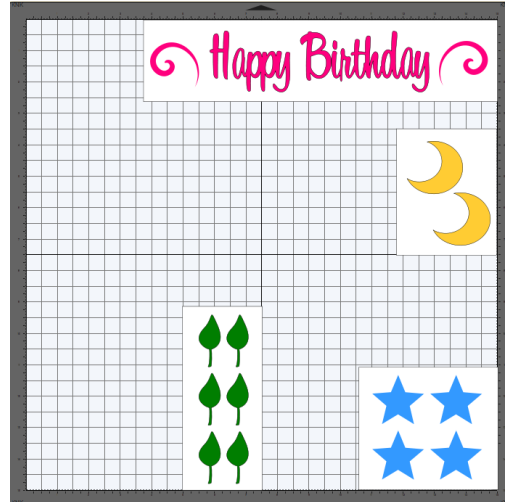


- Add shapes to your project and arrange over the rectangles according to the colors you want to use for cutting. ***IMPORTANT!*** Avoid placing shapes too close to the edges of a rectangle. While it is possible to be very precise in this process, there are factors such as (1) how accurately you can set the origin, (2) loading the mat at a slight angle, (3) slight skewing of the mat due to speed, that can throw off the cut location slightly. Give yourself some room for error:

12 x 12 Mat



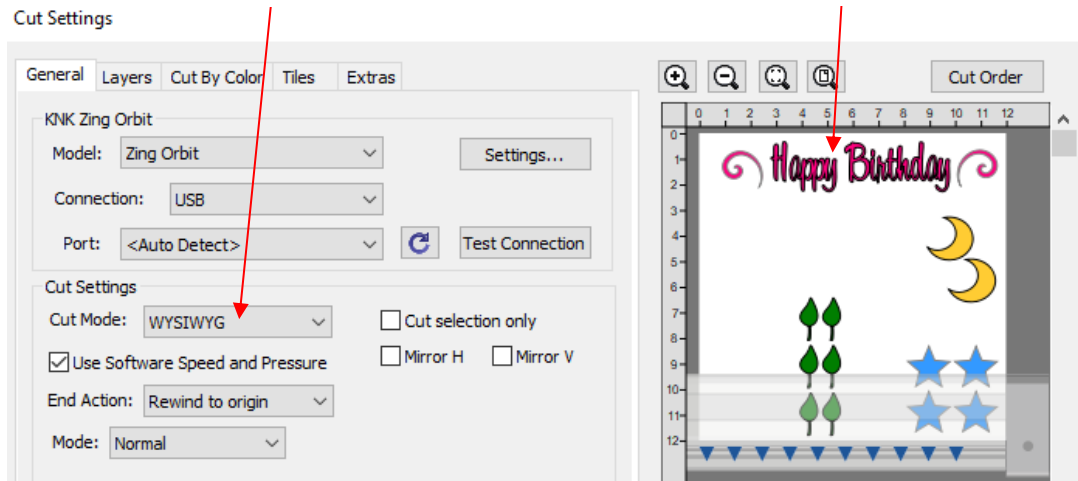
15 x 15 Mat



- Go to the **Cut Settings** window and make sure **WYSIWYG** mode is selected. Verify that you see all of shapes you want to cut AND you do note see the rectangles used for arranging the shapes:

Set to **WYSIWYG**

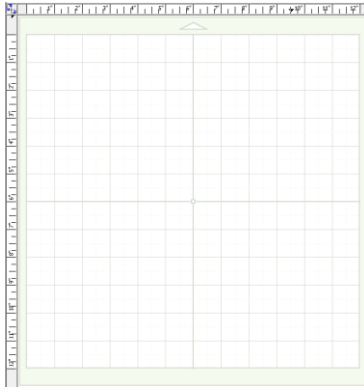
Shapes are present but not the rectangles



