

# Features of MTC 4 and SCAL4

Checked features are considered important and/or have impact on more users

Additional features in SCAL Pro4 are indicated as [Pro Version](#)

<u>Function</u>	<u>MTC Assets</u>	<u>SCAL Assets</u>
<b>Overall</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Auto save function is customizable</li> <li>✓ Can have more than one project open with copy/paste between</li> <li>✓ Very active user forum and easy to find latest posts</li> <li>✓ Hundreds of hours of online webinars on Vimeo</li> <li>Updates were free</li> <li>Can install on multiple computers (SCAL can only be installed on two computers at one time)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Has both Mac and Windows versions (MTC's Mac version is based on a Windows emulator and only cuts to certain cutters)</li> <li>✓ Metric options throughout (metric options in MTC are limited)</li> <li>✓ Frequent updates (no MTC updates in years)</li> <li>✓ Works with over 30 brands/models of cutters</li> <li>✓ Can display in 8 languages (although some are missing one or more functions)</li> <li>✓ Detailed on-screen instructions for more complex functions</li> <li>Project Info window automatically tracks fonts, colors and rhinestones used on each page of a project</li> <li>Presets for various materials included for most cutters</li> </ul>
<b>User Interface</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Easily change Snap To setting (in SCAL: must change grid spacing)</li> <li>✓ Displays a true Print Preview</li> <li>Easy duplication of a page</li> <li>Easily switch between 8 mat colors (in SCAL: must change cutter choice)</li> <li>12 Zoom To shortcuts</li> <li>Option to have shapes on one page partially visible on all pages</li> <li>Can drag panels and toolbars to other locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Customizable grid line spacing and option to hide grid</li> <li>✓ Marquee-zoom</li> <li>✓ Can drag layers up and down on Layers Panel to re-order, as well as drop into folders or group with another shape</li> <li>✓ Stroke option: change the color and thickness of a border around a shape, as well as globally</li> <li>Option to display unclosed shapes with a fill color</li> <li>Custom screen setups can be named and saved</li> <li>Opacity functionality: either globally or on individual shapes</li> <li>Customizable arrow key increments</li> </ul>
<b>Shape Handling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Shortcuts for equal horizontal and vertical spacing</li> <li>Additional edge alignment options (SCAL restricted to left, right, top, bottom)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Can change XY position location: nine options around shape (MTC limited to upper left corner of shape)</li> <li>✓ Separate horizontal and vertical spacing when duplicating shapes (MTC has single spacing option for both)</li> <li>✓ Ability to group shapes (in MTC, grouped shapes must be placed on same layer and then selected by clicking on that layer)</li> <li>Options to resize shape(s) to fit on-screen mat or duplicate shapes to fit on-screen mat</li> </ul>

## Function

## MTC Assets

## SCAL Assets

### Shape Handling

Align to page option, as well as to each other

Option to snap to other objects as well as to grid

Alignment icons on screen, as well as shortcuts (must remember shortcuts for easy use in MTC)

Lasso selection option

Option to move a relative distance versus to an absolute location

Option to have an invisible fill on a shape

### File Handling

✓ Over 15,000 free files, searchable and importable from within MTC

✓ Can import both raster and vector PDF files (SCAL limited to vector PDF)

✓ Can copy/paste from MTC between Inkscape, PopUp Card Studio, and Illustrator

✓ Has a thumbnail viewer for Windows Explorer

✓ Can export as PDF, AI, EPS

Ability to attach other files to current file

Can export as a raster image with a watermark option (no watermark with SCAL)

Can copy/paste from KNK Studio into MTC

✓ Can assign projects, SVG's, and fonts to Favorites for quicker access

✓ Has special export options for Cricut and Brother software programs and can export as PLT

✓ Can import a raster image directly onto virtual mat

Library allows customizable subfolders for both projects and SVGs

Library allows batch import of SVG files

SVG export includes options for resolution, registration marks, and selection only

[Pro Version](#): Can also import DXF and PLT

### Text Handling

✓ Option to split by glyph, space, line, or not at all

✓ Can install fonts permanently, including OPF fonts, from within program

Retains last text typed in the text input window

Automatically converts text (SCAL: must do manually before saving file, if font is temporary or file will be shared)

✓ Ability to alter the font on existing text

✓ Knockout function (popular with HTV crafters)

✓ Characters sets do not display empty boxes, thus easier to pick fonts with extra PUA characters

Title Crawl feature (like the Star Wars intro)

Other text options include vertical type, type on path, and type on arch

### Tracing

✓ Copy/paste directly from Internet (or other source) into the tracing window (PC only)

✓ Trace window shows resolution and print size; can resize image if it is oversized

