



CorelDRAW: Introduction

Create the training file using a majority of the commonly used tools in CorelDRAW.

Written By: Nathan Young



Introduction

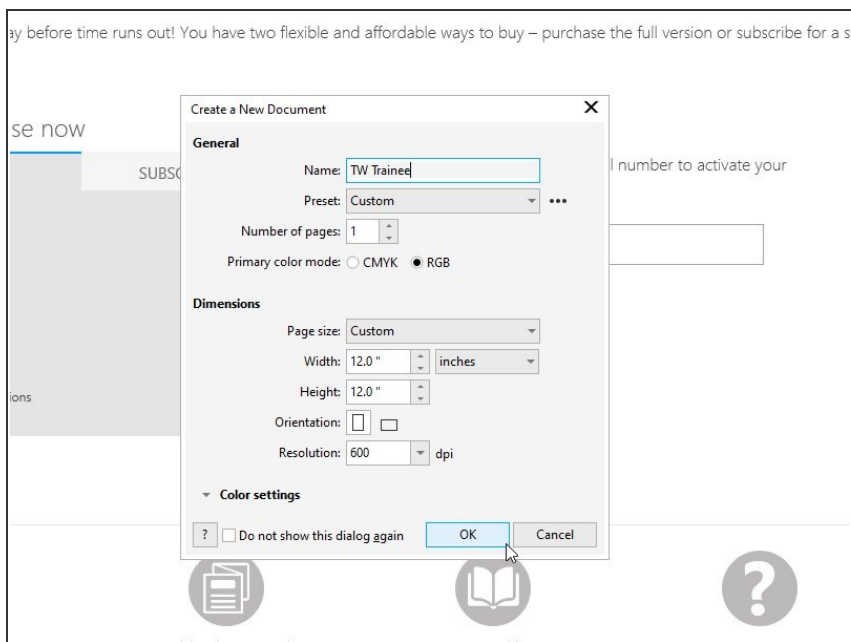
CorelDRAW will be used as an intermediate step between a CAD package and KCAM (the machine's setup software). It can also be used on its own as a powerful design tool for both technical and artistic projects. This tutorial will cover common uses such as importing from .dxf, .png, image tracing, and basic file manipulation.



TOOLS:

