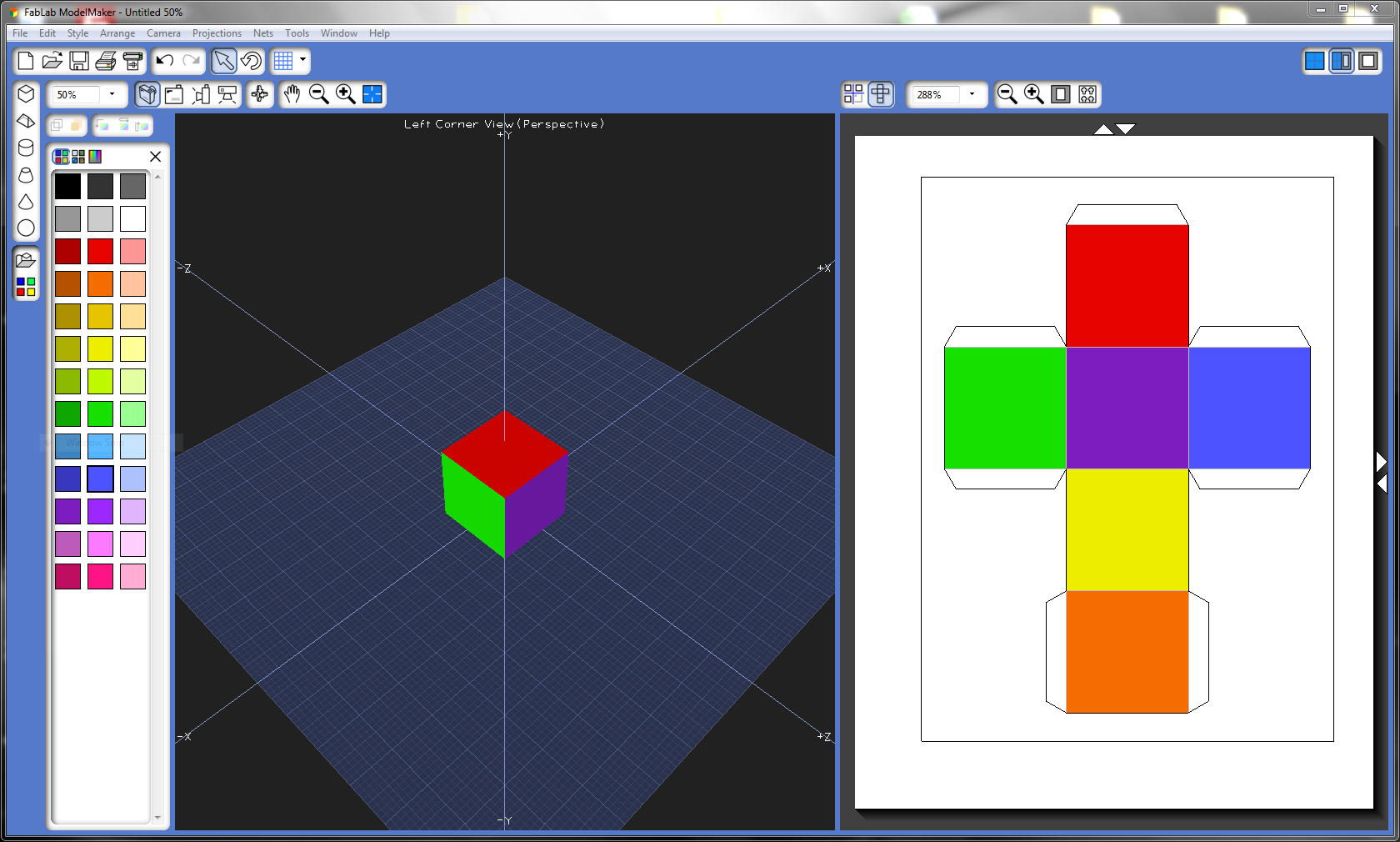
**FIRST Pre-Academy Tutorial**

**Using the Silhouette Cutter (1/28/2013)**

Before using your FabLab software and Silhouette cutter, designate a desktop or a laptop as the main hub for the cutter and printer to connect to, this will be the printer and cutter “station”. The computer at the station should have FabLab installed and be connected to the cutter and printer. Students will transfer their designs from the computer they are using to the printer and cutter station where they can fabricate their models. Leave some space behind the Silhouette cutter for the finished model to come out.