✓ Can apply multiple tracings before leaving tracing window

✓ Can trace raster parts of PDF files

✓ Tracing for PNC applications will produce both a print layer and a cut layer pre-assigned for each task

Single line tracing option with threshold setting

Can automatically trace PNG files with transparent backgrounds upon import onto cutting mat

<u>Function</u>	<u>MTC Assets</u>	<u>SCAL Assets</u>
<b>Tracing (cont.)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Settings have a wider range of impact on trace results</li> <li>✓ Preview of tracing on the virtual mat</li> </ul> <p>Trace window shows number of nodes and number of individual shapes using current settings (SCAL only shows number of nodes)</p> <p>Gray Scale option for creating contour versions of photos</p>	
<b>Editing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Eraser has option to force straight lines (SCAL only has freehand erasing available)</li> <li>✓ Eraser has inverse eraser option</li> <li>✓ Convert to texture snapshot feature</li> <li>✓ Auto simplify can be turned off</li> </ul> <p>Smooth and Simplify function allows more control over node reduction effects</p> <p>Fuse n Weld feature will remove duplicates from certain imported files and will join together disconnected nodes</p> <p>Delete by area/size (used to delete tiny shapes not needed)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Eraser has open or closed shape ability</li> <li>✓ Bridge/stencil function</li> <li>✓ Delete or move multiple nodes at once</li> <li>✓ Editing files with many shapes doesn't lag the software (rhinestone pattern editing in MTC can be impossible)</li> </ul> <p>Auto-simplify has a threshold setting (no setting in MTC but results tend to be very good)</p> <p>Crop feature for easier erasing</p> <p>Eraser shape has option for circle or square shape</p>
<b>Designing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Boolean Join functions allow a preview of each option for easier selection (no preview in SCAL)</li> <li>✓ Boolean Join and Join can be applied on raster images</li> </ul> <p>3D rendering of Conical Warp (for cupcake wrappers or tumblers)</p> <p>Fat path drawing with option to use dots and dashes</p> <p>Extra settings on stars and polygons allow creation of unusual shapes</p> <p>Bezier Warp feature</p> <p>Freehand drawing has Super Smooth option (higher level of smoothing compared to SCAL's max setting)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Multi-color gradient fill for shapes</li> <li>✓ Pattern fill has option to preview before accepting (no preview in MTC's texture fill)</li> <li>✓ Dropper tool will apply same color, pattern, stroke from one shape onto any other selected shape</li> <li>✓ Rhinestone feature includes simulation plus will automatically adjust the number of stones when the original</li> </ul> <p>Canned feature</p> <p>Bulge feature</p> <p>Wave feature</p> <p>Barrel Distortion feature</p> <p>3D Rotate (MTC has Auto 4-Point Warp which is similar but with far fewer options)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Pro Version</a>: 3D Extrude feature</li> </ul>

**Function**

**MTC Assets**

**SCAL Assets**

**Cutting**

- ✓ Can set a new origin without the head returning to the home origin
- ✓ Ability to tile a design if it is too large to cut at once (Tiling only available in SCAL Pro)
- ✓ Unlimited cutting length for cutters with that ability (SCAL limited to 72 inches, no limit in SCAL Pro)
- ✓ Print and cut does not require sizing calibration: automatically calculated based on reg mark positioning

- ✓ Works with Wi-Fi enabled cutters
- ✓ Line fill function for engraving or pen fill operation
- ✓ Dual head functionality for cutters with two heads
- ✓ Customizable cutting presets and blade/tool presets (Only Zing has customizable presets in MTC)
- ✓ Cut preview in same window with cut settings
- ✓ Mirror option in cut settings window: no need to mirror or flip in main window
- ✓ Prompt option to pause for tool change-out
- ✓ Customizable registration marks for PNC applications
- Pierce function for punch tools
- Scan2Cut (cutting images from a pre-printed sheet) available for some cutters
- Select option in cut settings window: in case user prefers to pre-select only those shapes that need to be cut
- Can cut shapes as being welded, shadowed, and/or blacked out without making those changes permanent
- Option for center point cutting on some cutters
- ✓ **Pro Version:** Can cut longer than 72" (standard in MTC)
- ✓ **Pro Version:** Cut by color
- ✓ **Pro Version:** Weed function: both external and internal options
- ✓ **Pro Version:** Tiling (also available in MTC)
- ✓ **Pro Version:** Option to duplicate after entering cut window, including auto-fill to a specified size with desired spacing
- ✓ **Pro Version:** End of cut options also include do nothing or advance to end with additional specified distance
- Pro Version:** Color alignment feature allows an assigned layer to be cut with every other layer