MAKERSPACE
DESIGN | CREATE | BUILD

Lesson 5

Applying the Vinyl

Turning on the Heat Press

- For heat transfer vinyl you need to use the Heat Press

- It can take 10-15 minutes for the Heat Press to heat up so turn it on when you use the vinyl cutter so it's ready when you need it

- Check the starting temperature: If it's 200 it's in Fahrenheit and if it's 95 it's in Celsius.

Turning on the Heat Press

- After turning it on, press the middle button and make sure the temperature is set to 320 in Fahrenheit or 165 in Celsius
- You can use the + and – buttons to adjust the temperature before pressing the middle button to confirm
- If you bring your own material change the temperature based on the instructions

Turning on the Heat Press

- After pressing the middle button, make sure the timer is set to 10 seconds and press the middle button one last time to confirm the settings

- Just like the temperature you can use the + and – buttons to adjust the time based on your own vinyl

Heat Pressing

- Place your fabric on the Heat Press bed. You can press the fabric with nothing on it to iron it (Cover it with thermal paper first if there's anything on it)

- Place the vinyl where you want it with the design face down touching the fabric, the plastic carrier sheet be on top

Heat Pressing

- Place a sheet of thermal paper on top of the design as well as over any existing vinyl on the fabric

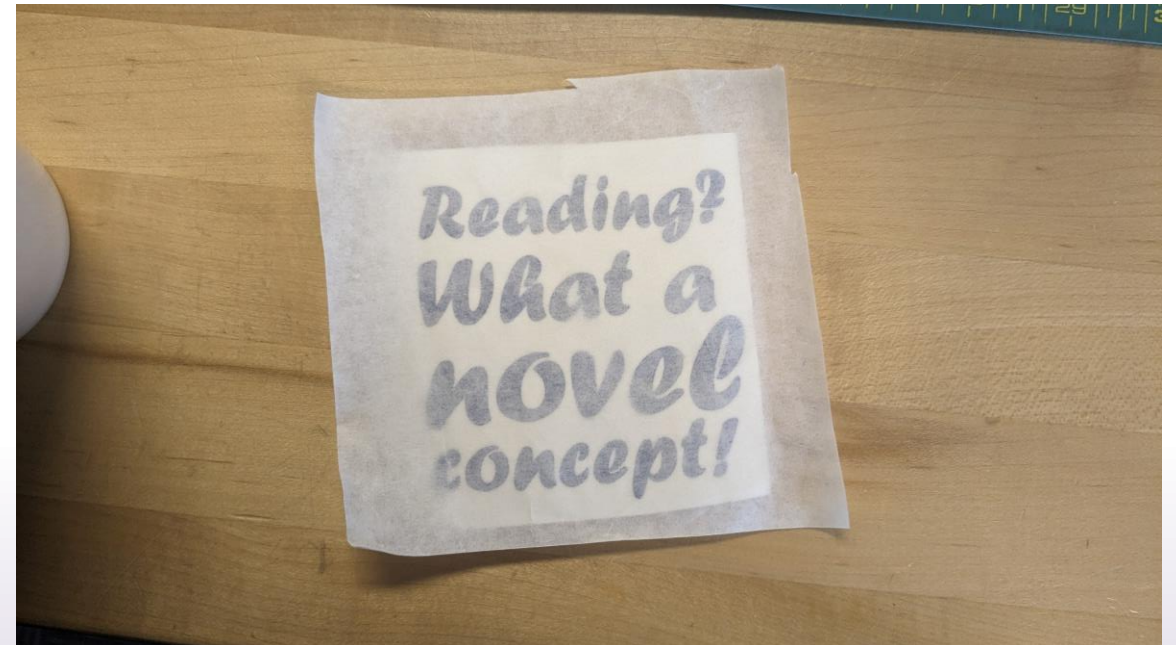- Clamp down the heat press until the timer starts

Heat Pressing

- After 10 seconds the machine will beep, and you can lift the clamp off

- Remove the material and let it cool for 30 seconds before peeling off the design (this may vary for your own vinyl)

