

PIY RIBBONS

STARTKIT MANUAL



www.piyribbons.com





Welcome to your **PIY RIBBONS** Startkit! This step by step guide will help you to get the most out of your **PIY RIBBONS** Startkit.

For further information, we invite you to watch the video tutorials on our YouTube channel and our website www.piyribbons.com.

Summary

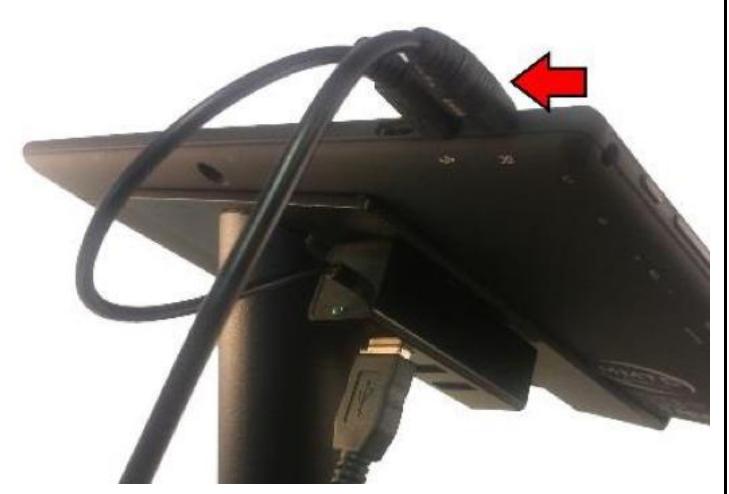
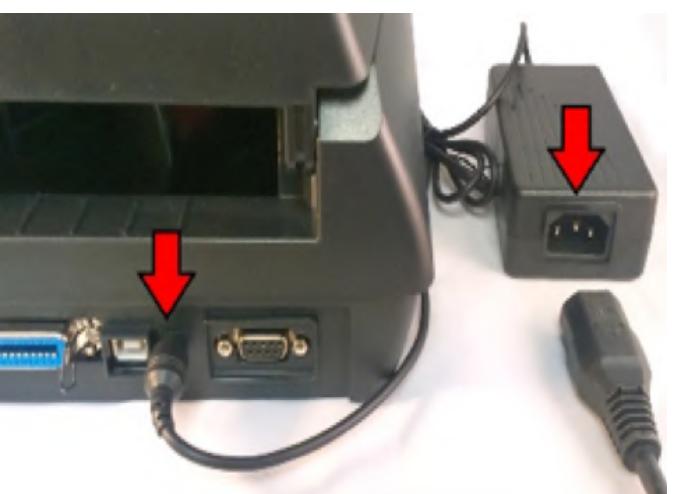
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What's in the PIY RIBBONS Startkit



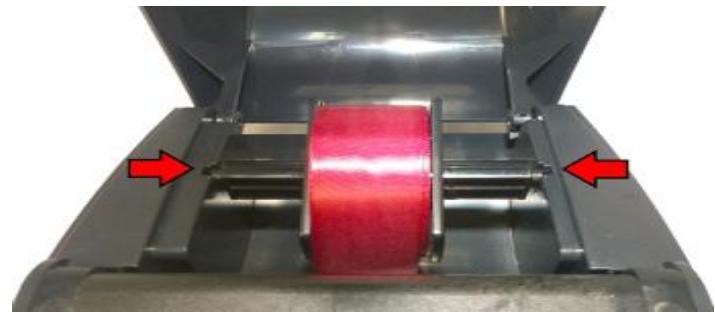
- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----|---|
| 1 | USB hub | 7 | Printer power supply |
| 2 | Tablet holder | 8 | Printer's main cables |
| 3 | PIY RIBBONS Tablet | 9 | Satin spindle (holder) and guides |
| 4 | USB Cable | 10 | Coloured Satin Ribbon (random colour) |
| 5 | PIY RIBBONS Printer | 11 | Ink (Thermal transfer foil) and cardboard Spool (random colour) |
| 6 | Tablet power supply | 12 | Ink spindles (holders) |

Connecting the Printer to the Tablet

	
Connect the USB hub to the adhesive pad on the underside of the tablet stand.	Fix the tablet to the adhesive pad on the top of the tablet stand and connect the hub to the tablet.
	
