Manual for Cutcontour

v2.1 (July 16, 2025)

A cut contour is always created as a vector line, software such as Adobe Illustrator is suitable for this. Photo editing programs such as Adobe Photoshop cannot be used to create cut contours.

We automatically generate rectangular and square cutting paths based on the dimensions you specify.
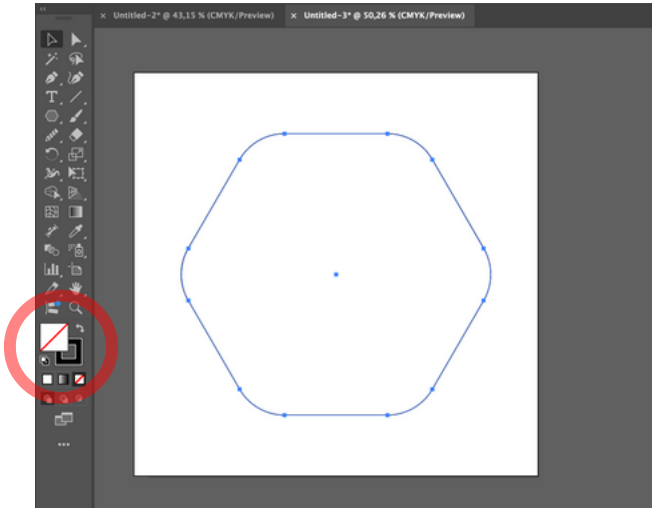
Two methods

There are roughly two ways you might want to use a cut contour, both will be explained in this manual.

1. A simple cutout, where the cut-out shape forms the product. Such as with stickers, flags with a specific shape, or other products that have a deviating shape.

2. A cutout where there needs to be a cutout from another shape. Such as, for example, a cutout in a fabric for a TV, a niche or cutout in a fabric for a stand.

A clear explanation follows on the next pages.

Method 1: simple cutout

For: stickers, flags, other products where the outer shape needs to be different than rectangular or square.
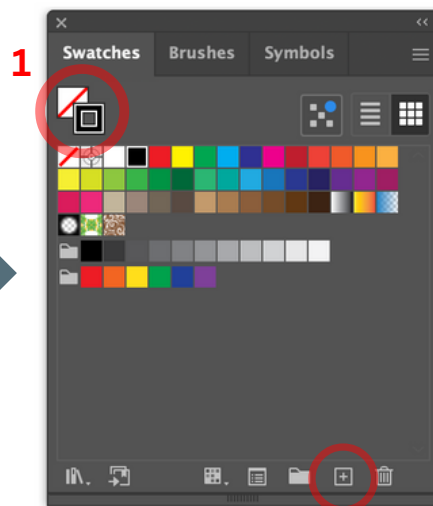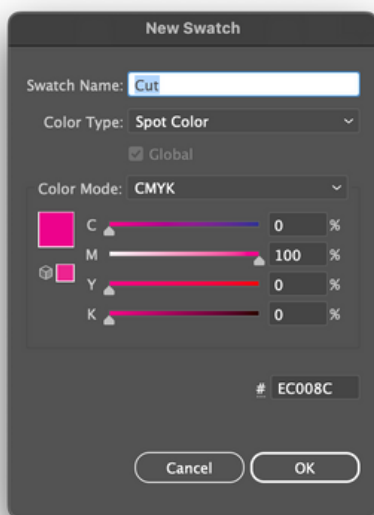

Step 1: Create a closed line, in the desired shape. The shape next to this is an example. **Important: no fill color!**

Step 2: Open the swatches window (window / swatches). Select the line (1) and create a new swatch (2).
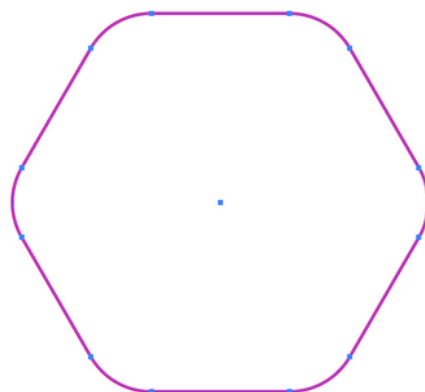

Step 3: In the new window: give the new swatch the name 'Cut' (with capital letter), convert it to spot color (support color) and set all values to 0, except **Magenta → 100%**. Click OK..

Final step: Select the shape and choose the swatch you just created. The line turns magenta - this will not be printed, but will be marked as a cutting line.

Support color/ spot color

Method 2: Cutout from a surface

For: cutouts from fabric, for niches. For e.g. TVs or other products, shelves, etc.

Step 1: Create a filled surface, as large as the original fabric, from where a cutout needs to be made.
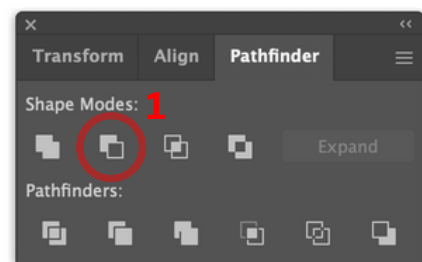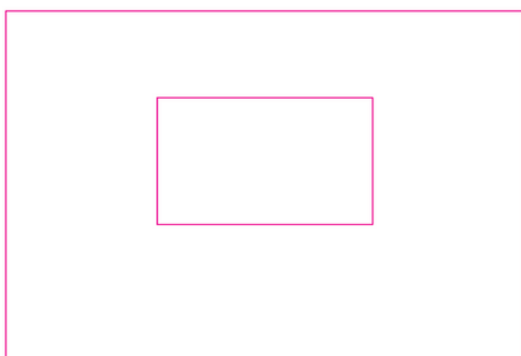
1

Step 2: Create a second shape, in the exact dimensions of the cutout or niche. Give this a different color. **Make sure this shape is in the correct position!**

2

Step 3: Select both shapes and open 'pathfinder'. **Select 'minus-front' mode (1)**, the top shape will be cut out from the large shape. The remaining shape is a compound path.

3

Transform | Align | **Pathfinder**

Shape Modes: **1**

Expand

Pathfinders:

Last step: Convert the shape to line (2).

Then: open the swatches window and choose the (spot color) swatch **from steps 2&3 of the previous page (p2).**

2

4

This line will not be printed, but will be marked as a cutting line and will be cut out.