

SUBTRACTION + OFFSET

cheat sheet

Problems with Layering HTV:

- Can create bulk that can be uncomfortable and unattractive
- Cannot layer on top of some types of HTV like glitter or holographic

Subtraction Method:

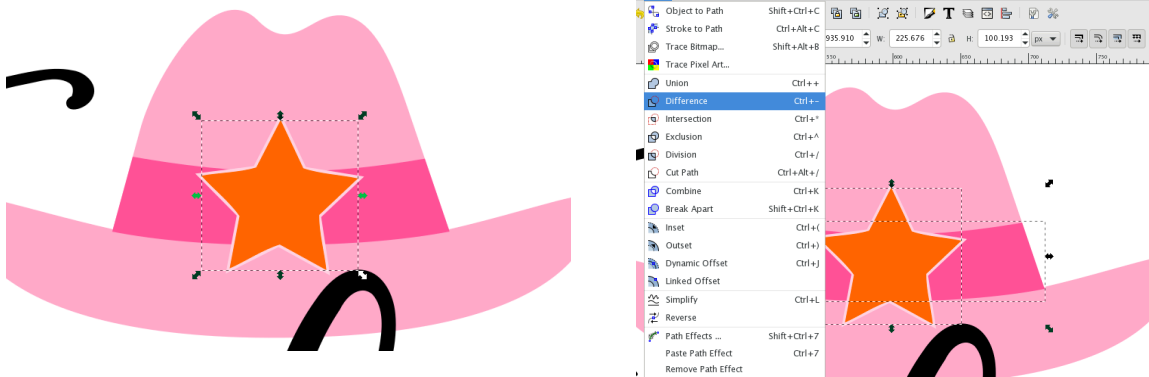
- Solves the problem of added thickness by removing overlapping portions.
- However, the new problem is that imperfect layer alignment and shrinkage due to heat can commonly cause small white gaps between layers.

Therefore, the best solution is the Subtraction + Offset Method:

- Eliminates bulk of layering
- Creates small buffer between layers to prevent those common gaps
- Added bonus: creates guidelines of where to line up your layers

How to Perform the Subtraction + Offset Method in Inkscape:

1. Ensure entire design is grouped and dimensions are locked, then resize to at least 8 inches wide.
2. Go to Edit > Preferences > Behavior > Steps and ensure inset/offset set to 0.015 inches or 1.44 px.



3. Ungroup and identify areas within the design with multiple overlapping layers.
4. Duplicate the overlapping layer (ctrl + D) and change to another color to identify.
5. Go to Path > Inset or ctrl + (to create the inset on the duplicated copy.
6. Hold shift and select the inset copy and the overlapping layer then go to Path > Difference.

7. Repeat steps 4-6 on each area/layer that overlaps.
8. (Optional) You can verify you did it correctly by selecting the entire design and setting the opacity to about 40% and see if there are any overlapping areas. Just remember to return the opacity to 100% when done.