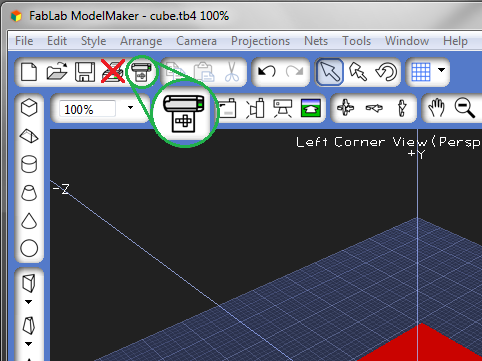
**Note**: If you are using computers or laptops that are configured to print using your own printers, just follow the instructions below. Comprehensive cutting instruction will be noted for you to follow.

1. Create your Model using FabLab Software.

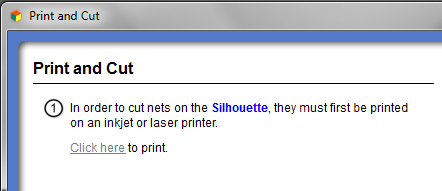


1. Once you are finished creating your model, click the “Print and Cut” icon.

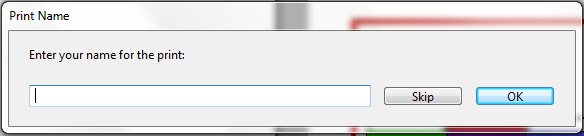
**Note**: Click the “Print and Cut” icon **no matter which printer you are using**.



1. Select “Click Here” option to print.



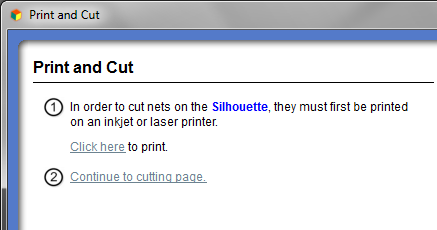
1. A “Print Name” dialogue box will pop up. Enter a unique print name if printing different models for students.



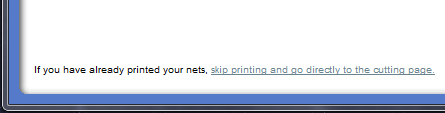
1. If you are printing on a regular printer paper, choose your printer and click “Print”. If you are printing on a cardstock as recommended for printing model nets, insert a sheet of cardstock in the manual feed tray. Choose your printer and the correct tray and click “Print”.

**Note**: If you printed from the station follow 6a). If you did not print from the station, follow 6b).

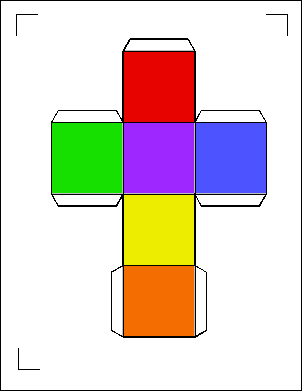
1. Once the printing is done, select “Continue to cutting page.” **Skip to step 7**.



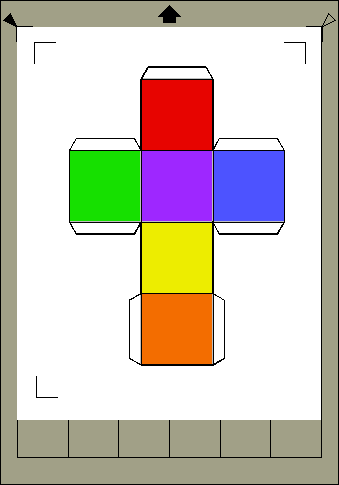
1. Once the printing is done, transfer your design file to the print and cut station. This could be done using a flash drive. Bring your printed net with you.
2. To cut out the net, open your model in FabLab and select the “Print and Cut” icon again. The same dialogue box from step 3 will appear but this time click “skip printing and go directly to the cutting page” at the bottom.



1. **Attach the printed net to the carrier sheet:** Orient the printed page so that two “L” shaped marks are at the top and a single “L” shaped mark at the bottom. Take a carrier sheet and peel away the backing.



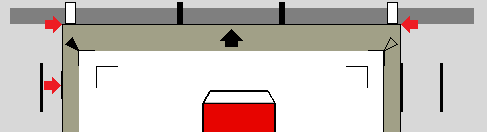
Align and carefully stick the top left corner of the printed page to the top left margin of the carrier sheet (Marked by a solid triangle). Do the same with the top right corner of the printed page and top right margin of the carrier sheet (Marked by a clear triangle). Slowly apply the rest of the page to the carrier sheet, carefully matching the borders, and sticking the page flat with no creases or air bubbles in between.



