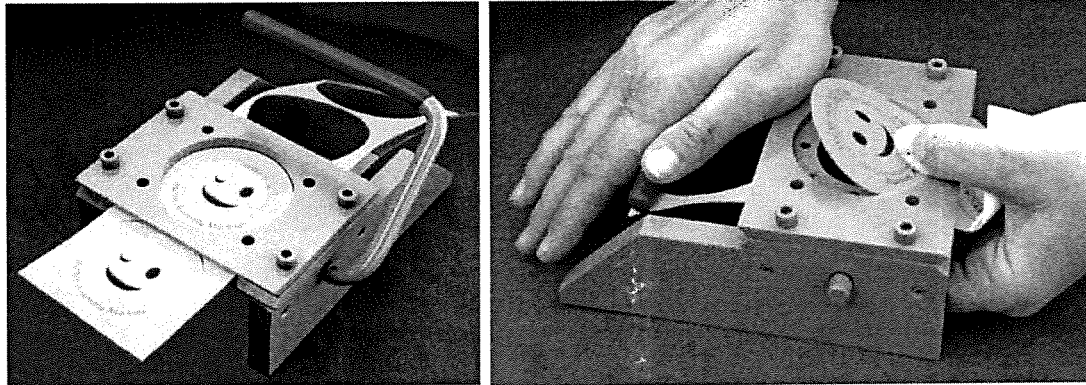


## Instructions for the Circle Punch



The circle punch is intended for punching paper circles (out of single sheets of paper) that will become the graphic or picture on buttons. The machine consists mainly of a round punch resting in a guide plate that is forced to rise when the operating handle is pressed downward. When the handle is released springs cause the handle to rise, which in turn allows the punch to lower. At this point the graphic material can be slipped between the two top plates of the punch. When the graphic is in the desired position, press the handle down as far as it will go. A finger can be passed thru the open center of the punch from the bottom up to lift the cut circle out of the punch plate. Small punches include a lifter for this purpose. **Please note: Insert only 1 sheet of paper into the punch at a time. Inserting multiple sheets of paper (or material other than paper) can damage the cutter.**

After releasing the handle to lower the punch, the scrap material can be slipped out from between the two top plates of the punch to complete the punching operation. If necessary, use a pair of scissors to rough-cut the graphic to a strip width that will fit into the punch.

Cutting paper requires an extremely close fit between the punch and die. This fit is achieved in assembly at the factory and no attempt should be made to adjust it by loosening the bolts that hold the die plate to the frame. Do not attempt to cut metal of any kind with this tool as permanent damage to the cutting edges could result.

If the punch tends to stick or fail to move up and down freely due to corrosion or accumulation of paper dust, lubricate it with silicone spray. Humid conditions can cause corrosion to occur when the unit is not being used. Applying the silicone spray at the end of use before storing it can minimize this. Of all the lubricants that might be used, silicone is least likely to stain the graphics especially if the excess is wiped away. The silicone spray lubricant is available in most hardware and auto supply stores. A few drops of light oil applied to the handle rod where it passes thru the frame and on the flat side of the rod under the press will reduce the effort necessary for operation.

All button size templates can be found at  
[http://www.AmericanButtonMachines.com/Button\\_Templates.html](http://www.AmericanButtonMachines.com/Button_Templates.html)

## ***ABM's QUICK TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL BUTTON MAKING***

### ***USING THE BUTTON MAKER:***

MAKE CERTAIN TO ONLY PLACE 1 OF EACH COMPONENT INTO EACH DIE. BE CAREFUL, FRONT SHELLS NEST TOGETHER AND IF NOT SEPARATED CAN JAM THE MACHINE.

MAKE CERTAIN TO USE ONLY THE TYPE OF PAPER OR FABRIC FOR WHICH YOUR BUTTON MAKER IS CALIBRATED. OTHERWISE THE BUTTON MAKER CAN JAM. WE RECOMMEND 24LB BOND PAPER ON ALL MACHINES. PHOTO PAPER CAN BE USED ON PHOTO EQUIPMENT.

MAKE CERTAIN TO LOAD COMPONENTS PROPERLY: SHELLS SHARP SIDE DOWN, BACKS SHARP SIDE UP.

### ***CUTTING GRAPHICS / FABRIC:***

CRAFT STORE PUNCHES DO NOT WORK FOR MAKING BUTTONS. CUT SIZES ARE SPECIFIC TO EACH MACHINE AND ARE LARGER THAN THE DIAMETER OF THE BUTTON. (EXAMPLE: YOU CAN NOT USE A 1" CRAFT PUNCH FOR 1" BUTTONS BECAUSE THE ACTUAL CUT SIZE NEEDED IS 1.313")

DO NOT USE CARD STOCK. GRAPHIC PUNCHES WILL NOT CUT FABRIC OR ANYTHING THICKER THAN PHOTO PAPER; THEY ARE DESIGNED TO CUT ONLY 1 GRAPHIC AT A TIME.

