ILLUSTRATOR FILE PREPARATION
FOR THE VINYL CUTTER
VERSION #3
Create A File For The Vinyl Cutter

Vinyl Cutter will be referred to as VC. Adobe Illustrator will be referred to as AI.

Build your design first in Illustrator and then save the file.

Then create a new file just for the VC...
1a - Open up AI, select New. (The file can be RGB or CMYK for the VC.)
1b - Create a file the width of the VC roll less 2”. Our large vinyl rolls are 22” wide, so make your file 20” wide. Make the height what you will require for your design (you can change this later if need be).
1c - Click on Create.

Layup Your Design

2a - Now you can Copy & Paste in your design from your design file, or you can Place the design into this drawing from your design file.

2b - Try to use up the width of the vinyl so as not to waste the vinyl. So you may want to copy and paste a second copy in, or use another design to fill up the width of the vinyl. You can also scale up or down your object/design at this stage.

2c - It is good to create a stroked rectangle around your object, to help with weeding*.

Guideline for Vinyl Cutting Size, if some of your text is smaller than .5” (13mm) it will be really hard if not impossible to weed*.

* Weeding is the process of peeling away the vinyl of negative parts of your design.

2d - Text to small (below .5”)
2e - Text minimum height (.5”)

Now save your file. You will need to Zip Compress this file if you are planning to submit it online to Makerspace for outputting.