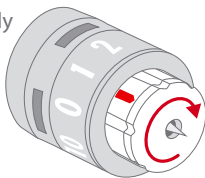


If you are experiencing issues with cutting then you can test your blade by following the steps below:

1. Check that the end cap is screwed securely into place (see illustration opposite)*
2. Take a sheet of normal copier paper (usually 80gsm), fold it in half and half again
3. Remove the blade from your Silhouette cutter and set the blade to setting 1 on the dial
4. Hold the blade in your hand like a pen but in a vertical position, keeping the end cap flat on the paper
5. Press firmly down on the media and 'draw' a line
6. Observe how the blade has cut:
 - a. If the blade is not damaged or worn then it will cut through two layers of paper – this suggests that **the issue experienced is not related to the blade**
 - b. If the blade is worn then it will cut through the top layer only – this suggests that **it is time to replace the blade**
 - c. If the blade has not cut through any layers of paper – this suggests that **the blade tip has broken** as a result of using it on too high a setting



If you are using Silhouette media then the recommended cut settings will usually be on the instructions and/or within the Silhouette software. It is possible to find the ideal cut settings for any media such as paper or card yourself by following the steps below:

1. Take a sheet or piece of the media to be cut and fold it in half
2. Remove the blade from your Silhouette cutter and set the blade to setting 1 on the dial
3. Hold the blade in your hand like a pen but in a vertical position, keeping the end cap flat on the paper
4. Press firmly down on the media and 'draw' a line
5. Observe how the blade has cut:
 - a. If the blade cuts through the top layer only - this suggests that **you have found the correct blade setting**
 - b. If the top layer is not adequately cut - **increase the blade setting by 1 and repeat steps 3-5 until you find the correct blade setting**
6. Make a note of the correct blade setting for future reference

You can use 'Test Cut' function to work out the ideal **thickness** setting. We recommend using **speed** setting 8 as a starting point. Once you have found the ideal cut settings, you can create a new preset and save them within the Silhouette software.