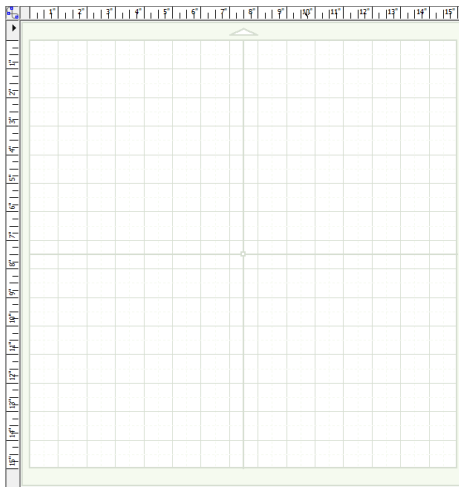
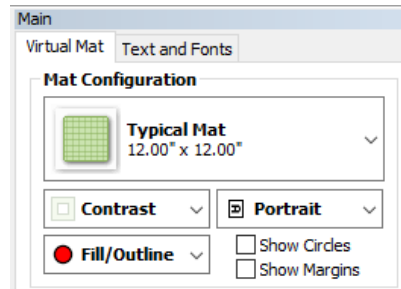
- Depending on the KNK model you own, set your origin accordingly:
 - ◇ Original yellow KNK and white Element: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Maxx and Maxx Air models: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Zing and Zing Air models: Set the laser light over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ KNK Force: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Zing Orbit: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
- Cut the project.

B. Using Make the Cut (MTC)

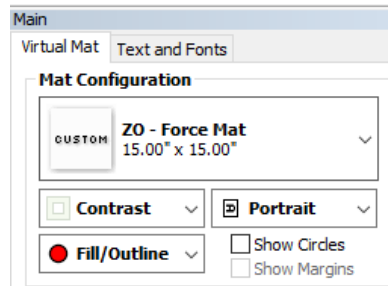
- In MTC, set up a **Virtual Mat** that is the same dimensions as the cutting mat being used for cutting the scraps:



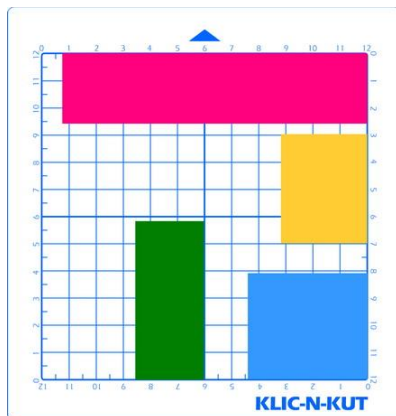
12 x 12 Mat



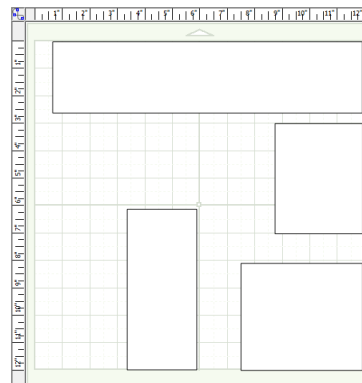
15 x 15 Mat

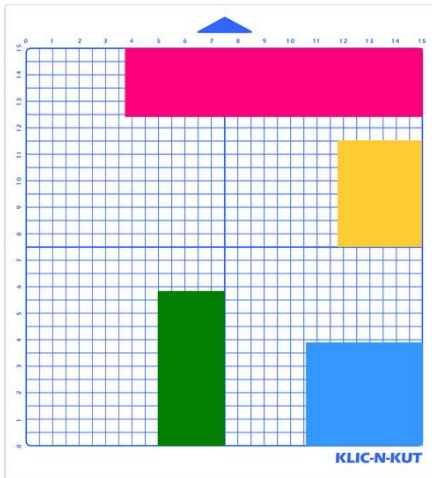


- Draw rectangles that are the same size as your scraps. You don't necessarily need to measure each scrap because you can adjust the sizes based on the grid marks. Do be cautious with the 15 x 15 mat because the grid size in MTC is one inch whereas on the actual mat, the grid is 1/2"