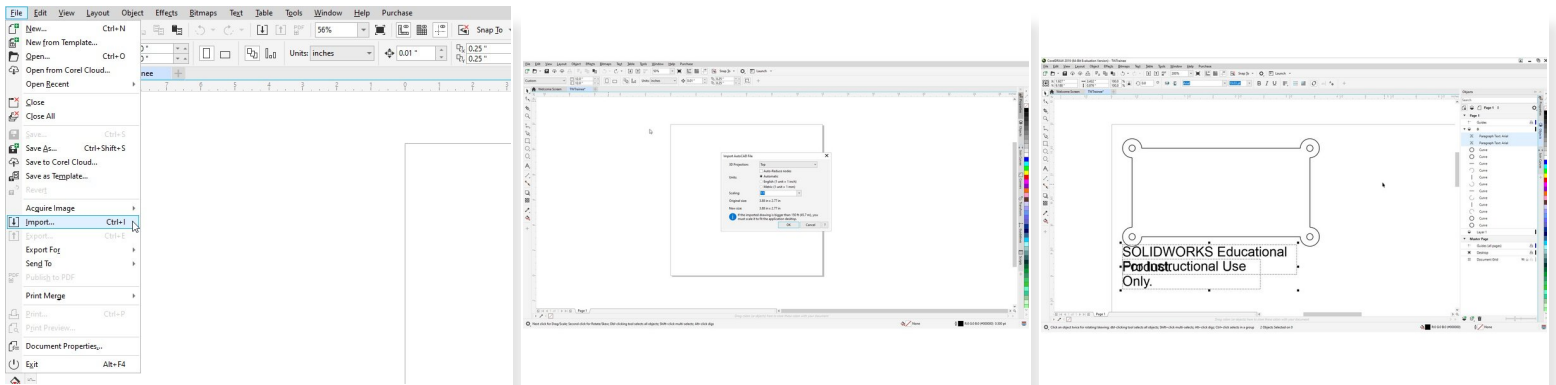
- [Kern Lasercell 400](#) (1)
-

Step 1 — Create a New Document



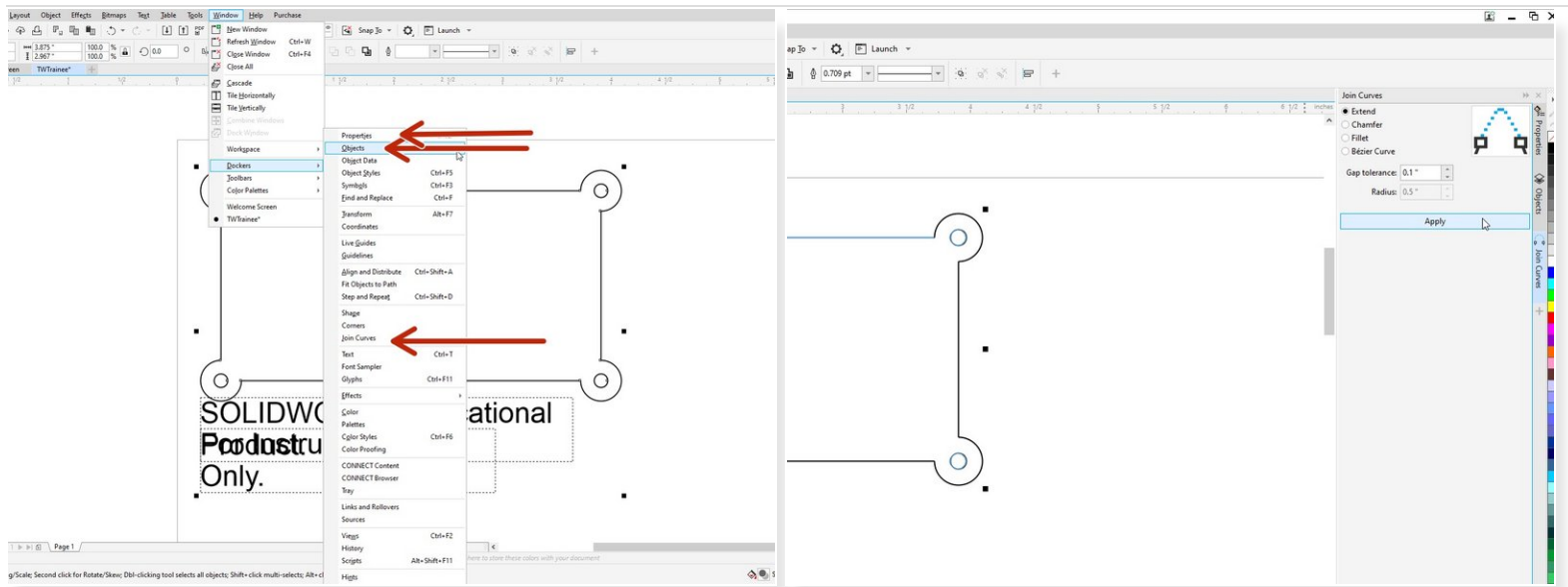
- Open CorelDRAW
- Click File > New Document
 - Name the file
 - Select RGB color and 600dpi
-  The Kern has a default template so these settings only apply to other lab computers

Step 2 — Import a DXF



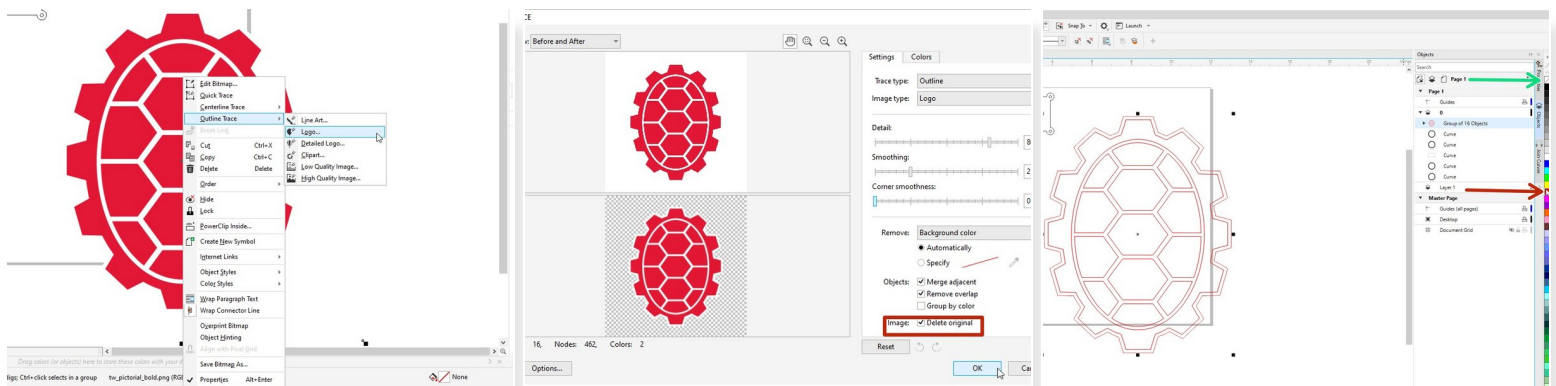
- Click File > Import or ctrl+I
- Navigate to the TW network drive and go to AFL > _Lab > Kern > Training
- Select "training_outline.dxf"
- Verify dimensions then select OK
- Left click to place
- Select the text and press the delete key to remove it