Connect the USB cable to the USB hub and connect the other end of the cable to the USB port on the back of printer.	Plug the tablet power supply into the tablet and connect to the mains supply. Turn on the mains supply to start charging the tablet battery.
	Plug the printer power supply into the back of the printer and plug the mains cable in to the mains supply. You can now switch on the table using the Power button on the top left side. Then, switch on the printer using the ON/OFF button located on the back of the machine.

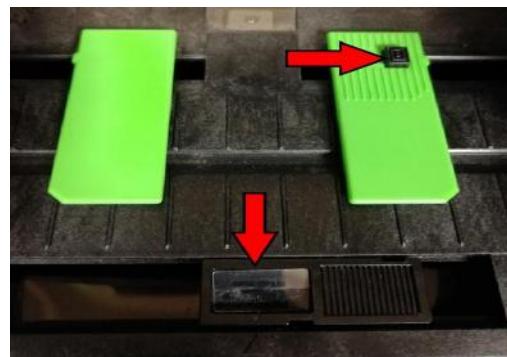
1. Setting up the Satin and Ink

1.a Setting up the Satin



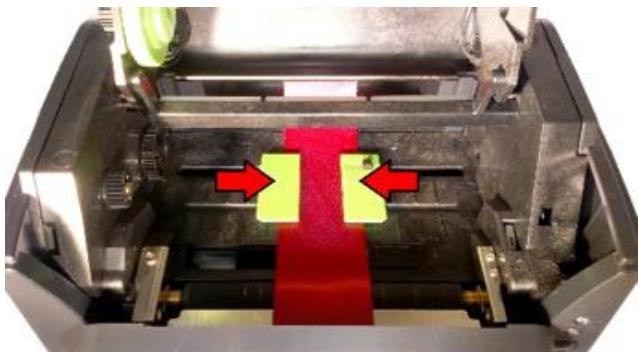
Select the satin ribbon, spindle and guides.
Unwrap the satin ribbon and fit onto the spindle.
Place a guide either side of the ribbon to stop it slipping off the spool inside the printer.

Open the lid of printer and fit the spindle into the slots towards the back of the printer as shown. Make sure the satin ribbon feeds / unwinds from the top towards the front of the printer, and is secured in the middle of the spindle.

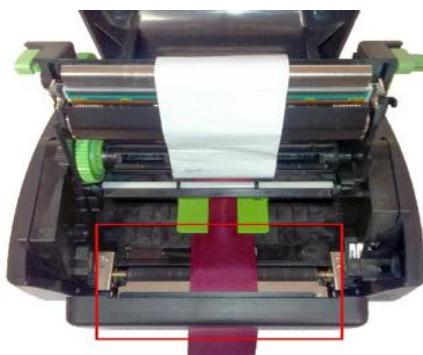


Using the green button, marked PUSH, release the printing mechanism and ensure it is at maximum elevation.

Once the printing mechanism has been raised, locate the green ribbon guides. Using the small black button, separate the guides. Ensure the two arrows are aligned.

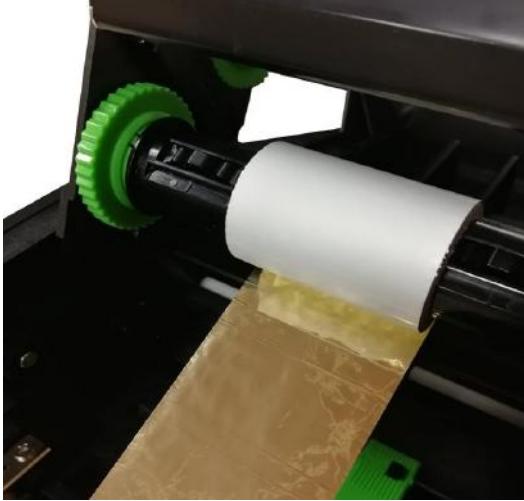
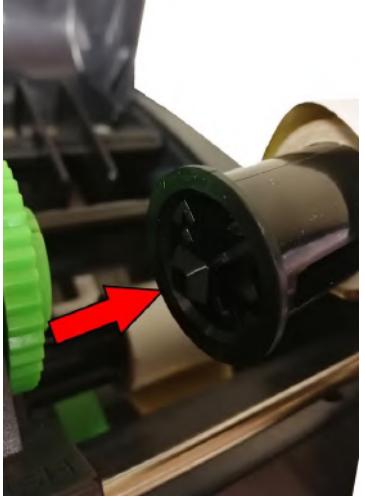
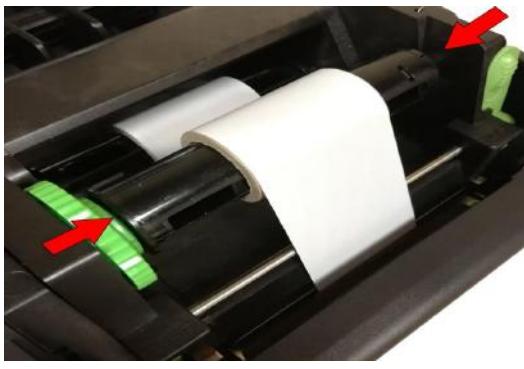


