

Cricut Machines and Materials

We have been using a Cricut Explore Air 2. You can usually find them for a little under \$200 on the Cricut site , Michaels, or JoAnn (you can't use store coupons on Cricut products). Here's what you'll find in the box for the most basic Cricut Explore Air package:

- Cricut machine
- Cricut Design Space software info
- USB cord and power cord
- Cricut cutting blade
- 12" x 12" Standard Grip cutting mat
- Accessory Adapter
- Black pen
- Samples card

The basic package truly comes with just the necessities for getting your machine turned on and ready to go. You can also buy bundles. There is a pretty good one for \$ 249 at Walmart, JoAnn, Michaels. Cricut.com has the variety of bundles- don't get sucked it by the fancy bundles and they only include Cricut brand products(vinyl, paper and transfer tape. To really get started creating, I think it's helpful to have a few additional pieces:

- A set of weeding tools [Cricut Tools Basic Set](#)

If you are going to make a lot of cards you will also need a [scoring stylus](#)

- Materials to get started creating: [cardstock](#), [vinyl](#) and [transfer tape](#), [heat transfer vinyl](#)

I like Oracle vinyl: 651 (permanent) 631(removable) which is sold in sheets sets on Amazon and as individual sheets at Michaels and some Joann Fabric

I use cheap contact paper as transfer tape

I like Siser Easy Weed Vinyl, its cheaper than Cricut and I think it adheres better. You can get it at Michaels or Amazon.

Watch for sales and you **can use coupons** on Siser and Oracle but not on Cricut brand. Cricut brand does go on sale but only when the Cricut company sets the sale.

- For heat transfer vinyl you will need an iron and a hand towel. If you find you do a lot of heat transfer I think it is worth getting a [Cricut Easy Press](#) we used the 9x9 size and a [Teflon heat sheet](#) .