

Creating Glowforge Cut Shapes Using LibreOffice Draw

Create simple geometric shapes in LibreOffice Draw and export them as an SVG file to cut on the Glowforge using cardboard. We will cut only—no engraving.

1. Install LibreOffice

- Go to: www.libreoffice.org/download
- Download LibreOffice for your computer

In your web browser, navigate to https://accounts.glowforge.com/users/sign_in and sign into your Glowforge account that is connect to our Glowforge Aura laser in the STEM lab.

2. Open LibreOffice and choose LibreOffice Draw - Create a New Drawing

- Use the left toolbar to find - Rectangle/Square, Ellipse/Circle, Lines, and Polygons
 - Hold Shift to make perfect squares or circles – Use properties to adjust dimensions

3. Prepare Shapes for Glowforge Cutting Remove Fill:

- Select your shape
 - Right-click Area...
 - Set Fill = None
 - Set the Outline (Stroke):
- Right-click Line...
 - Choose:
 - Style: Continuous
 - Color: Black
 - Width: 0.5 pt

4. If Needed - Combine or Modify Shapes Use the Shape menu:

- Combine/Merge join shapes
- Subtract - cut one shape out of another
- Intersect - keep the overlapping area

5. Group Your Design (optional but suggested)

- Select all - Right-click – Group

6. Export as SVG

- File - Export...
- Choose SVG
- Save - Accept default settings

7. Import into Glowforge

- Go to app.glowforge.com
 - Create - Upload from File
 - Select your SVG
 - Make sure outlines show as Cut steps
 - Resize if needed – Select shape – click on the Ruler

8. Set Up for Cutting on Cardboard – Power (10) – Speed (50)

- Place flat cardboard on the Glowforge bed
- Choose Unknown Material (Cardboard) – Thickness - .120”
- Click Print and press the glowing button

You're Done! You created a shape in LibreOffice Draw, exported it as an SVG, and prepared it for cutting on the Glowforge.