Pass the satin ribbon under the printing mechanism and using the same black button close the guides to secure the ribbon. Ensure the satin ribbon is not caught or wrinkled between the guides.



Feed the satin ribbon between the black plastic casing and the metal cutter plate. The satin ribbon must come out the front of the printer.

1.b Installing the Ink

	
Locate the thermal foil and the foil spindles.	Fit the spindles into the thermal foil, making sure the spindles are in the direction shown above.
	
Open the printer (green button "PUSH" located on the right), place the ink roller in the lowest position.	Insert the left (mobile) part first.
	
Place the spindle (cardboard) at the highest position, inserting the left first.	Close the printer by pressing the black "PUSH" buttons on each side. You must hear a "click".

2. Configuration

2.a Set language



To change the language, click on the flag in the top right corner on the homepage. In the drop-down menu, choose the desired language.

To change keyboard, go to the Setting in Android.

2.b Setting up the Printer



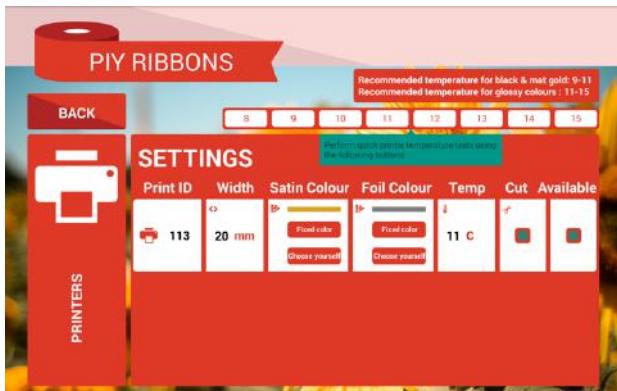
In order to set up the printer, you must have access to the extended menu. To do so:

1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located in the top right of the tablet.
2. A password is required. Type the letter "e" three times (eee) and confirm.

You are now in the extended menu.



Click the button "PRINTERS" shown by a printer icon.



The "PRINTER" menu shows all connected printers (up to four). The first parameter is the width of the ribbon. Click on it to modify accordingly. Changing the temperature results in better quality of the product depending on the media or the ink.

- Choose a temperature around 11-13 degrees for bright inks.
- Choose a temperature between 9-11 degrees for black and golden matte inks.

The white ruler at the top of the screen allows you to perform a temperature test at the set temperature.

Low temperatures produce an impression that is not clear and is unreadable. High temperatures will cause ink traps or cause ink to stick to the media.

The "Cut box" allows you to enable or disable the cut function of the printer.

The "available box" allows you to change the printer availability on the basic menu.

Press "return" to go back to the extended menu, and then press "back" to return to the main menu.

2.c General Set up



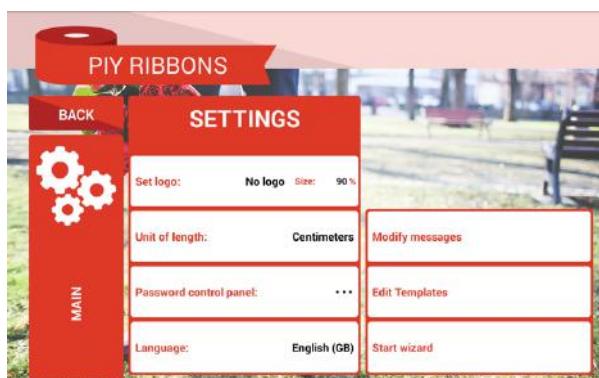
In order to enter the general parameters, you must have access to the extended menu.

1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.
2. A password is required. Type the letter "e" three times (eee) and confirm.

You are now in the extended menu.



