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Cricut Cuttlebug

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Model: Cuttlebug

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Cricut Cuttlebug is a versatile and portable manual machine designed for both die-cutting and embossing. It provides professional-looking results with clean, crisp cuts and deep, even embosses. This machine is compatible with the entire line of Cuttlebug embossing folders and cutting dies, as well as most leading folders and dies from other brands. It can process a variety of materials, including paper, tissue paper, foils, acetate ribbon, and thin leather.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always keep hands and fingers clear of the rollers and cutting area during operation.
- Use the machine on a stable, flat surface. Ensure the suction cups are engaged for maximum stability.
- Keep out of reach of children. Adult supervision is recommended for users under 12 years of age.
- Do not force materials through the machine. If resistance is met, check your plate sandwich configuration.
- Store the machine in a safe place when not in use.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- Cricut Cuttlebug Machine
- One (1) A Plate (6x8 inches)
- Two (2) B Plates (6x8 inches)
- One (1) Rubber Embossing Mat (6x8 inches)

- One (1) A2 Embossing Folder
- Two (2) Metal Dies



Figure 1: Cricut Cuttlebug machine with A and B plates, rubber mat, embossing folder, and metal dies.

4. SETUP

1. **Unpack the Machine:** Carefully remove the Cuttlebug machine and all accessories from its packaging.
2. **Position the Machine:** Place the Cuttlebug on a clean, flat, and stable surface.
3. **Engage Suction:** Open the side flaps of the machine. This action engages the suction cups on the base, securing the machine to your work surface. Ensure it is firmly attached before use.
4. **Familiarize with Plates:** Identify the A Plate (base plate), B Plates (cutting/embossing plates), and the Rubber Embossing Mat.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1. Die Cutting

To cut shapes using metal dies:

1. Place one **A Plate** on the machine's platform. This is your base plate.
2. Place one **B Plate** on top of the A Plate.
3. Position your material (e.g., paper, cardstock) on the B Plate.
4. Place your metal die, cutting-edge down, on top of the material.
5. Place the second **B Plate** on top of the die and material, completing the "sandwich."
6. Insert the assembled sandwich into the machine's opening and turn the handle clockwise to feed it through the rollers. Continue turning until the sandwich exits the other side.
7. Remove the sandwich and carefully separate the cut material from the die.



Figure 2: Example of die-cutting setup with plates, dies, and paper.

5.2. Embossing

To add textured designs using embossing folders:

1. Place one **A Plate** on the machine's platform.
2. Open your embossing folder and place your material (e.g., paper, cardstock) inside. Close the folder.
3. Place the closed embossing folder on top of the A Plate.
4. Place one **B Plate** on top of the embossing folder.
5. Insert the assembled sandwich into the machine's opening and turn the handle clockwise to feed it through the rollers.
6. Remove the sandwich and open the embossing folder to reveal your embossed material.

Note: For embossing thin dies or adding extra depth, you may need to use the **Rubber Embossing Mat**. The typical sandwich for this would be: A Plate, B Plate, material, die, Rubber Embossing Mat, B Plate.



Figure 3: The Cuttlebug machine used for various crafting projects, including embossing.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the machine's exterior with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Plate Care:** The B Plates will naturally show cut marks and may warp over time. This is normal and does not affect performance. Rotate and flip your B Plates regularly to distribute wear evenly. Replace plates when they become excessively warped or cut quality diminishes.
- **Storage:** When not in use, fold the side flaps inward to release the suction and make the machine compact for storage.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Material not cutting completely.	Incorrect plate sandwich; dull die; material too thick.	Ensure correct plate order. Run the sandwich through multiple times. Add a shim (e.g., a piece of cardstock) under the material for extra pressure. Replace worn dies.
Embossing is not deep enough.	Incorrect plate sandwich; material too thick or thin.	Ensure correct plate order for embossing. Use the rubber embossing mat if needed. Adjust material thickness.
Machine handle is difficult to turn.	Sandwich is too thick.	Do not force the handle. Remove a plate or reduce material thickness. Forcing can damage the machine.
Machine is sliding on the surface.	Suction cups not engaged or surface is not smooth/clean.	Ensure side flaps are fully open to engage suction. Clean the work surface and the suction cups.
B Plates are warping.	Normal wear and tear from cutting pressure.	Rotate and flip plates regularly. Replace plates when warping significantly impacts performance.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Brand:** Cricut
- **Model:** Cuttlebug
- **Operation Mode:** Manual
- **Material:** Machine body (plastic/metal), Plates (polycarbonate/rubber)
- **Color:** Mint
- **Included Plates:** 1 A Plate (6x8 inches), 2 B Plates (6x8 inches)
- **Included Mat:** 1 Rubber Embossing Mat (6x8 inches)
- **Compatible Materials:** Paper (plain), tissue paper, foils, acetate ribbon, thin leather, and more.
- **Dimensions (Approximate):** Height: 6.5 inches (when closed)
- **UPC:** 093573677090
- **ASIN:** B01MCV9RV0

9. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

For specific warranty information and customer support, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Cricut website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Online Resources: For additional tips, project ideas, and community support, visit the official Cricut website or search for Cuttlebug tutorials on popular crafting platforms.

