

Proposed



TIP

**Creating
Sketched Logos**

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Need A Logo On a Part?

- As a contractor, we see new customers every month.
- One thing that impresses everyone is seeing their logo engraved into or embossed onto parts.
 - Regardless if the production parts would really have such treatment.
- I use a simple five step process...



Step 1: Print the Logo As Big As Possible

- Capture or ask for the official company logo and then print it out as big as possible.
- A nice clean, crisp 1” square logo can still look less than perfect when blown up twenty times so it fits on a B size print.
- I find printing it on grid paper works best for the next step.



Step 2: Measure the Logo

- “Digitize” the print by drawing points along the logo.
 - Usually I consider only straight lines between these points but curves are acceptable.
- Measure the X and Y coordinates of these points.
 - There is no need for special scaling since you will be sketching the logo in the next step.



Step 3: Sketch Logo

- Don't tell anyone at SolidWorks, but I find this step easier in AutoCAD Light 1998.
 - No constraints
 - Drawing free points, lines and arcs is a major plus of lesser CAD systems.
- Draw the logo using the coordinates from step 2.
 - Once you are done, you can scale the logo and save the sketch as a DXF as multiple scales if needed.



Step 4: Insert Logo into Sketch

- In SolidWorks, select a plane where you want the logo.
- Select “Insert” menu and then “DXF/DWG” menu selection.
- Navigate to the file you created in Step 3.
 - Use the “One Minute Tip: Changing Sketches Without Parameters” to manipulate the location and scale of this logo.

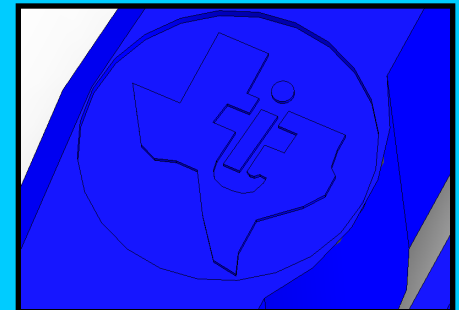
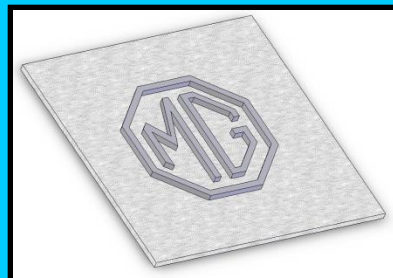
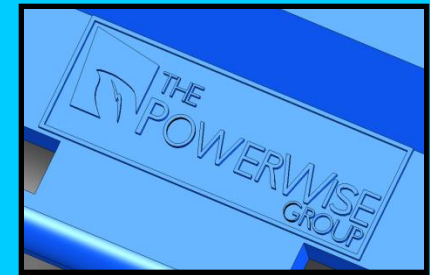
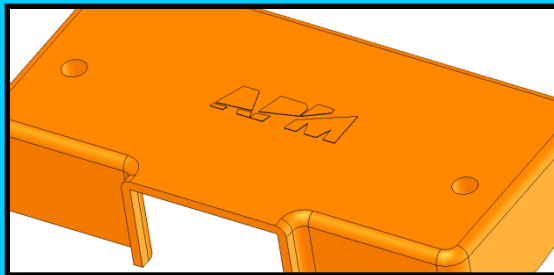
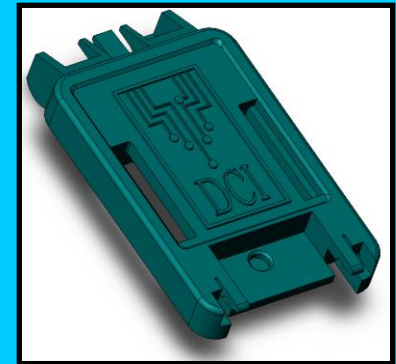
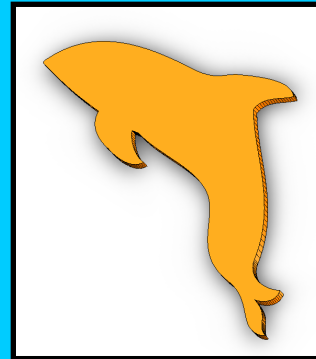
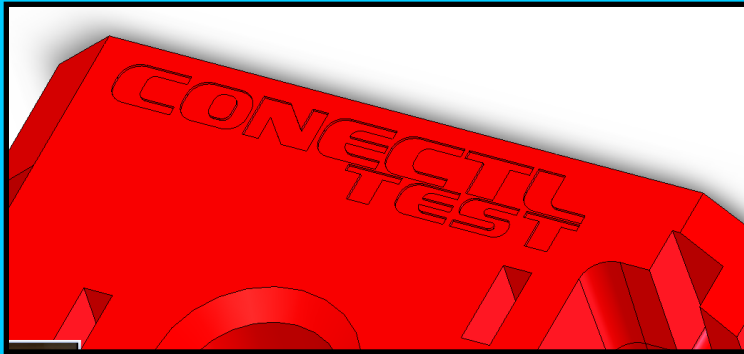


Step 5: Extrude or Cut Logo

- Try and extrude or cut the logo.
 - A sloppy sketch job will yield an open sketch. At times, you have to go back and repair your DXF file.
- After the engraving or embossing, it is nice to select this feature and change the color for a nice contrast.



Past Examples (AKA “namedropping”)



1 ^{min} TIP

Alternatively

- There are some good freeware and shareware computer programs that take crisp graphics and convert them to vector graphics such as DXF and DWG.
 - Search “Raster to Vector” on www.TuCows.com

- *I have had some limited success with these programs but I have always had my method work.*





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