

# BUTTON MAKER GUIDE



**Benedictine** University  
**Library**

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## Inventory

### Parts

- Button maker (1.75 inch)
- Punch cutter
- Container (contains consumable materials)
- Instruction folder
- Wheeled carrying cart

### Consumable Materials

- Pin fronts (metal shells)
- Pin backs
- Clear mylar circles

Please be sure to return all parts and any unused consumable materials.





## Waiver of Liability

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## Instructions

Please carefully follow the steps below.

**RECOMMENDED:** Please watch the YouTube video “How To Make a Button - Making Pinback Buttons Tutorial by ABM” available at <https://youtu.be/OPXqGJHy-WM>

### Step 1: Create a Design

- Create a design on standard weight paper. (This button maker creates 1.75” round buttons, so your design should be no larger than the pin back—about 1.6” in diameter. Optional templates are available from [http://americanbuttonmachines.com/Button\\_Templates.html](http://americanbuttonmachines.com/Button_Templates.html).)
- Punch out the design using the punch cutter. Insert only one piece of paper in the machine at time. (Position the cutter so the “feet” face you. Feed the paper into the narrow slot. Pull the red handle down. Use the metal cylinder underneath to pop the circle out of the punch.)



### Step 2: Prepare the Button to be Punched

- Place a pin front (shell) in the pickup die (the die with visible springs at its base) with the sharp edge of the shell facing down.





- b. Place your paper design on top of the shell. The design should be facing up and toward you.
- c. Place a clear mylar circle on top of the paper.



- d. Once your shell, paper design, and mylar are in place, spin the pickup die underneath the punch.



- e. The empty die now in front of you is called the crimp die. Place a pin back in the crimp die with the sharp edge facing up. You should be seeing the zigzag side of the pin back.





### Step 3: Punch the Button

- Pull the red handle down toward the black base and then back up.
- Rotate the dies.
- Once again pull the red handle down and back up.
- Rotate the dies, and your button is ready!



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### Additional Consumables

If you need more supplies, please ask at the Circulation Desk. You can also purchase supplies at:

- <http://www.americanbuttonmachines.com/product-category/button-making-supplies/shop-by-size/round/1-75-inch/>
- Remember to purchase materials specifically for “round 1.75 inch” buttons.

### Troubleshooting

If you experience problems, please contact Sarah Kurpiel at [skurpiel@ben.edu](mailto:skurpiel@ben.edu).

### Feedback

We would love to hear how your experience was! Please complete this survey:

<https://ben.libwizard.com/f/button-maker>