

BettesMakes Weekly Newsletter February 15



This weeks FREEBIE is centered around St. Patrick's Day. I know it is a month off but you can use these downloadables to make some great iron-on projects! See the bottom of this newsletter for details.

News From Cricut

These days, there are always plenty of new projects in the news. This week Cricut announced their new machine called the Cricut Joy. I have not purchased one yet, and I have to wait until March 1 when they release the product to the public (I am not an affiliate of Cricut, so do not get early access to any of their products). You can check out their website for more details (<https://Cricut.com>). It looks like it will be a fun new machine to use, so small, and the ability to do long projects such as 20 foot banners. I understand that the retail price will be \$179 USD before any Cricut Access or Affiliate code discounts.

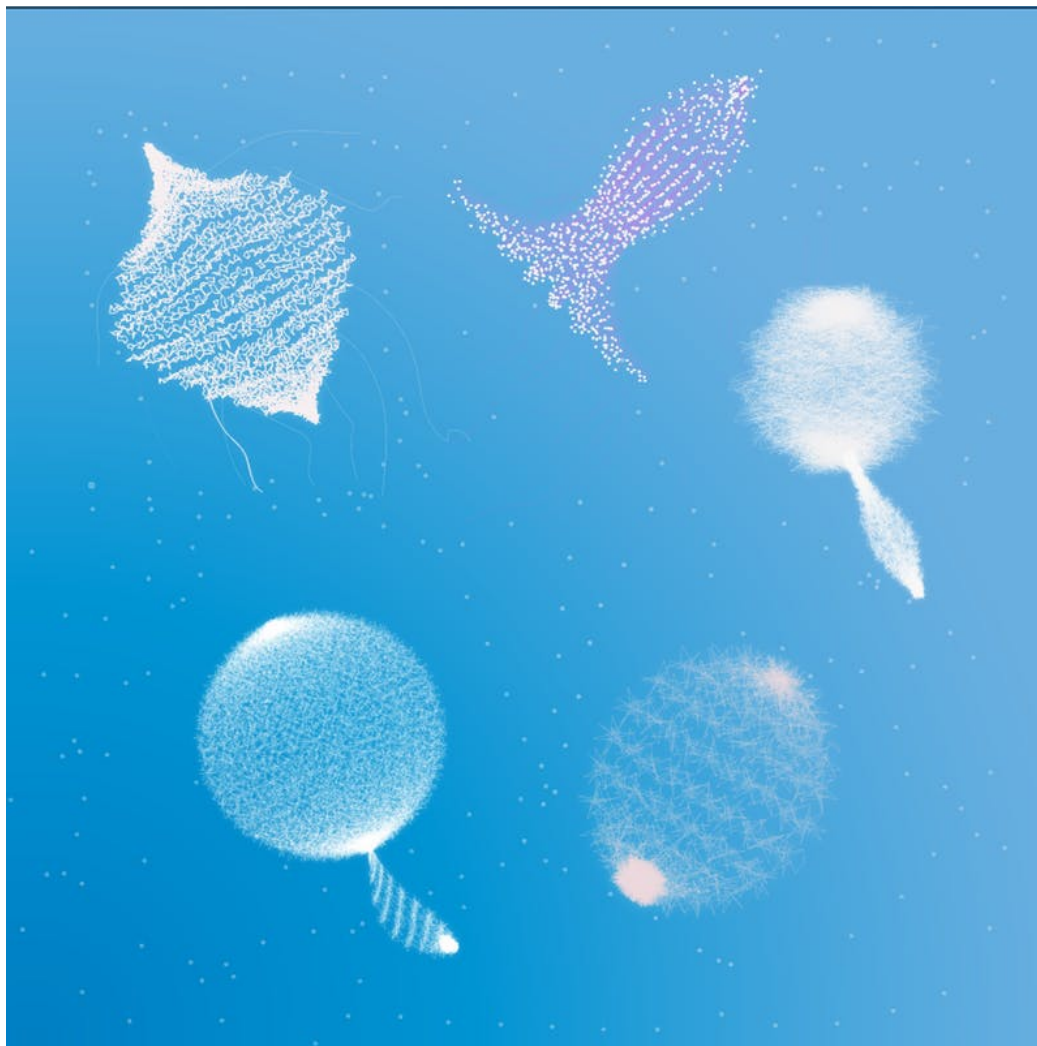
New Skill for Week 7 of the New Year!