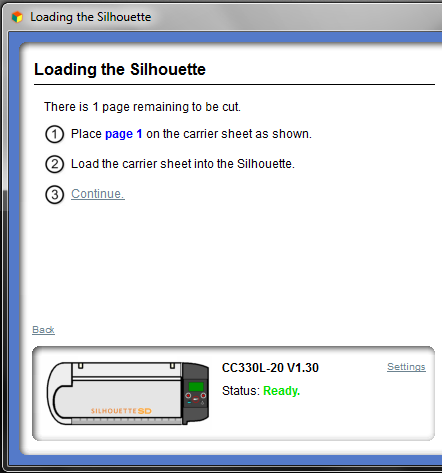
1. Open up the front cover of the cutter. If you printed in a regular printer paper, make sure that the color of the blade cover is blue. If you printed on a cardstock, use the yellow blade cover. The blade covers are interchangeable.
2. Before placing the carrier sheet, note the two short tick marks in between the first two long tick marks that span the whole cutter.



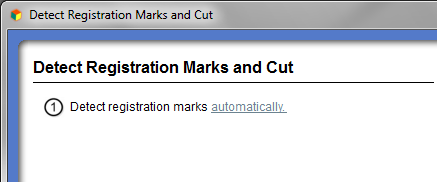
1. Align the left edge of the carrier sheet with the short tick mark of the left. The top edge of the carrier sheet should be close to the feeder located directly above the tick marks. Press the “Enter” button on the cutter to begin feeding the carrier sheet.



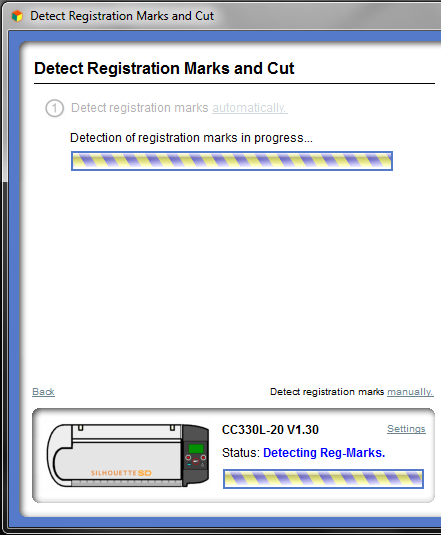
1. Once the carrier sheet is loaded into the Silhouette cutter, click “Continue” on the computer screen.



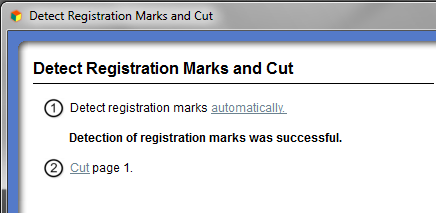
1. Select the option to “detect the registration marks automatically”.



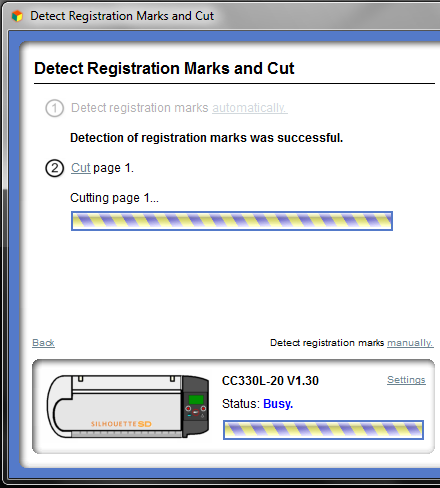
1. Wait for the Silhouette cutter to detect the registration marks.



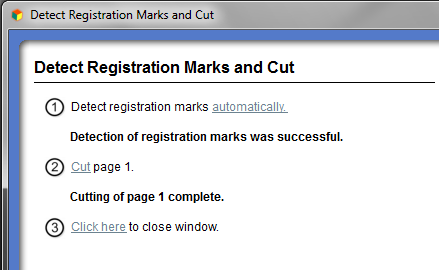
1. Once the cutter successfully detects the registration marks, select the “Cut” page option.



1. The cutter will begin cutting the out the net. **Wait patiently without moving the cutter or pressing any keys on the computer.**



1. When the cutting is complete, press the “Enter” button on the cutter to release the carrier sheet.



1. For best results separating the model from the carrier sheet, place the model on a flat surface with the carrier sheet facing up. Peel the carrier sheet slowly away while keeping the model flat on the surface. Peeling the carrier sheet away from the model will prevent the model from curling. If you printed on regular printer paper, peel very carefully because the printed model tends to stick to the carrier sheet.