Step 3 — Join Curves



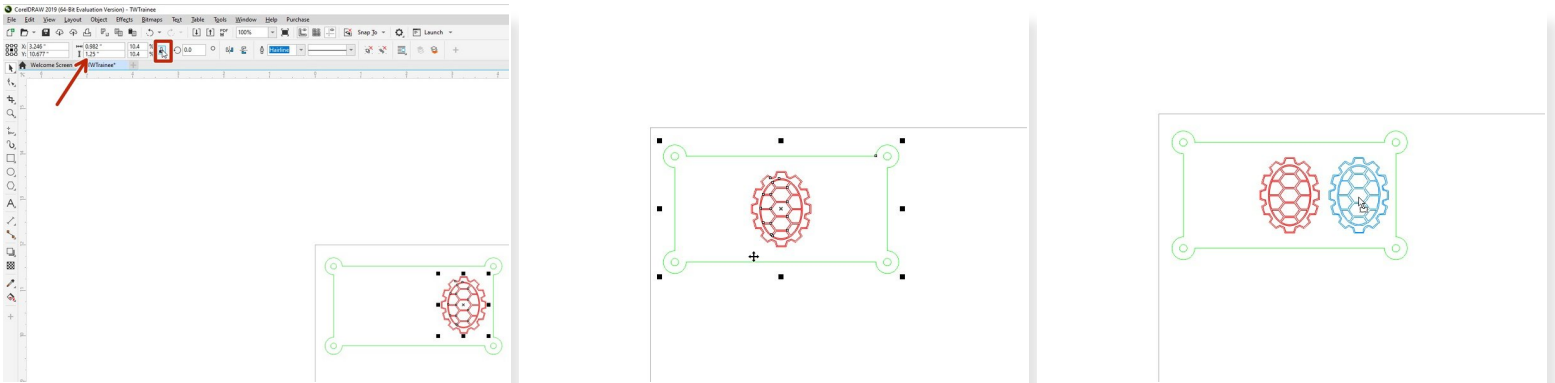
- Go to Windows > Dockers and select "Properties", "Objects", and "Join Curves"
- Open the Join Curves Docker
- Click and drag around the whole shape to box select everything
- Click Apply
- Box select everything then press Ctrl+G to group the geometry together
- **i** By joining the curves it creates a single path for each curve. This decreases cut time and improves cut quality.

