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## how to use my patterns

PDF files can have both vector and raster elements. The color page of the pdf files i send have vector lines and raster colors.... It is expensive to print color, so I never do it. The black and white part of the file is vector... and very inexpensive to print. Whether the pdf file is a vector file depends upon which program the pattern is prepared in. For example if i made a pixel drawing in photoshop or photopaint or any of those pixel using programs, then the output would be raster and the pdf would be raster (however the new versions of those programs can also produce some "line" output.)

If i create my pattern in a program that uses plots and lines (Adobe illustrator, CAD, CorelDRAW - i use corelDRAW) and one exports to a pdf file then the pdf is vector. It is also possible in Illustrator and CAD and CorelDRAW to conver the line patterns to bitmap (raster) BEFORE one exports it, and then it is no longer vector and is just like any other pixel file. I always (unless by accident) save as vector.

It is almost always possible to see whether the file is vector, raster or a combination of both (usually likely) in Adobe Reader by just clicking on the mag button over and over so the file is hugely enlarged.... you will see the pixels get big, and the lines will stay crisp.

I have printed things at enlargements of 40 x 46 for as little as 8 dollars. I have also asked Staples to print a color file in greyscale, and it is not as expensive as color. They use a version of Adobe (a professional version) which is very flexible and can crop and resize and do all kinds of great things. (I have never asked, but likely they can change the thickness of lines in vector files (which they might not do for free in a raster file.

Two things determine the cost for black and white enlargements, and the first is square footage and the second is orientation.

Most quickprint stores have a printer which has a maximum dimension of 36 inches. If the pattern is longer than 36, these are roller papers, and can be any length. If the pattern is wider than 36 inches, then they split the print job, on one has to tile the two pieces together.

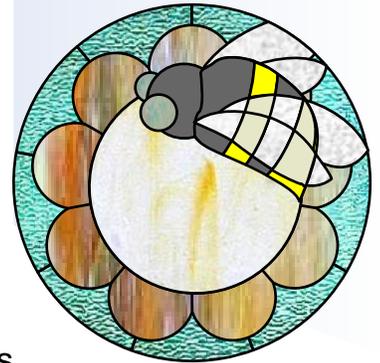
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# how to use my patterns

The newer versions of Adobe Reader also come with the option to "tile" the print job... which means that you can print a large pattern on your home computer by taping together the letter size output.... which Adobe performs for you.

Some of the programs specifically for stained glass, like Glass Eye and Rapid Resizer, are available. Rapid Resizer seems to convert all images to raster files then enlarge them. I have not had a need for this type of program since my pdf files can be sized without being converted to bitmaps.

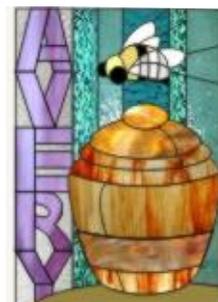
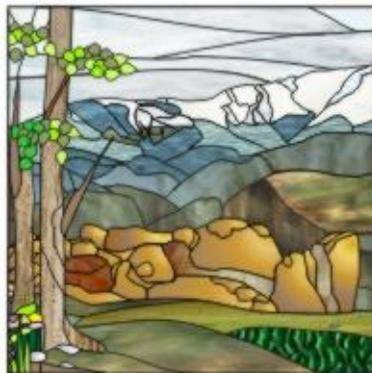
Glass eye is a vector program for drawing and uses plots for lines, not pixels. I downloaded a trial version of this program some years ago and did not feel that it added me any benefit over and above what CorelDRAW provided, and was a dedicated program while CorelDRAW was a much more expansive and had many many other functions that I used daily in other work. I was in communication with the designer of that program and I was anxious to see whether his program would import my designs as usable patterns ready to work on in Glass Eye. There turned out to be some basic differences in the intersections between the shapes between mine and his, my patterns were closed objects and his mostly intersecting unclosed lines, and i would have worked it out, but he didn't have time. It is still possible for me to export from CorelDRAW

I chose what i thought was the simplest way to distribute patterns that would make them independently most convenient and easily usable by everyone. 1) most patterns unless they are very complicated, are printable on letter paper. and there are two pages, one in color (small size that can be printed on a home computer so not too costly (this is vector raster combined), and a black and white vector file that can be enlarged as a single page by any quick print store and printed at any size with lines staying crisp and thin. 2) letter size black and white so that one can print and reprint the small pattern to work out a color scheme with markers, or colored pencils several times. 3) have the files in a format which allows for easy storage on hard drives, or external storage devices for later use. 4) keep delivery electronic so there is no use of the postage or delivery system to cut costs and be kind to mother earth. 5) and probably one of the most important reasons, vector files can be edited quite easily, and if someone wants a dimension changed, or a set of numbers for a transom altered, or a child's initials or some customization made, then I can start with a basic pattern and move ahead using elements from other patterns that have been created over the last 8 years. This also i learned from work.

