

Gorgeous Custom Gift Tags

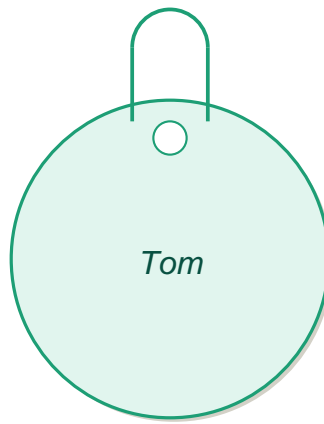
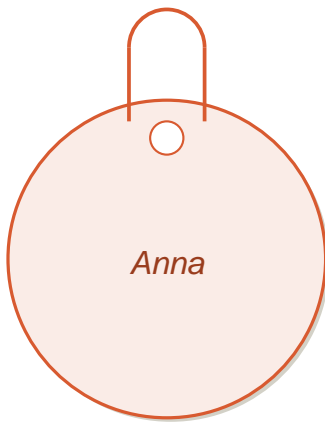
in 10 minutes flat

I make these every Christmas, for birthdays, baby showers — honestly any excuse. They look SO professional and people always ask where you bought them. Little do they know you knocked them out while the kettle was on.

10
Minutes

5
Materials

6
Tags per sheet




Follow Along — Step by Step

1


Gather your materials


~ 2 minutes


Before we even touch the machine, let's get everything laid out. I learned the hard way that mid-project scrabbling for ribbon is no fun. Here's what you need:


 Cricut machine

 Cardstock

 StandardGrip mat

 Fine-point blade

 Ribbon or twine

 Weeding tool

** I use kraft cardstock for a natural look or pearlescent white for fancy occasions. Both work beautifully and cost next to nothing from the craft shop.*

2

Design in Design Space

~ 3 minutes — the fun part!

Open Cricut Design Space and create a new project. Here's exactly what to do:

- Click **Templates** and search 'gift tag' — there are loads of free ones
- Pick a shape you love (the scalloped oval is gorgeous right now)
- Resize it to about 3 inches tall — a good size for gift tags
- Add a text box with the recipient's name. Use the font *Pacifico* — it's free and SO pretty
- Group your text and shape together (select both, right-click → Group)
- Duplicate it 5 times so you fill the whole sheet — no wasted cardstock!

** The font Pacifico is totally free inside Design Space. Search it in the font panel. It makes even a simple name look like it came from a boutique stationery shop!*

3

Load your mat & cut

~ 2 minutes — deep breaths, easy as pie

This is where first-timers get a little nervous — but honestly it's just four steps and the machine does all the work for you.

- Smooth your cardstock firmly onto the green StandardGrip mat — no bubbles
- Turn the dial (or select on screen) to **Cardstock**
- Press the flashing Load button on the machine
- Press the flashing Go button (the Cricut C symbol)

! Don't hover over the machine while it cuts — I know it's tempting! Just let it do its thing. Walk away and make that cuppa you've been promising yourself.

4

Remove & weed your tags

~ 2 minutes — oddly satisfying!

This is genuinely one of my favourite parts. There's something SO satisfying about peeling the cut pieces away. Here's the trick to doing it without tearing:

- Unload the mat by pressing the Load button again
- Flip the mat face-down and gently peel the mat away from the cardstock — not the other way round!
- Use your weeding tool to pop out any small bits the blade cut around (like inside letters)
- Lay your finished tags out on the table and admire them for a moment. You've earned it!

** Flipping the mat instead of the cardstock is a total game-changer for delicate cuts. Your tags won't curl or tear at the edges. I wish someone had told me this on day one!*

5

Finish with ribbon

~ 1 minute — the glow-up moment

Your Cricut already cut a small hole at the top of each tag (if you included one in your design — and you should!). Now all that's left is:

- Cut a 20cm piece of ribbon, twine, or elastic cord
- Thread it through the hole and tie a little knot or bow

- That's literally it. You're done. Stand back and be proud!

** Baker's twine from the pound shop looks just as lovely as expensive satin ribbon. I buy it in bulk — red and white for Christmas, pastels for birthdays. Chef's kiss.*

Bonus Tips Before You Start

Do a test cut first

Use a scrap of cardstock before cutting your nice paper. Every blade and machine combo is slightly different and a test cut saves heartache.

Press down firmly

The most common beginner mistake is pressing the cardstock onto the mat too lightly. Give it a good firm smooth-down — you want zero lifting at the edges.

Use templates to start

Stick to the templates section in Design Space for your first few projects rather than building from scratch. The results are just as lovely!

Cut didn't go through?

Don't panic — go back into material settings, bump up the pressure one notch and run it again without moving the mat. The blade follows the same path.

*You absolute legend! Pop these on your gifts and watch everyone's faces light up.
When they ask where you got them, just smile and say — "oh, I made them." Best feeling ever.*