

NANCY GALLAGHER WORKSHOP

2017 Trust Art Studio

ZING DIE CUTTER:

- Zing cutter is about \$400 or \$450. It has non-intuitive software BUT you can import your own images into it.
- You can use the software's shape buttons, duplicate the shape, modify etc., and create repeating patterns.
- there is searchable free art work built into the software
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- craft foam from dollar store is best. Intricate patterns work best on the cheap dollar store foam.
- zing software=make the cut software >drawing portion
- you can import .jpeg files to create die cuts, patterned die cuts etc.
- Google images has lots of wonderful b&w patterns.
- always use portrait mode and check each time before cutting bec. The program will default back to landscape mode without telling you.
- tacky plastic sheet is used to attach the craft foam and you MUST completely attach the foam to the tacky sheet to get a good cut.
- 2 cutting modes: knife blade and wysiwyg. Do not use wysiwyg!
- .75 is the setting for the heavy duty blade. Force setting=87 and have machine cut twice(there is some setting). Use knife point setting, and set blade origin (where it will start cutting)
- Clay we are using is 04 to 5 with a 10-15 minute hold. DO NOT fire to cone 6!
- Using Zing for a texture uncut, go to stencil gram.com and upload your photo. It will create stencil you then import into Zing.

CLAY NOTES:

- for tumblers and mugs she rolls to 1/4". Then compress clay with a rib. Nancy uses a Plastic rib made for bread makers, sold at Target, 3/\$1 or something like that.
- Nancy keeps turning her rolled clay over and compressing again. She then rolls the stencil into the clay until the clay is at the top of the stencil. Leaving the stencil in the clay, she angles her knife and bevel cuts both sides in the same direction and then cuts the bottom. The stencil IS the required shape for whatever vessel she's creating; tumbler, mug etc.
- Score, wet the edge so it is pretty sloppy. LEAVE the craft foam in the clay as you form the tumbler! No fingerprints, and the foam lends some support to the vessel. Nancy often puts a plastic wrapped cardboard roll inside. Let the tumbler seam set up before putting on the bottom.

For a mug: Throw 1/2 lb. clay with about 3 3/4"-4" diameter wet, with a gallery, and do not wire it off the bat.

- Nancy covers her board on one side with craft foam so she has a non-absorbent surface to roll on.
- "Circle solver" online lets you plug in the diameter of a circle and it gives you the circumference of that circle.
- roll and cut a slab the length of the thrown circumference, about 3 3/4" tall. Randomly texture

the slab and then attach to the leather hard thrown base.

- Slip and score the gallery of the base and attach the two pieces. Nancy does this work on the wheel.

Run a wet wedged sponge along the inside seam of the mug. On the wheel, she is actually throwing/attaching the two pieces.

-wire the mug off the bat once the two pieces are attached to one another.

SERVING PLATTER:

-use 1/2" slab

cut a paper template for the platter and then use an exact knife and cut around the paper on a piece of 1/2" insulation foam board. Make multiple passes with the knife into the board and cut the platter out so you have created a slump mold. Clean up the edges of the foam mold before using. (Keep the interior cutout to use as a shaping pattern for a shallow dish you can push into cushion foam and make the shape.)

use kiln pillars to hold the foam mold up off the table.

-smooth the clay down into the mold with a red rib. Do not use a Wet sponge for this job because it brings up the grog in the clay. Nancy smoothed clay so that the platter's profile was distinct. Then Clean up around the platter with a knife and leave 1 to 1.5 inches around . she then throws a ring on a large bat (maybe 3 lbs. of clay) to make the foot?

HOLLOW SPOONS:

-roll clay VERY thin, 1/8" and use two thin slabs per spoons.

-with wooden molds, be sure they are well sanded so they don't mar the clay.

if your spoon is to be textured, texture the clay before you mold it. You then smooth the bowl portion with your finger if you do not want the bowl textured.

-put clay, TEXTURE SIDE DOWN , on to the mold. Then Tap the wooden mold to slump the clay into two spoon molds.

-use a red rubber rib to smooth clay into the mold . Trim excess. Let clay set up to soft leather hard.

- when stiff, cut right along the spoon's outline with an exacto or Dolan knife. Initially, cut around each one with a straight cut. THEN Bevel around the edges with a very sharp knife, being careful not to break fragile handles. Put 2 pieces together, poke hole in bowl, and reshape a deeper bowl.

STYROFOAM RING PLATE/BLOWL!!

-use 1/2" slab

-drape over a wreath styrofoam ring and use a red rib to coax into shape. Do not cutoff excess until it sets up