American Button Machines®
Button Machine Sizes 1.25" - 3.50"
Quick Start Guide

1. Identify the crimp die and pick up die. The pick up die is to the left (shallow die), crimp die to the right (deeper die).

2. Insert a button shell into the pick up die (shallow die) with the sharp edges facing downward. Then follow with the graphic, picture side up, and then the clear plastic mylar.

3. Rotate the die clockwise until it comes to a rest under the upper die.

4. Pull the handle down as far as it will go, and raise it up again to its rest position.

5. Place a pin back into the crimp die (deeper die).

6. Rotate the die counter clockwise until it comes to a rest under the upper die.

7. Pull the handle down as far as it will go, and raise it up again to its rest position.

8. Rotate die clockwise and remove the button to start again.

Note: To get good orientation of the button, center the top of the graphic with the center column of the machine. When you are placing in the pin back aim the top center of the pin back slightly to the right of the center column of the machine. (This is due to the fact that the upper die shifts slightly when rotating dies)

Caring for your button maker: Less effort will be required in making buttons if you apply a very small amount of light oil to the shaft that carries the cam rollers so the rollers turn more freely. A couple drops of light oil on the ram guide and ram spring bolts as well as the handle pivot pin is also recommended. Take care not to get oil where it will soil buttons. During periods when your machine is not in use, especially in humid conditions, corrosion may form on the steel die parts causing them to make defective buttons. If this happens, they can be polished with fine steel wool to restore their original function. You can avoid this problem by applying a clear silicone spray lubricant to the dies before storage. Silicone spray can be obtained in most hardware or auto supply stores. The advantage of the silicone is that you are less likely to soil buttons when you next use the machine.

Please note: Use only 20lb - 24lb bond copier or printer paper in our button making machines. A "Photo" Machine or "Photo" Punch is required if you wish to use heavier paper. Trying to cut graphics out with scissors will drive you crazy! Our affordable circle cutters allow you to cut precise circles quickly and easily. See them online at www.AmericanButtonMachines.com.