Click the gearing button named "MAIN".



Set logo: Choose a logo that will automatically print at the beginning and end of the ribbon from the basic menu.

Unit of length: Choose the unit of measurement used in the interface.

Modify Messages: This allows you to edit pre-recorded messages in the basic interface (see below).

Language: Choice of the language for the interface.

Edit Templates: This allows you to create and modify your Templates (2.d)



To change the folders in which messages can be found, click on the pencil on the left side. You can only create up to 6 folders. To delete a folder, select the folder and click on the trash.

To edit the messages, select the desired folder then click new message. A new line will appear and the message can be edited.

2.d Create and Edit Templates



In order to create a new template, you must go to “MAIN”. Then choose “Edit Templates”.



On the left, you can see all template you have created, you can format up to 9 templates.

Name: this is the name of the template; this name will be displayed when using the “START” button.

Icon: this icon will be displayed to illustrate the template when using the “START” button.

Section 1: This is what you want to appear on the left side of the printed ribbon.

You can select “White space”; this will create a space with nothing printed on the ribbon. Or you can select “Text”, it will create a text area where you’ll be able to type and customise your ribbon.

On the right, you can set the length of the section 1.

Section 2: This is what you want to appear in the middle of the printed ribbon.

You can select “White space”; this will create a space with nothing printed on the ribbon. Or you can select “Text”, it will create a text area where you’ll be able to type and customise your ribbon.

On the right, you can set the length of the section 2.

Section 3: This is what you want to appear on the right side of the printed ribbon. You can select “White space”; this will create a space with nothing printed on the ribbon. Or you can select “Text”, it will create a text area where you’ll be able to type and customise your ribbon. On the right, you can set the length of the section 3.

Logo Layout: this allow you to print your logo on ribbons. You can choose to print your logo on the left side only, the right side only, or on both sides.

Font: Choose the font you want to use for this template.

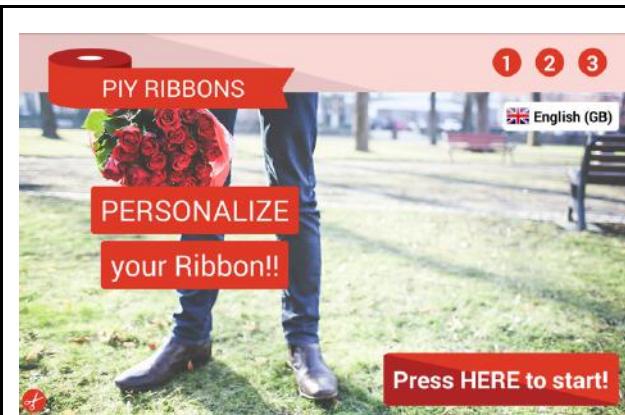
Size: Choose the size of the characters you want.

Border: You are able to add borders on ribbons. You can select one of the borders or not using one by pushing “Clear”.

Printers: choose the satin width on which you want to print ribbons.

2.e Styling

The application allows "styling" changes including colours and wallpapers.



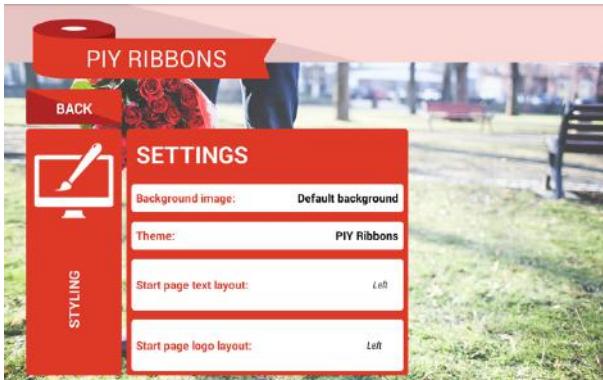
In order to set the styling, you must have access to the extended menu.

1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.
2. A password is required. Type the letter “e” three times (eee) and confirm.

You are now in the extended menu.



Click on the "STYLING" button shown by a screen icon.



Choose a background image for the basic menu, as well as a colour theme of the application.

Press “return” to go back to the extended menu, and then press “back” again to land back on the main menu.

2.f Information



In order to access the "Information" menu, you must have access to the extended menu.

