

Community Luminaries Directions

Uploading Handout 2 PDF to the Glowforge App

To make the design process faster, upload the Community Luminaries Shade Template PDF as a blank design students can customize in the Glowforge app.

1. Open and save the Community Luminaries Shade Template PDF to your computer.
2. Open the Glowforge App.
3. In the top left of the dashboard, click the teal Create button.
4. Select Upload from File.
5. Select the Community Luminaries Shade Template PDF from your computer.
6. This will give you the lantern outline. You can now add your own artwork, text, icons, or shapes to the template.

Using the Engrave Option







You may find a PNG or JPG file you'd like to cut out for your luminary. Glowforge allows cutouts for SVG or PDF files, but don't fret! You can use the "Engrave" option in the Glowforge app to create a line drawing that allows light to pass through while maintaining some image detail. Follow the directions below. Some experimentation may be needed to get it just right.



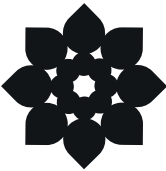

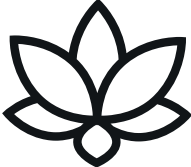

1. Set the material in the upper left corner of the app to 20lb Copy Paper.
2. Select the item from the sidebar on the left of the work area.
3. A new menu will open, select Engrave.
4. Next select Manual.
 - Set Speed to 200.
 - Set Power to 10.
 - Under BITMAP options, select:
 - Grayscale: "Convert to dots."
 - Set Pattern Density by moving the sliders to 10 & 20.
 - Hit the back arrow at the top.
5. Now you are ready to print. The image should consist of lots of tiny dots allowing light to pass through. If you want more light, adjust the Pattern Density up to 30.
6. Test print your design until you get the desired effect.

Community Luminaries: Graphic Tips

Graphics for luminaries can be tricky. The more detailed a graphic, the harder it is to use. For example, if the design closes, anything within the enclosed part will be cut away. This doesn't mean you can't use them—just be aware that the detail will be lost and more light will come through.


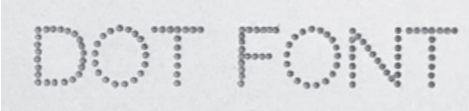


Choose or create graphics or images that are simple or don't fully connect.

Graphic	Glowforge print	Tip
		These graphics will print nicely because there is white space around each element of the graphic. Some graphics also allow you to manipulate the elements creating more white space if necessary!
		
		

Graphic	Glowforge print	Tip
		These graphics will lose definition when printed because the lines intersect or they lack connected white space. The outline will print correctly, but the detail inside will be cut away.
		
		

Community Luminaries: Font Tips

Fonts are also tricky because letters like B, b, Q, q, O, R, D, d, e, A, a, and g will lose their enclosed areas.

Font	Glowforge print	Tip
STENCIL font		Stencil fonts will leave the centers connected so a letter's definition will not be lost. Examples of these fonts in the Glowforge app are Stardos Stencil, Saira Stencil One, or Big Shoulders Stencil Text.
DOT FONT		Dot fonts allow light to pass through! Try using the dot fonts in the Glowforge app like Raleway Dots or Codystar.
SCRIPT font		Avoid handwriting and script fonts in the Glowforge app that resemble cursive writing, such as Pacifico or Homemade Apple. They are hard to read on the luminary.
Serif Pro font		Experiment with fonts and remember that some letters may become difficult to read in some fonts.