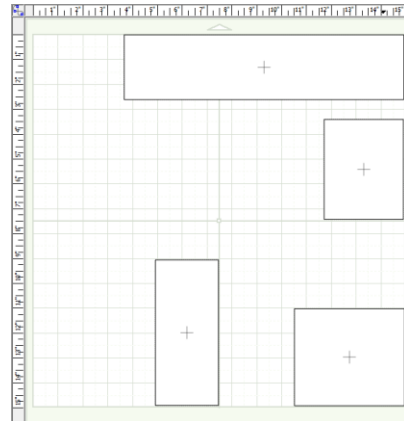


12 x 12 Mat

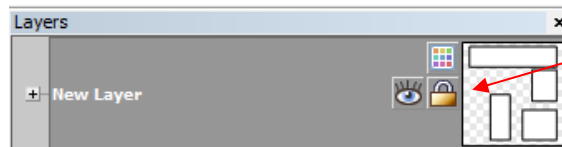




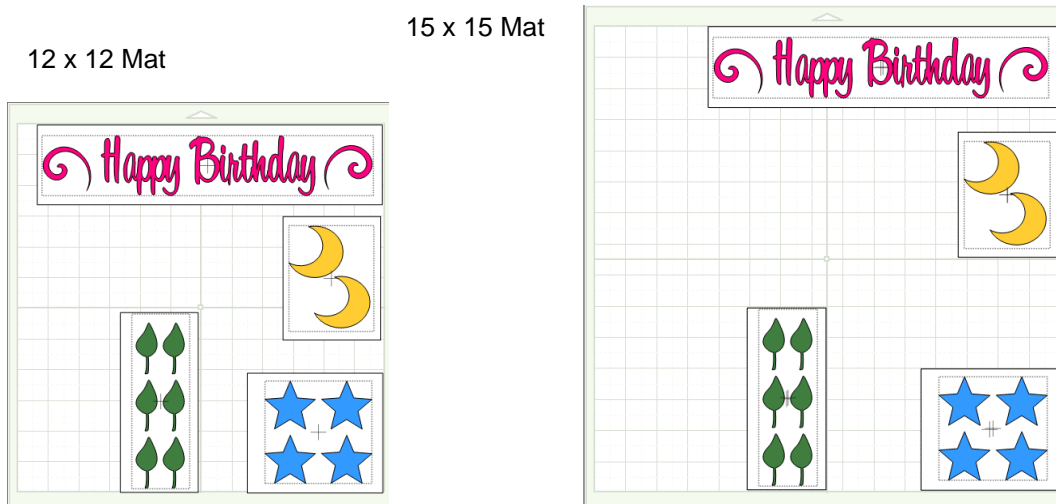
15 x 15 Mat – grid size of actual mat is smaller than grid size in MTC, thus be careful when aligning shapes



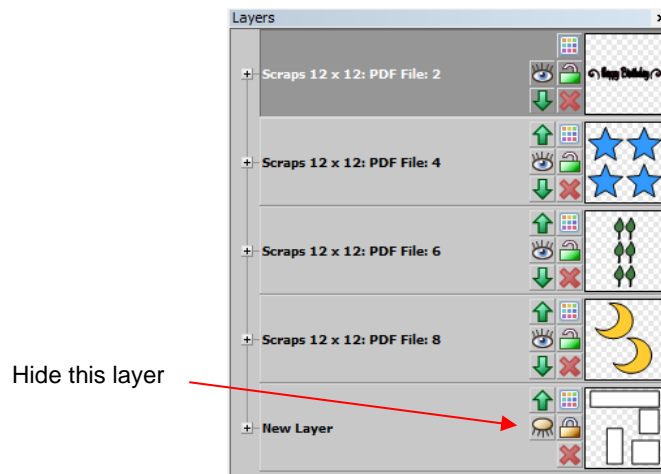
- Select all 4 rectangles and apply **Join**. Then **Lock** this layer so that it cannot inadvertently be selected while adding and arranging the shapes you want to cut:



- Add shapes to your project and arrange over the rectangles according to the colors you want to use for cutting. **IMPORTANT!** Avoid placing shapes too close to the edges of a rectangle. While it is possible to be very precise in this process, there are factors such as (1) how accurately you can set the origin, (2) loading the mat at a slight angle, (3) slight skewing of the mat due to speed, that can throw off the cut location slightly. Give yourself some room for error:



- **IMPORTANT:** Before going to the cut window, make sure the layer with the rectangles is hidden so that the rectangles will not cut:



- Go to the cut window and make sure **WYSIWYG** mode is selected.
- Depending on the KNK model you own, set your origin accordingly:
 - ◇ Original yellow KNK and white Element: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Maxx and Maxx Air models: Set the laser light over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Zing and Zing Air models: Set the laser light over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid.
 - ◇ Zing Orbit: Set the blade tip over the bottom right corner of the cutting mat's grid. If you are not accustomed to using the Zing Orbit with MTC in WYSIWYG mode, be sure to set the laser calibration values to 0 and 0 before cutting.
- Cut the project.