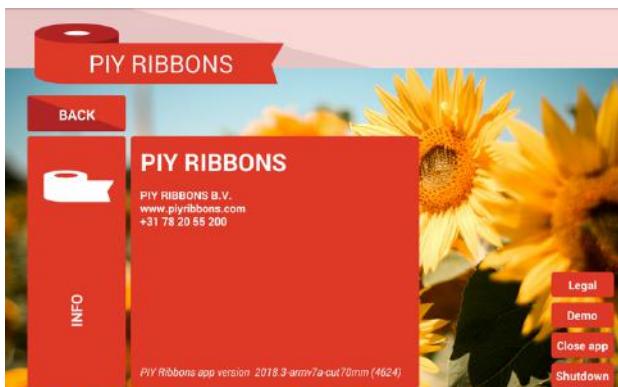
1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.

2. A password is required. Type the letter "e" three times (eee) and confirm.

You are now in the extended menu



Click on the "INFORMATION" button shown by a ribbon icon.



"Legal Info": gives you information about copyrights.

"Demo": simulates the presence of a connected printer.

"Close application": allows you to quit the application and enter the settings of the tablet. A password is required. Type "eee". You can connect your tablet to the Wi-Fi network which will allow you to update via internet.

"Switch off": turn off the tablet.

3. Print out

3.a From the Start Menu

We have seen previously how to configure the various parameters via the "MAIN" menu (see 2c). All of these settings are used to print a ribbon using the "START" button. This allows you to print a ribbon quickly. This is the basic mode of using our solution. Online videos on our YouTube channel provide a few examples.

The figure consists of three vertically stacked screenshots of a software application titled "PIY RIBBONS".

- Screenshot 1:** Shows a person's legs and feet standing on grass. A red banner at the top left says "PIY RIBBONS" and "PERSONALIZE your Ribbon!!". A red button at the bottom right says "Press HERE to start!". At the top right, there are three numbered circles (1, 2, 3) and a language selection "English (GB)".
- Screenshot 2:** Shows the same scene. A red box on the left labeled "STEP 1 Select a template" contains four options: "BACK", "Classic", "Template1", and "Template2". Another red box on the left labeled "STEP 1 Select a template" contains "Template3". Three circular icons are at the top right.
- Screenshot 3:** Shows the same scene. A red box on the left labeled "STEP 2 Select color and width" has a solid red background. A red box in the center labeled "SELECT COLOR" contains "20 mm satin". A red button at the top right says "CONTINUE". Three circular icons are at the top right.

Click on the “START” button.

Select a template.

Select the width and colour of ribbon you want to print to. Then press “CONTINUE”.



The screen is divided in two parts:
The section on the left shows different categories of messages.
The box on the right shows you the messages under a specific category.
You can choose the category on the left and then choose the message on the right.
At the end of the list, the box "create your own text" allows you to type your own text if the offered choices do not cater for your purpose.
You can change the pre-recorded messages at any time (see 2c).



Step 2 allows you to add text and modify. You will notice that the length available to add text is displayed just above the keyboard. In the example, there is 29 cm left. The maximum length of the ribbon has been set in the "MAIN" menu of the extended menu (see 2c).
If you want to add emojis/icons, click on the little face located in the bottom right of the keyboard.
When the message is finished, click on "PRINT" and the printing will start.

3.b From the Ribbon Design menu

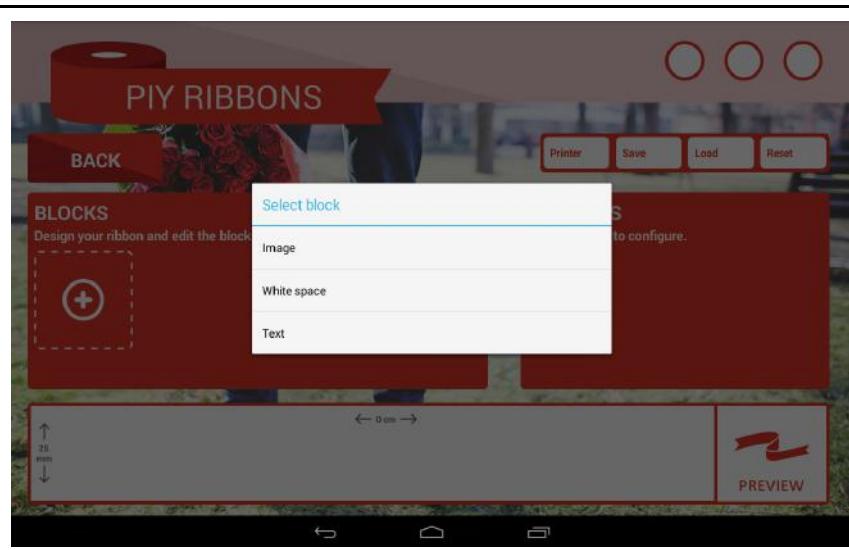
It is possible to print personalised ribbons. Ribbon customisation gives you many options.