- Your project is done! You can do another press if it doesn't peel off

Sign Vinyl – Transfer Tape

- If you're using Sign Vinyl you can peel and stick your design right away

- If you're design has multiple parts like text, you can use transfer tape to peel and stick the entire design together so it stays exactly the same

Transfer Tape

- The transfer tape can be found with the other vinyl rolls

Transfer Tape

- Cut off a piece of transfer tape to cover your design using scissors

- Carefully place the tape on top of the design and press it down to remove any air bubbles

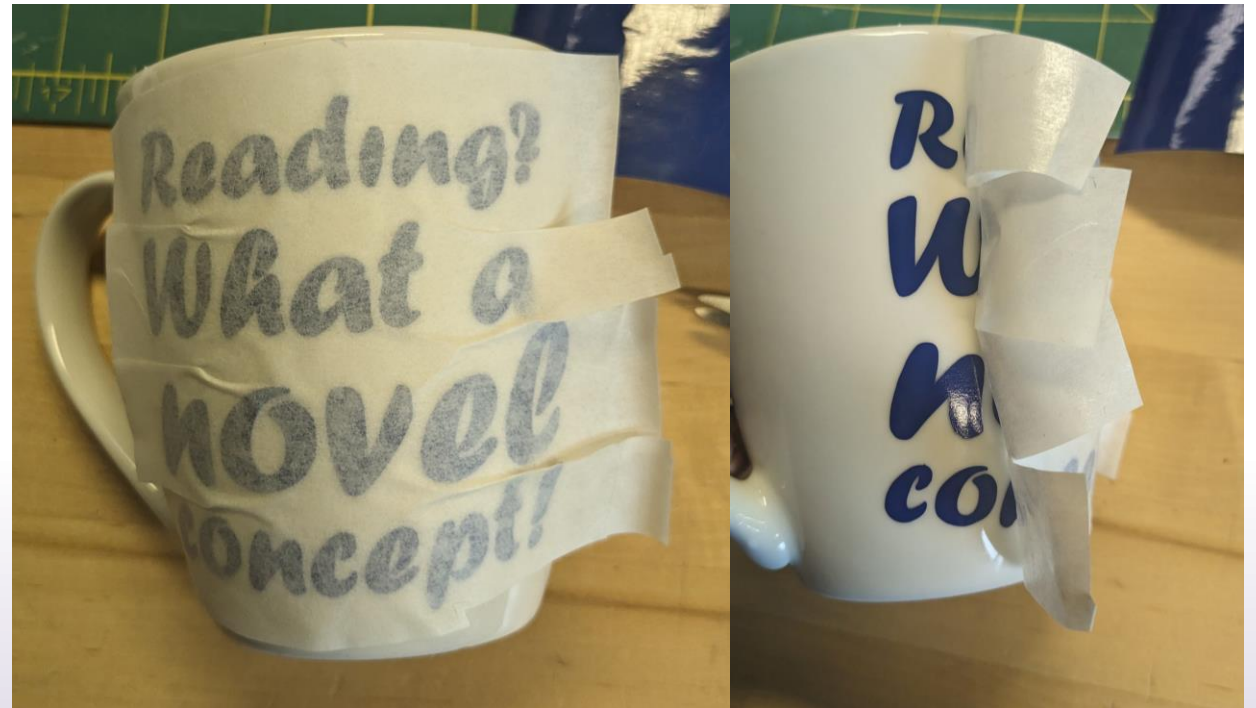- Use the scraper tool as shown if there's still any air

Transfer Tape

- Once the design has been firmly pressed, peel back the tape and the design should stick to the tape

- If the design isn't sticking to the tape, use the heat gun under the table in the Fab Lab to heat it for a couple seconds on the low setting

Applying to Surface

- Stick the transfer tape to the surface and press against it for several seconds

- Making cuts in the tape can make it easier for curved surfaces

- Remove the transfer tape and the design should stay on the surface

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You're Done!

- Your project should now be finished!

- For sign vinyl, let the vinyl cure for at least 24 hours before cleaning it

- For heat transfer vinyl, you can put it in the washer inside out but let it air dry to let the vinyl last as long as possible

Quiz

- You can now take the Vinyl Cutter quiz to become certified!
- Take it here: https://forms.office.com/r/VZT8rTDLj8