Can you believe it? We are already into week 7 of the year. Valentine's Day was yesterday and now we have our sites set on St. Patrick's Day. There are tones of other days in between to get ready for a truly fun day of Green and Shamrocks!. The new skill for this week is all about Radiolarians!

You may be wondering what the heck a radiolarian is as I was when I first heard the term. A radiolarian is a one-celled silica-secreting animals that live in our oceans. These little creatures have amazing elaborate skeletal structures with hundreds of different sizes and shapes. So why are these creatures so fascinating and applicable to the arts and crafts world? I can see using this hand-made shapes in a variety of ways - perhaps as a Print and cut design for a nautical theme project.

To start, the ability to create such gorgeous see-through shapes and use them in my makes and surface designs is astounding. I love making things that are unusual and these certainly fit the

bill. I learned all about radiolarians from my favorite teacher, Helen Bradley, at [Skillshare](#) - if you belong, or even if you do not belong - check out her classes.



This Week's Blog Article - How to Make an Easy Macrame Feather

This is a blog post that I made almost 9 months ago. I am reviving it as it seems that Macrame is starting to take hold again in the DIY Home Decor area. I loved making this feather as it was so easy, just one knot to learn and then some patience while tying all the pieces together. I must admit that I have several hanging on my walls as home decor. You do not need to worry about purchasing extra supplies for this project, just use any yarn or string you have around the house. Color is not an issue either - so go and have some fun with this one.





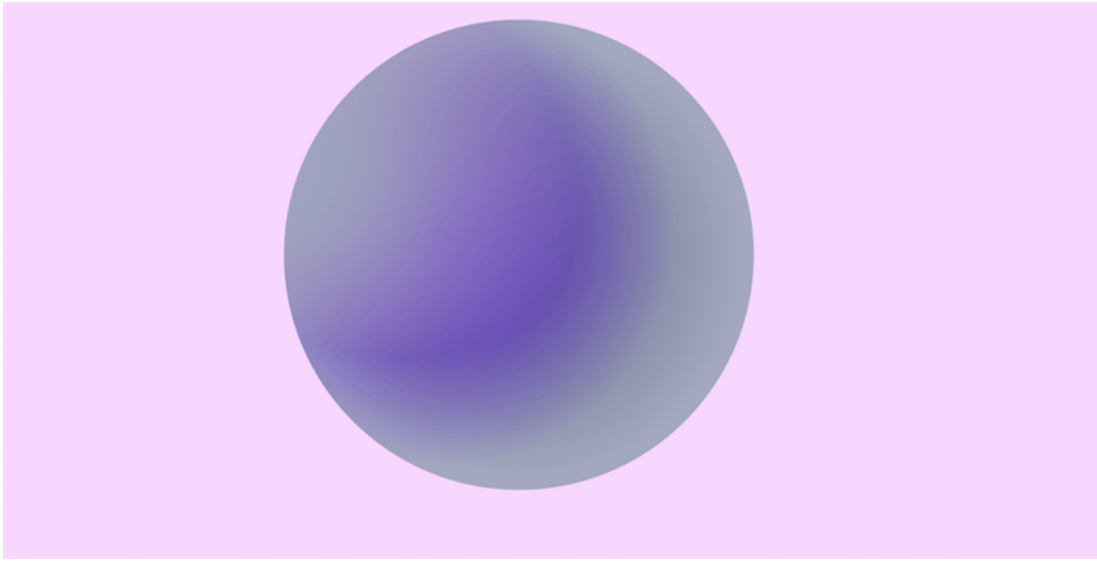
BTW - if you missed any of these newsletters, the archives are in the [resource library](#) - at the end of the list of files.

