

## Halloween Lantern

By Julie Fei-Fan Balzer

This is an epic Halloween project tutorial for you. We are building our own cut files in CanvasWorkspace for Mac: a jack o'lantern, bats, spider webs, and Halloween text. Then we will use the roll feeder and the ScanNCut DX to cut out the four designs from a single roll of Brother vinyl. Throw some Christmas lights and/or LED candles inside the lantern and you've got Halloween magic that lasts year after year!

### **Supplies:**

- Mac Computer with CanvasWorkspace for Mac installed and internet access
- ScanNCut DX with AutoBlade
- Roll Feeder
- Roll of Black Vinyl
- Hook Tool
- Scraper Tool
- Brayer
- Transfer Grid
- Lantern
- Christmas Lights and/or LED Candles
- Ruler
- Optional: Craft Knife, Scissors, washi tape

### **Instructions:**

Measure your lantern so you know the dimensions you're working with.

#### Halloween Text:

1. In CanvasWorkspace for Mac, choose "Artboard" and then "Rolled Material."
2. Choose a square from the Basic Shapes and resize it (using the Edit Menu) to however large the dimensions of your lantern are.
3. Choose Text. Type out the first few letters of the word "Halloween" and then choose your font from the Properties Menu.
4. Repeat step #3 until you've finished spelling out the word "Halloween."
5. Resize the text (using the Edit Menu) so that all sections of it appear to be the same size.
6. You can also align the text using the Align Tools found under the Edit Menu.

#### Spider Web:

1. Duplicate the original rectangle. Use the Option key as you click and drag.
2. Once again, choose a square from the Basic Shapes. Resize it into a narrow rectangle.
3. Duplicate the narrow rectangle and rotate it 90°.
4. Duplicate two more narrow rectangles and rotate them each 45° to create the basic

- pieces of the spider web.
5. Align all of the narrow rectangles using the Align Tools found under the Edit Menu.
  6. Weld all of the narrow rectangles using the Weld Function found under the Edit Menu>Process Overlap.
  7. From the Circle menu under the Basic Shapes, choose a wedge shape and resize it to fit in your spider web. Rotate it so that the curve is towards the center of the spider web.
  8. Duplicate the wedge shape. Place the two wedge shapes so that they overlap and create a kind of pizza crust. Use the “Subtract” function found under the Edit Menu>Process Overlap.
  9. Adjust the angle of the remaining piece. Once you’re satisfied, duplicate it to fill each angle of the spider web.
  10. Duplicate one extra piece and put it to the side.
  11. Select the web frame and all the curved pieces and weld them together using the Weld Function found under the Edit Menu>Process Overlap.
  12. To add the next layer, take the extra piece and resize it to fit closer to the center. Then repeat steps 9-11.
  13. Repeat step 12 to create the third and final layer of web.
  14. Optional: You can use the node editing tools to delete out any extra points in your design. Double click to reveal the nodes and then delete (using the minus function) any extra nodes you see.
  15. Duplicate the spider web. Align the two webs with each other. Group them. Align them to the surrounding box.
- You can save your file, but it’s more important to Export your file and save it as an .fcm file to a USB thumb drive.
  - Create a New Document.
  - Choose a square from the Basic Shapes and resize it (using the Edit Menu) to however large the dimensions of your lantern are. Duplicate it so that you have two. Now, we can build our next designs!

### Jack O’Lantern:

1. From the Triangle menu under the Basic Shapes, choose a triangle that looks like an eye to you.
2. Double click on the triangle to reveal the node editing tools.
3. Choose the long side of the triangle (keep clicking the nodes until you see a blue line along the long side) and choose curve.
4. Drag the Control Points to create a curve that you find pleasing.
5. Repeat this process with the bottom line of the triangle.
6. Once you’re satisfied, duplicate the eye shape. Mirror Image or Flip It (using the Edit Menu) and then place it where you wish. Group the eyes together and resize them again if necessary.
7. From the Polygon menu under the Basic Shapes, choose a diamond shape. Duplicate and rotate it to create the basics of a scary mouth. Be sure to slightly overlap the diamonds.

16. Weld the diamond shapes together using the Weld Function found under the Edit Menu>Process Overlap.
17. Double click on the mouth to reveal the node editing tools.
18. Pull at the points to adjust the mouth as you wish. You can also add and subtract additional points. Keep going until you're satisfied.
19. For the nostrils:
  - a. From the Others menu under the Basic Shapes, choose a teardrop shape.
  - b. Resize and rotate the teardrop.
  - c. Duplicate it.
  - d. Mirror Image or Flip the duplicated teardrop (using the Edit Menu) and then place it where you wish.
  - e. Group the nostrils together and resize them again if necessary.
20. For the eyebrows:
  - a. From the Arrow menu under the Basic Shapes, choose an arrow shape.
  - b. Resize and rotate it as necessary.
  - c. You may wish to change the angle of the arrow.
  - d. Duplicate it.
  - e. Mirror Image or Flip the duplicated teardrop (using the Edit Menu) and then place it where you wish.
  - f. Group the eyebrows together and resize them again if necessary.
21. To create eyeballs:
  - a. Ungroup the eyes if necessary.
  - b. Choose a circle from the Circle menu under the Basic Shapes.
  - c. Resize it to fit in the eye, along the bottom edge, slightly overlapping with the edge.
  - d. Select one eye and eyeball and use the "Subtract" function found under the Edit Menu>Process Overlap.
  - e. Repeat with the other eye/eyeball.

#### Bats:

1. From the Canvas Project Menu, choose the "Halloween Photo Props." Then choose the mask and bat. Close the window.
2. Delete out the cat mask and drag the bat onto the second rectangle.
3. Duplicate the bat. Resize it and adjust the angle.
4. Fill the rectangle by repeating step #3 until you're satisfied.

You can save your file, but it's more important to Export your file and save it as an .fcm file to a USB thumb drive.

#### Assembling the Project:

1. Attach the roll feeder to your ScanNCut DX and load a new roll of black vinyl.
2. Plug the USB thumb drive with the saved files into the USB drive of your ScanNCut.
3. From the Home Screen arrow right to the "Roll Feeder" option>Start to Cut Rolled Material>USB Thumb Drive>Your File>OK>Please Select>Cut.
4. Load the vinyl into the machine.

5. Optional: I opted to do a test cut, but you don't have to.
6. Hit "Start."
7. Once the first design has finished cutting, choose "Continue to Cut">Back>OK>Start to Cut Rolled Material>USB Thumb Drive>Your Second File>OK>Please Select>Cut>Start.
8. Once it's finished cutting, hit Finish>OK.
9. Use the included trimmer to trim off any excess vinyl.
10. Hit OK>OK. The vinyl will come out of the back of the machine.
11. Optional: To make weeding a little bit easier, I cut apart the 4 designs.
12. Weed each design, removing the parts you don't want. Use a hook tool to make the process quick and easy.
13. Cut a piece of Transfer Grid as large as your biggest design.
14. Use the transfer grid to lift the design from its paper backing and bring it over to your lantern.
15. Apply the vinyl to the lantern. Rub the transfer grid with your thumb or a scraper tool to help the vinyl release from the transfer grid and adhere to the glass of the lantern.
16. Remove the transfer grid from the vinyl by pulling gently but firmly.
17. Smooth out any air bubbles with your scraper tool.
18. If the vinyl is too large, you can use a craft knife to cut off any excess vinyl.
19. Repeat steps #14-18 until all four sides of the lantern are covered.
20. Place LED candles and/or string lights inside the lantern and you are done!