

PCB ART Notes

Links

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wu3JGQQvobg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EI2CLwQi6N0>

Notes:

- Gerbers can't do donuts slice it all up
- Don't trust the silk screen it will not be accurate on printing better to use solder mask or copper don't know where pcb manufacturer will land it so make it able to drift around
- specify layers in illustrator (ie outline copper solder mask silk)
- Make solder mask layer slightly opaque so you can see copper underneath
- Add lots anchor points
- Simplify to make all straight lines 2 degree should work straight lines box checked
- If super complex break it into a grid (15m15s) select empty ones and delete

Steps:

Make file all straight lines

- add anchor points can't do it too much
- simplify 2 degree threshold or 1 for more curves

Break things into smaller pieces

- rectangular grid tool (in line segment tool)
- 25 by 25 div should work
- dont do this for top copper and board outline (doesn't work for that)
- divide paths with grid lines
- select empty square
- select> same > fill and stroke
- use X-ray mode (ctrl y) to make sure it looks good
- save it

Separate those layers

- one by one delete from master file (saved in last step) to get the different layers
- save them as .ai files illustrator 10 works best with Inkscape
- default import into Inkscape
- assign fill
- save as .svg***

Get the EAGLE stuff

- Run SVG to Eagle script
- import into text editor
- save as .scr file

Run Dimensions .scr

- change from filled poly in eagle to unfilled right click outline convert to wires replace

Tips:

- Add art to design last; polygons make it hard to work with sometimes