Step 4 — Import a PNG and PowerTrace



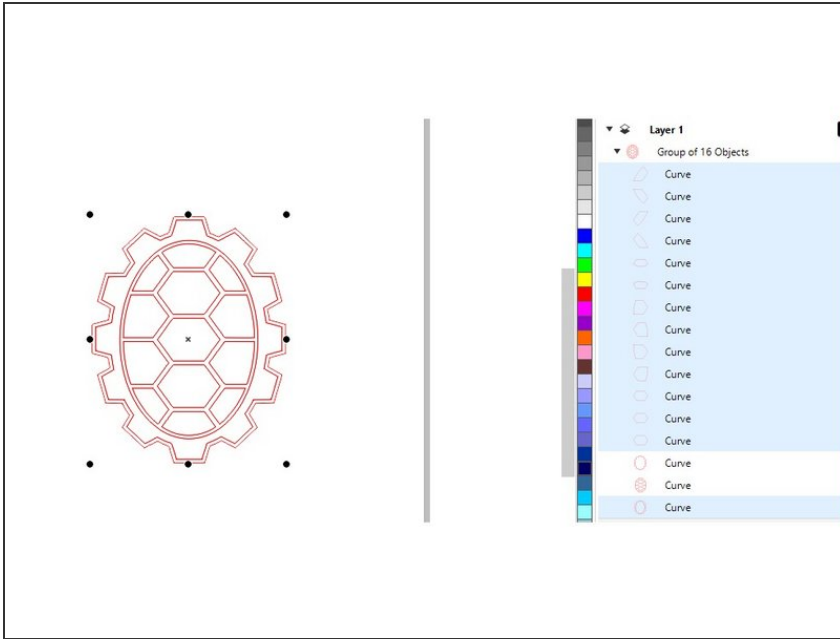
- Press Ctrl+I to Import
- On the TW Network drive navigate to AFL (Clark) > Kern > _Lab > training and select "tw_pictorial_bold.png"
- Right-click on the shell and select Outline Trace > Logo
- Make sure Delete original is selected and click Okay
- Left click on "none" to remove the fill
- Right click on "red" to set stroke (lines) to red

Step 5 — Alignment



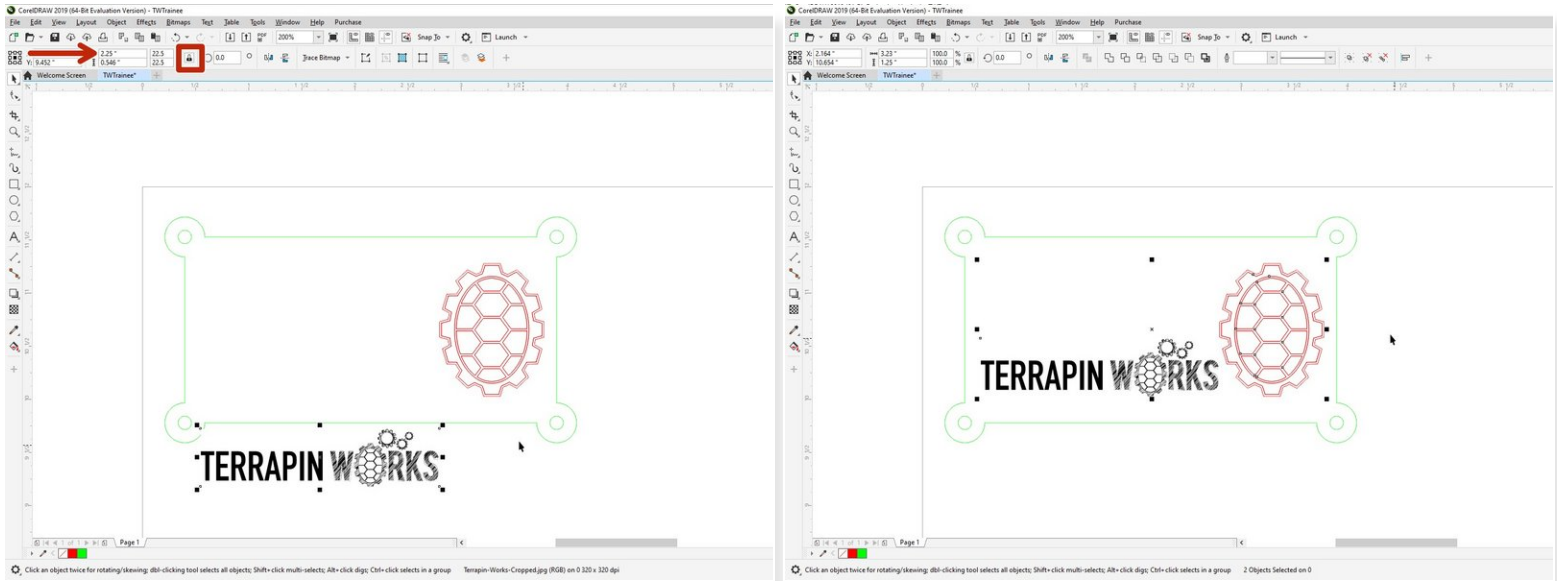
- Lock ratio and set height to 1.25"
- Select the shell, then hold shift and select outline. A bounding box will appear around both objects
 - Press "C" align the centers vertically
 - Press "E" to align centers horizontally
- Select just the shell and start to drag to the right. Hold the "Shift" key to keep it snapped to the horizontal
- Place the shell on the right side of the outline