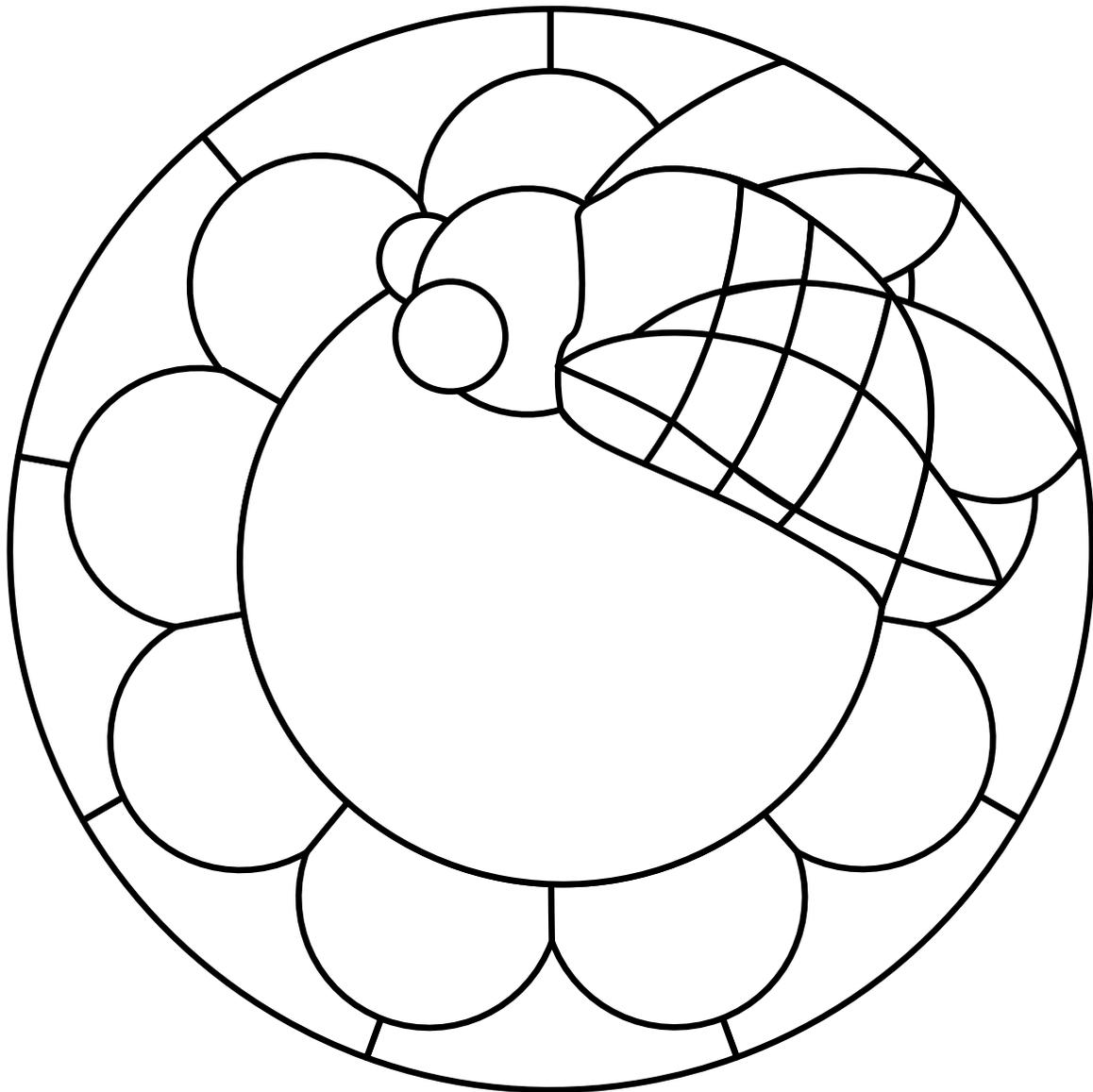
In thinking about your question....I decided to use this text for the next PDQpatterns newsletter...(without your name of course to protect your privacy), because if one person has a question, you can be quite certain that many have the same question, and I should be sure that the users of my product understand the why and wherefore of how I have set it up. Thanks for that, since I really do love making patterns and am always happy when someone can use them.

Let me know if this helps, m

new stained glass patterns  
posted in July from [PDO](#) and  
[eStainedGlassPatterns.com](#)



# free pattern for August



## COUPON



Click on the google + link on the above site and I will send you a free cross stitch or peyote stitch or stained glass pattern. JUST SEND THE name of the pattern in an email to me (or 'like' on your facebook or twitter)