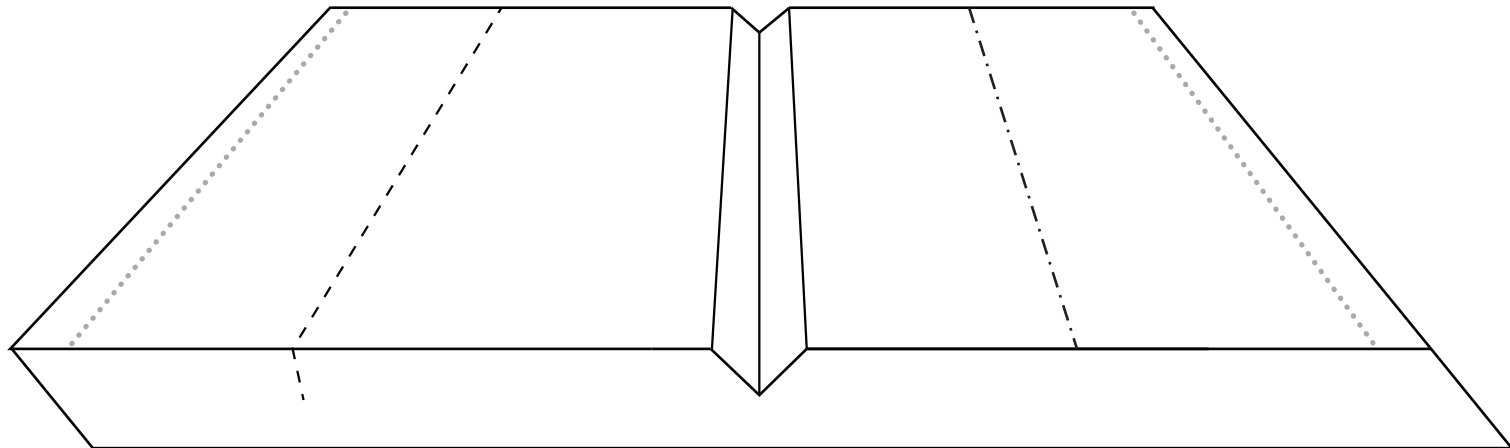


# SPECIALTY CUT GUIDE

## INSTRUCTIONS

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# TYPES AND STYLES OF EXTERIOR FOAM CUTS

When cutting out pieces from foam it is important to pay attention to the cut instructions on every template. Each template is unique and provides insight on how to cut the edges of the templated pieces so that they match up and/or angle correctly. Below are three styles of cuts used on exterior edges of foam with their corresponding icons, template line stroke indicators, and instructions.

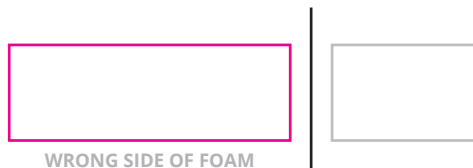
## Note:

All cuts should be performed with the outside, or RIGHT side, of the foam facing up and with the inside, or WRONG side, of the foam facing the cutting mat. Exterior cuts are denoted with a solid line, while bevels have an additional grey dotted line and their corresponding icon.



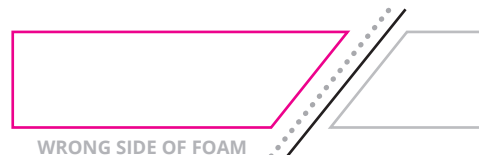
## STRAIGHT CUT

Holding the sharp blade perpendicular to the cutting surface, insert and tilt the blade upward so that the tip touches the cutting mat and pull through the material making sure to keep a 90° angle through the cut — even around curves.



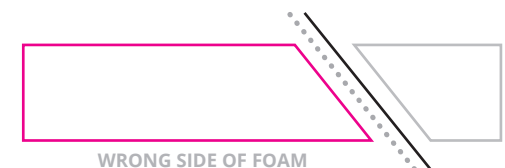
## INWARD BEVEL

Angle the sharp blade so that the edge is pointing towards your pattern. Apply pressure with your non-dominant hand onto the material and slowly pull the blade through the material, making sure to stay on the pattern line.



## OUTWARD BEVEL

Angle the sharp blade so that the edge is pointing away from your pattern. Apply pressure with your non-dominant hand onto the material and slowly pull the blade through the material, making sure to stay slightly inside the pattern line.



# SPECIALTY INTERIOR FOAM CUTS

After all exterior foam cuts have been completed and you have all of the foam pieces cut out, you can then begin your interior foam cuts. These cuts allow you to manipulate foam to create sharper edges and planes without creating seam lines. The undercut is the most effective way to execute this and is represented on templates with a gray double line.