IF A PIECE OF PAPER IS LODGED IN THE PUNCH CUTTER RUN A PLAYING CARD THROUGH FROM FRONT TO BACK TO PUSH OUT THE PAPER.

TEMPLATES FOR THE ADJUSTABLE CUTTER ARE SET FOR 1" BUTTONS. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDED WITH THE CUTTER TO ENLARGE IF NEEDED.

### ***PRINTING GRAPHICS:***

INKJET PRINTERS ARE VERY POPULAR AND FOR THE MOST PART TROUBLE FREE. IF YOU USE A LASERJET PRINTER AND THE MYLAR BUBBLES ALONG THE EDGE OF THE BUTTON YOU MIGHT NEED TO REDUCE THE BLEED EDGE ON THE GRAPHIC OR USE A SILICON STICK. MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC CAN BE FOUND ON OUR BLOG IN THE "BUTTON HELP" SECTION.

### ***GENERAL INFO:***

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF GREASE IS NEEDED FOR THE DIES TO ROTATE PROPERLY ON YOUR BUTTON MAKER AND FOR THE HANDLE TO MOVE UP DOWN ON YOUR PUNCH CUTTER. IF EXCESS HAS FOUND ITS WAY ONTO THE BASE OR IN THE DIE YOU CAN WIPE IT OFF EASILY WITH SOFT CLOTH OR PAPER TOWEL.

IT IS NORMAL FOR THE PAINT TO FLAKE ON NEW MACHINES AROUND THE AREA WHERE THE HANDLE MEETS THE ROLLERS. THIS IS COMPLETELY NORMAL AND DOES NOT INHIBIT THE FUNCTION OF THE MACHINE AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE PAINT IS COMPLETELY RUBBED OFF.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP IF YOU NEED US; UNTIL THEN HAPPY BUTTON MAKING!

~YOUR BUTTON MAKING NINJAS @ ABM~

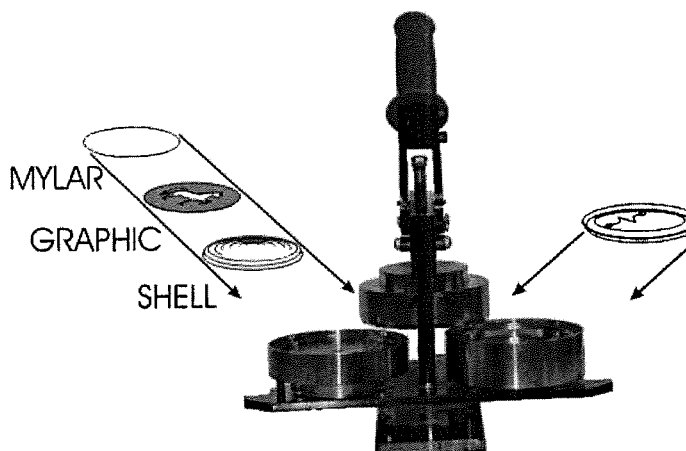
# American Button Machines ®

Button Machine Sizes 1.25" - 3.50"

## Quick Start Guide

1. Identify the crimp die and pick up die. The pick up die is to the left (shallow die), crimp die to the right (deeper die).

2. Insert a button shell into the pick up die (shallow die) with the sharp edges facing downward. Then follow with the graphic, picture side up, and then the clear plastic mylar.



3. Rotate the die clockwise until it comes to a rest under the upper die.
4. Pull the handle down as far as it will go, and raise it up again to its rest position.
5. Place a pin back into the crimp die (deeper die).
6. Rotate the die counter clockwise until it comes to a rest under the upper die.
7. Pull the handle down as far as it will go, and raise it up again to its rest position.
8. Rotate die clockwise and remove the button to start again.

Note: To get good orientation of the button, center the top of the graphic with the center column of the machine. When you are placing in the pin back aim the top center of the pin back slightly to the right of the center column of the machine. (This is due to the fact that the upper die shifts slightly when rotating dies)

**Caring for your button maker:** Less effort will be required in making buttons if you apply a very small amount of light oil to the shaft that carries the cam rollers so the rollers turn more freely. A couple drops of light oil on the ram guide and ram spring bolts as well as the handle pivot pin is also recommended. Take care not to get oil where it will soil buttons. During periods when your machine is not in use, especially in humid conditions, corrosion may form on the steel die parts causing them to make defective buttons. If this happens, they can be polished with fine steel wool to restore their original function. You can avoid this problem by applying a clear silicone spray lubricant to the dies before storage. Silicone spray can be obtained in most hardware or auto supply stores. The advantage of the silicone is that you are less likely to soil buttons when you next use the machine.

**Please note: Use only 20lb - 24lb bond copier or printer paper in our button making machines. A "Photo" Machine or "Photo" Punch is required if you wish to use heavier paper. Trying to cut graphics out with scissors will drive you crazy! Our affordable circle cutters allow you to cut precise circles quickly and easily. See them online at [www.AmericanButtonMachines.com](http://www.AmericanButtonMachines.com).**