For instance:

- You have no idea of the total length of the ribbon.
- You want precise control over the spaces (ex: a space of 20 cm then text, a space of 10 cm and then again text etc.).
- You want to print on more than one line. In this case, the use of a fairly wide ribbon is strongly recommended (from 40mm).
- You want to add multiple images or logos to your ribbon.

	<p>In order to access the Ribbon Design menu, you must have access to the extended menu.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.2. A password is required. Type the letter "e" three times (eee) and confirm. <p>You are now in the extended menu.</p>
	<p>Click on the button shown by a piece of ribbon named "RIBBON DESIGN" or "CUSTOM RIBBON" according to the versions.</p>
	<p>The screen is divided in three parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Part one named "BLOCKS": As indicated, the composition of the ribbon will be made by block, a block being a blank space, text, an image or a border.- Part two named "PARAMETERS" where, for each block the settings can be changed.- Part Three named "Preview" provides a preview of the ribbon before printing.

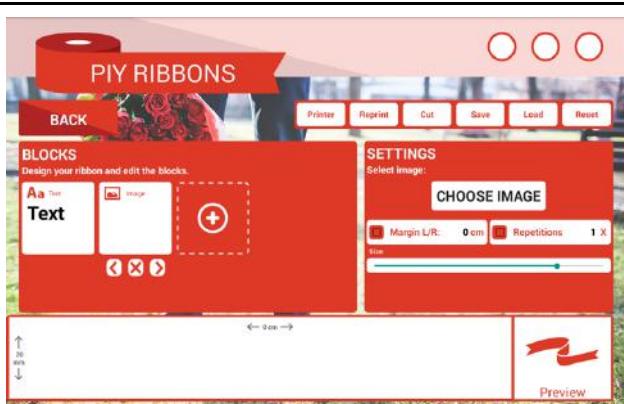
The printed ribbon will be a succession of blocks. By adding blocks, you will be able to extend the possibilities of custom printing. By clicking on "Preview" you will have a preview of your ribbon as well as its dimensions including the length, the width being defined by the printer settings (see 2b) at any time.



Click the plus ("+" in the Blocks section. A menu appears in which you can choose a specific block.

3.b.i Image

This block allows an image to be inserted on to the ribbon. How to import further images is shown later in the manual.



To select an image, click on "CHOOSE IMAGE" and select from the list.

- **L / R Margin:** You can check the box and enter a margin. It defines a space to the left and right of the image.
- **Repetitions:** You can change the number of times the image will be repeated.
- **Size:** The slider reduces or enlarges the image on the ribbon. This can be useful, for example, to reduce the size of the image if you use a border.

Below each block you will find three symbols: "<X>". They allow you to move the block to the left, the right or to delete it.

By clicking on "Preview", you will have a preview of your ribbon as well as its dimensions including the length, the width being defined by the printer parameters (cf 2b).

3.b.ii Blank space



A block can be found on the left side. On the right, you can change the size of the blank space.

Below each block you will find three symbols: "<X>". They allow you to move the block to the left, the right or to delete it.

By clicking on "Preview", you will have a preview of your ribbon as well as its dimensions including the length, the width being defined by the printer parameters (cf 2b).

3.b.iii Text



A block can be found on the left side. On the “Settings” button on the right side:

Text: You can type your text. If you click on the small red keyboard, a frame that allows you to enter text on multiple lines appears.

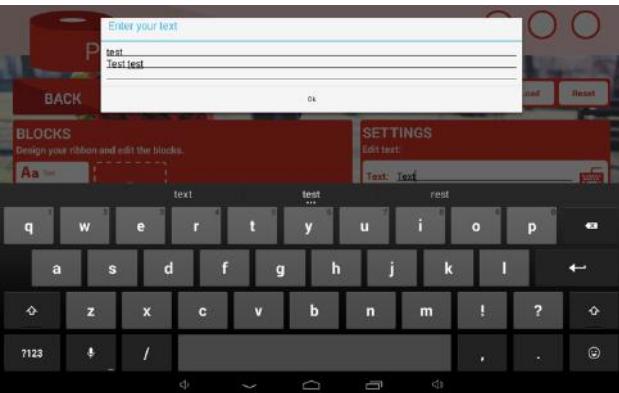
Font: Choose the font used. We'll see later how to import fonts to your tablet.

