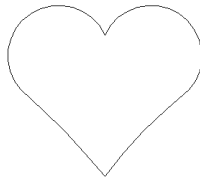


Using the AND Weld in Rhinestone Design¹

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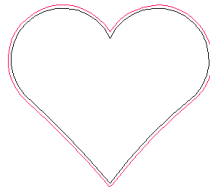
- (1) Design or import the image you wish to use and size the image.



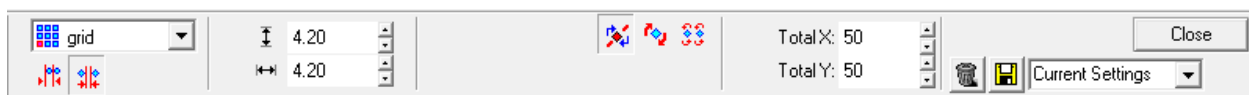
- (2) Decide on the size of rhinestone you wish to use for your image and then note the circle size should be slightly larger. In this tutorial, 3mm rhinestones are planned, thus the circle size will be 3.2mm.
- (3) Select the image and go to **Transform>Contour Image**. Create an outline that is the same size as the circle size you plan to use. Also make sure the outline is a different color.



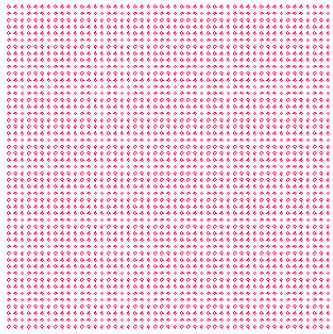
- (4) If you chose to use **Transform>Outline**, then make sure the outer and inner paths are grouped (**Layout>Group**). Then move the images off to the left side of the screen.



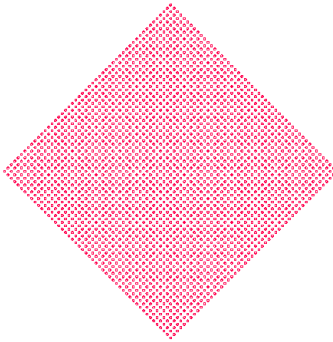
- (5) Create a circle for the pattern size. Again, in this tutorial we are using 3.2mm. Color the circle to the same color as the outer outline path of your image.
- (6) Select the circle and go to **Layout>Array**. Select **Grid**. Space the circles according the size of the circle plus the spacing you want between the stones. In this example, we want ~1 mm between the circles, thus we set the spacing at 4.2. Then enter a number for **Total X** and **Total Y** that will easily extend the array beyond the limits of your image. In this example, we are using 50 for both. Close this window.



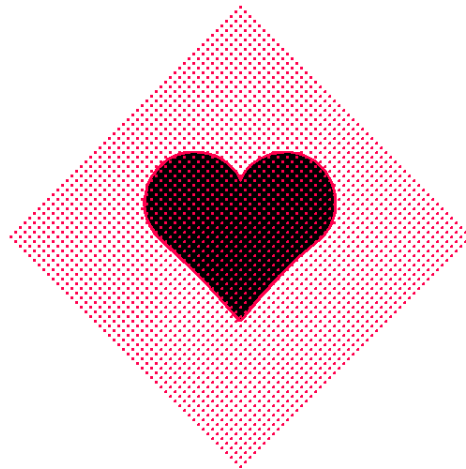
- (7) Select the array of circles and go to **Arrange>Make Path**. Wait a few seconds as it will take a bit to complete because of the large number of circles.



- (8) Rotate the array of circles 45 degrees (or whatever you choose).



- (9) Select the outer and inner image and move onto the array of circles. Turn on fill so that you can see the circles and how they fit the inner path.

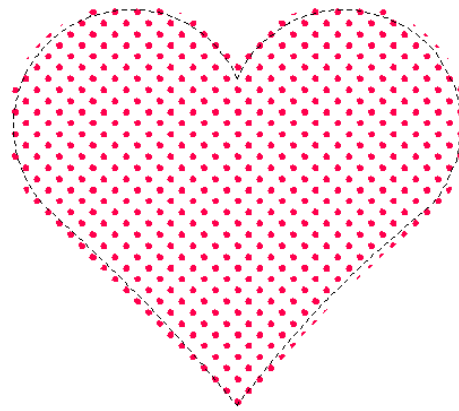


- (10) Move the outer and inner images to get the best fit. Also, you can resize the images slightly to also get the best fit to the array. Note that any circles between the inner and outer images will be retained, but any images that cross the outer path will be chopped during the weld.

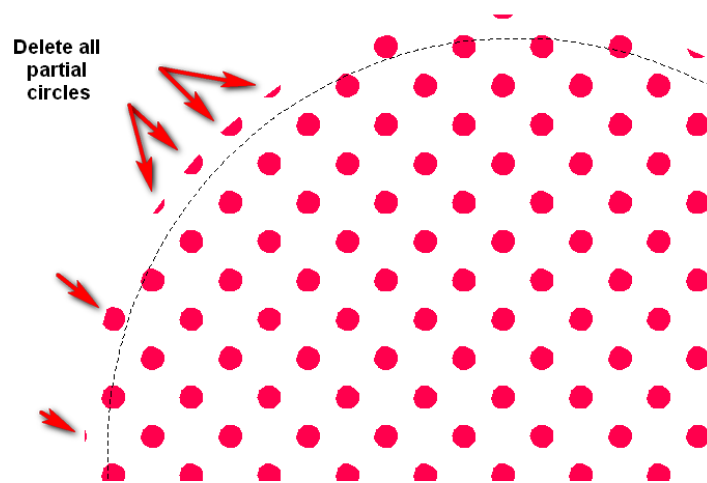


- (11) Go to **Layout>Ungroup** to separate the two paths of the image.
- (12) Hold down the **Ctrl** key and click on the inner path color on the Job Palette to hide that color. The inner path will become a dotted line.

- (13) Marquis-select the array and the outer path and select the **AND Weld** icon from the **Weld Tools** on the **Tools** toolbar. Wait a moment while it executes. Then you'll see the outer circles of the array vanish.



- (14) Turn on fill and delete all circles that are partially cut off.



- (15) Hold down the **Ctrl** key and click on the inner path color to turn it back on again. Leave in place while tweaking the pattern or move away. When tweaking you may wish to eliminate OR retain the extra circles that partially or fully extend beyond your inner path, however, make absolutely sure they are complete circles. The tweaking, at this point, is to simply attain the look you want for your finished pattern.