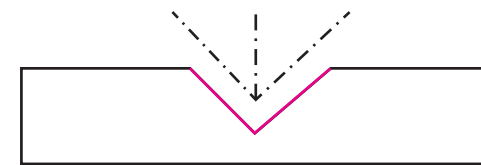
## UNDERCUT

An undercut is a method of removing material to allow the foam to bend around corners with one single piece. This can be done with a sharp blade or with a woodburning tool and an angled tip. Here is a basic description of the technique using a blade:

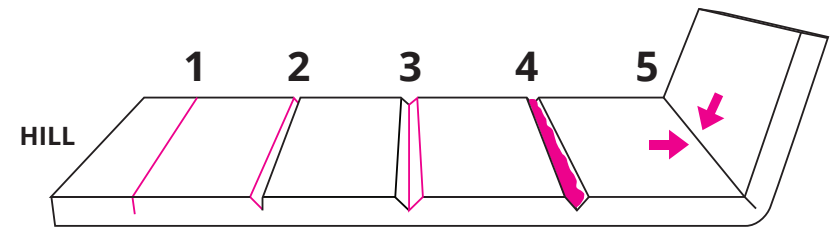
### Note:

Make sure all of your cuts are located on the **WRONG** side of the foam and that you never cut all the way through the material damaging the **RIGHT** side of the foam.

1. Straight cut halfway through the material directly on the pattern line.
2. Move the blade to one side and cut at an angle, trying to reach the straight cut line, while ensuring you only cut through half the material's thickness.
3. Mirror the first angled cut on the opposite side of pattern line.
4. Remove the waste material and fill with hot glue.
5. Fold and close the gap to create a hill or away from one another to form a valley. Allow the glue to dry and the foam will keep its bend.

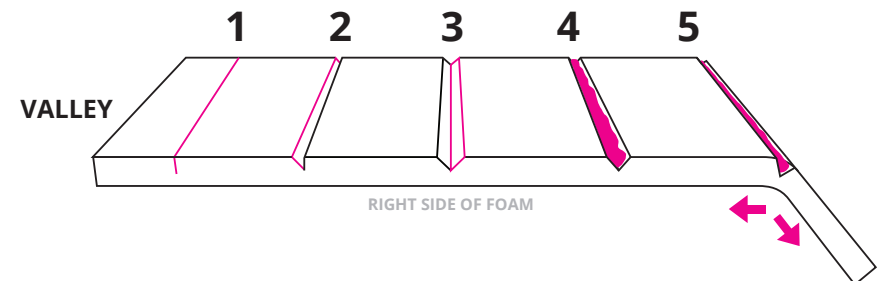


RIGHT SIDE OF FOAM



HILL

RIGHT SIDE OF FOAM



VALLEY

RIGHT SIDE OF FOAM

# SPECIALTY INTERIOR FOAM CUTS

Before finishing your foam creations, you may want to add detail or the illusion of multiple pieces coming together. EVA foam can be cut and applied heat to to give the appearance of a seamline. These lines can be created by simply cutting a shallow line within the foam. Once heated the foam will contract away from the cut, becoming wider and more uniform, thus giving the detail lines to your piece.

## Note:

Be careful where and how you cut your surface cuts. If cut too deep on the same piece where undercuts are already used, you can accidentally slice through the thickness of the foam and create a hole. The surface cut is represented on templates as a dashed line.



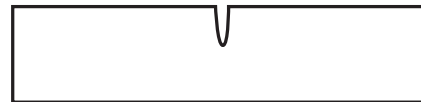
## SURFACE CUT

Place only the tip of the blade into the foam and cut a shallow line less than halfway through the thickness of the foam. Using a heat gun, apply heat and watch as the cut widens and uniforms.

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BEFORE HEAT IS APPLIED



AFTER HEAT IS APPLIED

*Looking for a variety of styles of surface cuts?*

Using a woodburning tool with wider tips allow for thicker lines that do not need to be heated.

# COSPLAY FOAM

# QUICK CUTTING GUIDE

Print and use this guide to help you remember and use the templates effectively.  
Using the correct type of cut is important to create a piece that looks as good as it fits.



## STRAIGHT CUT

Hold blade and cut straight up and down to create a perfect 90° angle edge.



## INWARD BEVEL

Cut towards the template at a 45° angle to create a visible hill with seam when glued.



## OUTWARD BEVEL

Cut away from the template at a 45° angle to create a visible valley with seam when glued.



## UNDERCUT

Cut and remove a v-shaped trench on the **WRONG** side of the foam.



## TEMPLATE CUT

This icon represents the lines to be cut from your paper template.



## SURFACE CUT

Cut shallow lines into the **RIGHT** side of the foam for visible detail lines.



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