Get to know your button machine:

Position your button maker as shown in the photo to the left. Take a moment to identify the important parts on your machine. Notice that the Die Table rotates back and forth. When the die table is perpendicular to the base plate, the Crimp Die is on the right side, the Pickup Die is on the left side. When the Die Table is aligned with the Base Plate, you can pull the handle down.

Familiarize yourself with the button supplies:

The Shell is the curved round piece that makes the general shape of the button. The Pinned Back comes with a clasp pin pre-inserted into the back. The Mylar is the thin plastic cover that protects your graphic and gives the finished product a shiny and professional finish.

Get your graphics ready:

Before you can make a button you'll need to design, print and cut out your button graphics. If you need help designing buttons, please visit www.ButtonMakers.net for helpful downloads, videos, software, and tips.

Make a button:

1. Position the Die Table so that the Pickup Die is facing you.
2. Insert the Shell into the Pickup Die smooth side up.
3. Insert your graphic on top of the Shell, right side up. Make sure any text is in a straight, readable position.
4. Insert the Mylar on top of the Graphic.
5. Rotate the Die Table around so that the Pickup Die is under the Upper Die and the empty Crimp Die is closest to you.
6. Insert the Pinned Back into the Crimp Die pin side down, positioned as shown in Figure C.
7. Pull the handle all the way down, toward you.
8. Lift the handle back up until it is in its upright resting position.
9. Rotate the Die Table around so that the Crimp Die is under the Upper Die.
10. Pull the handle all the way down toward you again.
11. Lift the handle all the way back up.
12. Rotate the Die Table around to reveal your finished button.