Step 6 — Deleting Duplicate Lines



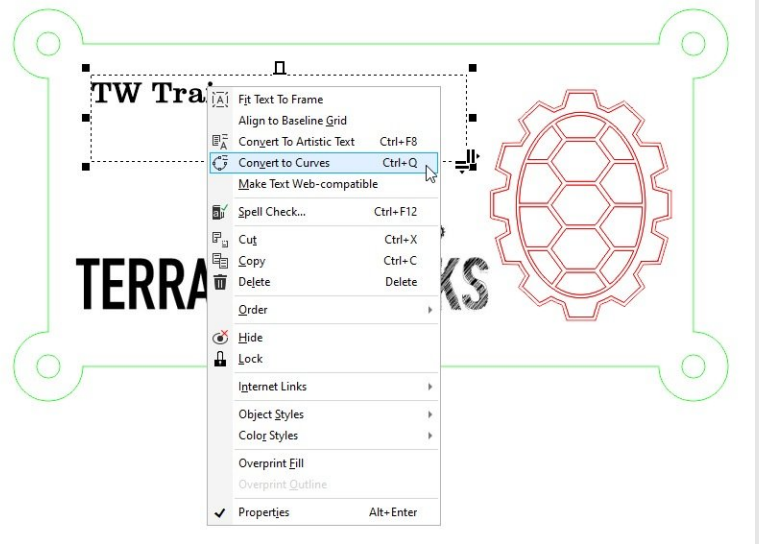
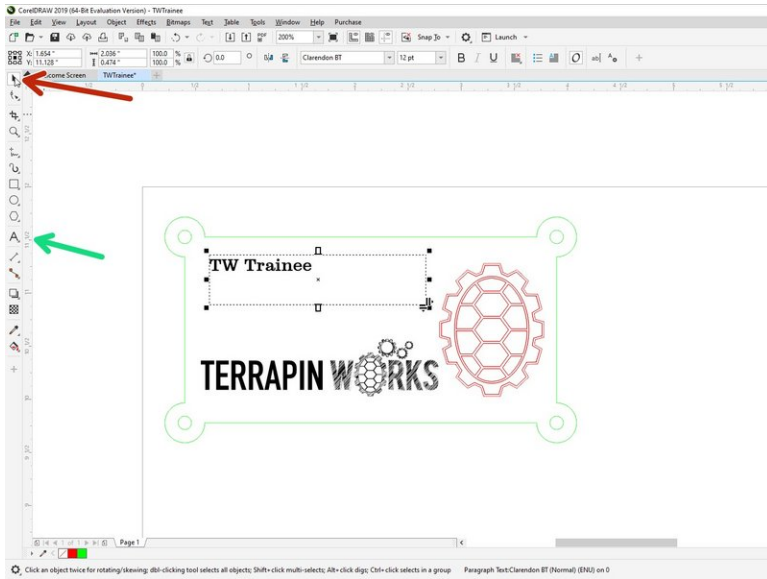
- Delete the highlighted curves
 - i These are duplicate lines created when we did the logo trace
- ⚠ If you forget to do this, each of these lines will be cut twice, causing the shell to be cut all the way through and fall out