My Color Palette For This Week

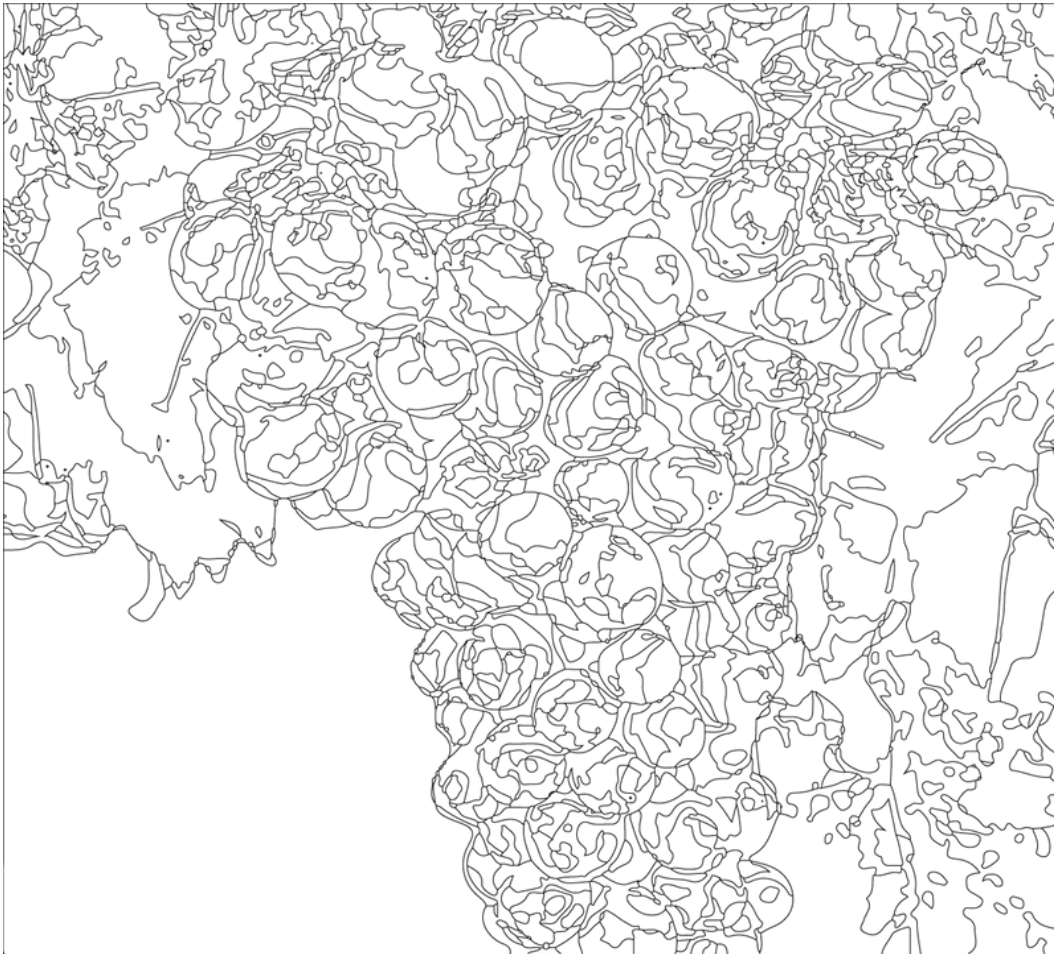
Using color palettes to create gradient effects has been on my mind this week. I used one of my own photos for this week's palette and used it in Illustrator to make my own gradient effect with a random shape. I love using color theory for using the color palettes as you get a better understanding of what colors work well together.



