

Using the Extruder Inkscape Extension for Inkscape 1.1 by Observing

Check your preferences: See below** for important settings you should make before you design your document.

Prepare your path

The path MUST be composed of straight segments. Every segment will generate a tab on the side of the extrusion, so eliminate unnecessary tabs -- specifically any extra nodes that lie on a straight segment. Your object must be a path, not a "Shape".

Some Inkscape actions -- for instance, inset or outset -- will generate paths with curves. **To insure that your path is composed of only straight segments, do the following steps:**

1. Select your object.
2. Click on the node tool (F2)
3. Select all the nodes (ctl A)
4. Click on the node icon "convert to straight line segments"

If your path is inside a group, **ungroup** it.

Set any styles (stroke width, color, etc) before applying extrude. It will maintain the same styles. If you have no stroke width or color, it will use defaults that you might not prefer.

After your path is prepared, simply click **Extensions->Papercraft->Extruder...**

Set the parameters to your preference. Be sure you make note of the dimensional units being used. They should match your document. The "Maximum length of the extrusions" setting is to allow cutting to fit on your paper/cardstock size. For instance, if you are using letter-size paper to cut, you might want to limit this size to maybe 10 inches.

Click Apply

If all goes well, you will generate the following:

A copy of the original shape path with a 1 and 2 indicating the start point and direction of the side pieces. These are on a separate layer, so will not move with the object path unless you select both before moving. Remove or hide the numbers before cutting. It will also generate the side pieces, and corresponding decorative wrap pieces.

If you are using a patterned or textured paper, mirror one of the copies of the main shape (the path you used to extrude)

Duplicate these two pieces (one mirrored) to use for decorative/wrap. You may want to smooth out/and or outset these two pieces for a more finished look.

Preferences Setup

There are a couple of settings that can affect this extension. Please insure that the following are set:

Edit->Preferences->Behavior->Transforms **Store transformation** should be set to "**Optimized**"

Edit->Preferences->Input/Output->SVG output:

Under Path Data: **Path string format** should be **Absolute**