Step 7 — Add a JPG



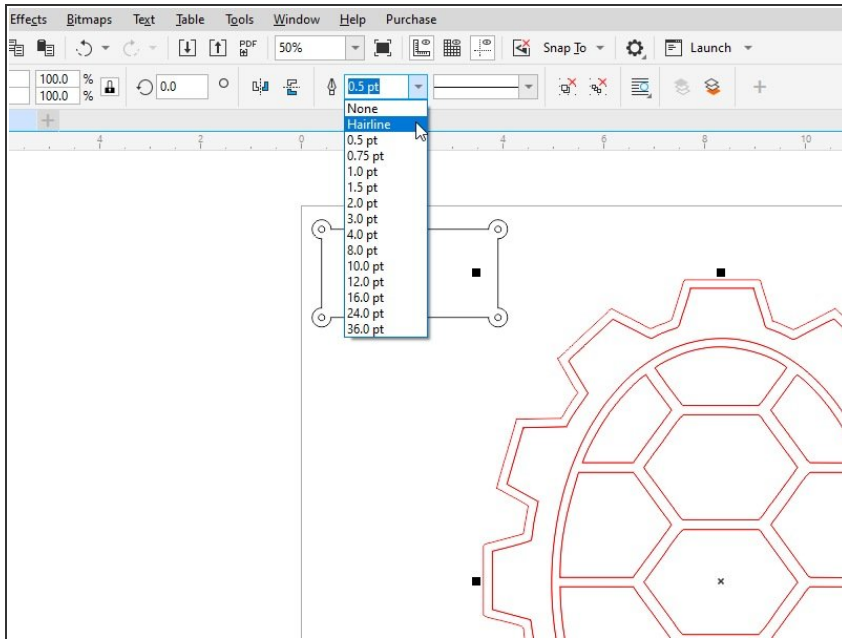
- Press Ctrl+I to Import
- On the TW Network drive navigate to AFL (Clark) > Kern > _Lab > training and select "Terrapin-Work-Cropped.jpg"
- With the ratio locked set width to 2.25"
- Click the logo then shift click the shell and press "B" to align the bottoms
- Drag and hold shift to place horizontally (just like when you dragged the shell to the right side of the nametag)

Step 8 — Add Text



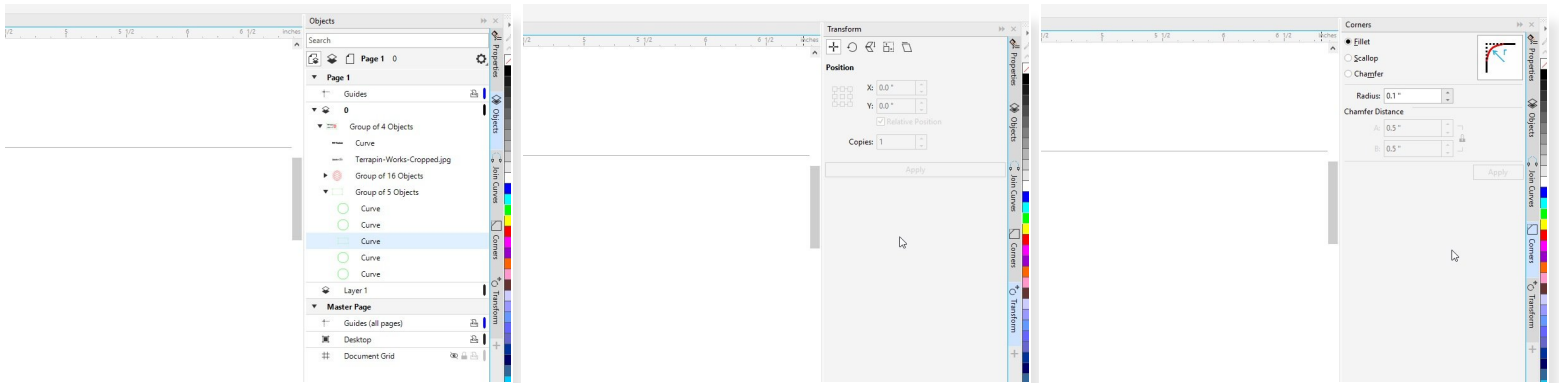
- Using the Text tool drag out a text box
- Type out your name and choose a font
- Select the Pick tool again and right click on the text box
- Click Convert to Curves
- With the ratio locked, change the width to 2.25"
- Click your name then shift click the TW logo, press "L" to align left. Deselect both items
- Click your name then shift click the shell, press "T" to align top

Step 9 — KCAM Notes



- To be treated as a vector by KCAM, lines need to be "Hairline" width. Set the shell and the outline to hairline
- Different colors can be assigned different laser profiles. In this case, red can be used for a quicker "engraving" while the black can be used for cutting.
- Any vector line that is not Hairline will be engraved, along with any fills or images.

Step 10 — Other Useful Tools



- The Objects Docker can be used to select items, as well as see how the file is organized.
- The Transform Docker can be used to move and rotate with precision. It is also where you can create patterns and mirroring.
- The Corners Docker lets you create Chamfers and Fillets.

Step 11 — Next Steps and Sign-Off



- Congrats on finish Corel Draw intro!
- Make sure to get one of the Kern trainers to sign off
- Now that you know how to set up prints, the next step is the nonmetal cutting guide

You have created your training file in CorelDRAW! You should now have a basic understanding of the software and the tools it provides.