This is a gradient I created using the color palette of The Grapes of Naramata - just an example of what you can do with color Palettes.



Are you ready to color your grapes with this coloring page made from the same color palette? Try another palette and see how you do. The coloring page is part of this week's downloads in the [resource library](#).



Video of the Week - A Little Home Decor with a Macrame Feather

Macrame has been around for a long time and it is now coming back as an incredible way for DIY Home Decor. I put together this 12 minute video on how you can make your own macrame feather using only 2 knots! Actually, it is only one knot

can make your own macrame feather using only 2 knots! Actually, it is only one knot that is tied forwards and backwards! So easy to make - you can make them fat, like mine, or you can trim them down to a thin size. So easy to do and you can use yarn rather than macrame rope.



Craftstash has a new Monday program - some giveaways and some great deals.

I am always amazed at the number of free items I have been getting because I buy many of my supplies through Craftstash. Checkout this weekend's specials by clicking on the banner below.



Did you know you can get special fonts for St. Patrick's Day?

Are you wondering about how many fonts are too many fonts? To me it is like having patterned sheets of paper - you can never have too many. Each project cries for it's own special touch. I like a lot of free fonts, just as you do, but, I also like owning a few for those special makes. Check out [Fontbundles](https://fontbundles.net) and get in on their sales and specials - I use these for my projects!



If you don't already have enough images from my resource library - you might want to take a look at some additional free resources! I never turn down a free file! You never know when you will want to use it!



Take Another Peek Inside My Resource Library

For all the FREE files that have been posted to BettesMakes.com blog, just go to my [resource library](#) and download anything you wish. The password is:love

Spend some time browsing around for past downloads and be sure to download your weekly files!

Cricut Craft & More



Our Growing Facebook Group - Let's Ask Questions

Take a look at our group <http://Facebook.com/groups/BettesMakes>! and join in the discussion! Are you a member of the group? Time to join us - more to come for this group in the new year. My blog posts and the links to them are always posted in the group in order for you to have easy access. It is a great place to also add your comments and join in the discussions. The group is also the perfect spot for you to post your makes and ask for opinions.

As a reminder, you can always email me with ideas to bette@bettesmakes.com

YouTube - YAHOO We Made 100 Subscribers!

Wow, i can hardly believe it! We finally made the grade! I have now been able to name my YouTube Channel...What a relief...now to grow the channel even further. At the writing of this newsletter we had 103 subscribers - thank you everyone that is

part of my channel.

Did you know that you can not only subscribe, you can also click on the bell beside the subscribe button in order to be notified about videos when they are posted.

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Do you know anyone who loves to craft and would benefit from this newsletter and the resource library? Please pass this newsletter on and let us know who they are - I want to reward those who help us build our mailing list. Lots of Free gifts!

Enjoy Super Bowl Weekend...

Happy Crafting!

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bette".



Like my Facebook Page: <http://Facebook.com/BettesMakes>

Join my Facebook Group: <http://Facebook.com/groups/BettesMakes>

Follow me on Instagram: <https://instagram.com/bettesmakes>

Don't forget to subscribe to my new channel on [YouTube](#) - new videos are always on the way.

NEW Pinterest Profile: <https://www.pinterest.ca/BetteMakerCreations>

In case you forgot, the password for the resource library is **love**

Just to let you know, there may be affiliate links in this newsletter. You will not pay a penny more for any product and I may make a few cents in the process. If you want to read more, read my [Disclaimer Policy](#).

BTW - is there anything you would like me to make? Just email me at Bette@bettesmakes.com

This Week's Freebie!

Even though St. Patrick's Day is a month away, I made these designs so you could get a head start with all your makes. I have added this design into the [resource library](#) - I do hope you enjoy this one.

Look For the ZIP file St Patrick's Day SVG File



Remember the password to the [library](#) is **love**