Size: This is the percentage of the width used (80% by default). It can be reduced or increased as needed.

L / R Margin: You can check the box and enter a margin. It defines a space to the left and right of the text.

Repetitions: You can check the box and change the number of times the text will be repeated.

Text Alignment: Appears only when you have typed text on multiple lines. You can align the text to the left, centre or right.

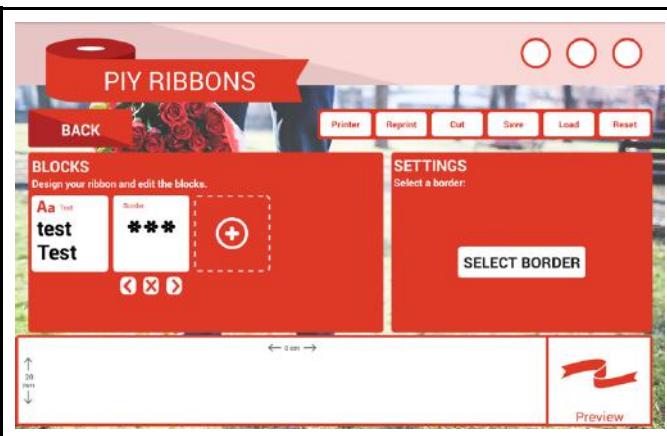


The image on the left represents the frame that allows you to type text on multiple lines. Once the text is finished, click "OK".

Below each block appears three symbols: "<X>". They allow you to move the block to the left, the right or to delete it.

By clicking on "Preview", you will have a preview of your ribbon as well as its dimensions including the length, the width being defined by the printer parameters (cf 2b).

3.b.iv Border



This block allows you to insert a border around the entire length of the ribbon.

Click on "CHOOSE A BORDER" and select the appropriate border on the list.

Below each block you will find three symbols: "<X>". They allow you to move the block to the left, the right or to delete it.

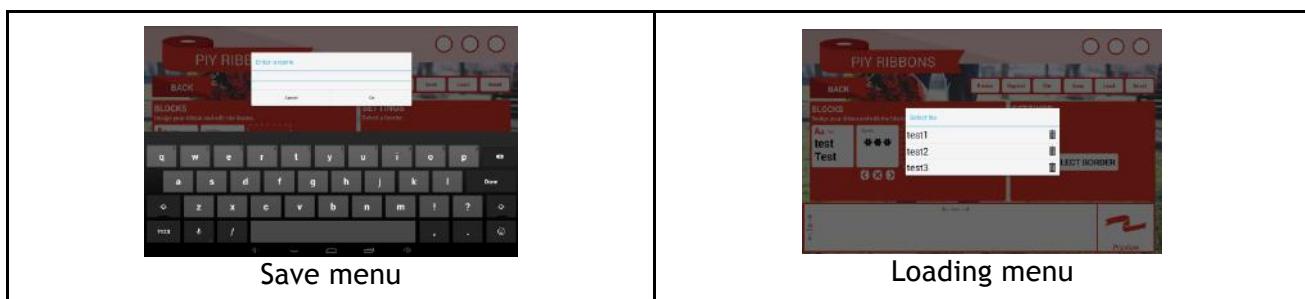
By clicking on "Preview", you will have a preview of your ribbon as well as its dimensions including the length, the width being defined by the printer parameters (cf 2b).

3.c Design button

The ribbon design menu includes another menu on the top left corner.



- **Printer:** You can connect up to four printers to the tablet. Click the button and choose the printer on which you want to print. For instance, one printer can be configured for ribbons of 20 mm width and another for 70 mm ribbons. The settings of the selected printer are shown on the preview.
- **Reprint:** By clicking on it, the tablet offers you to choose the number of copies you want to print. If, for example, you want ten copies of your ribbon, select "10" and when you start printing ten identical ribbons will be printed.
- **Cut:** Click this button to instruct the printer to cut. This may be necessary if you have just changed the satin roll and want a clean cut or if the cut at the end of your ribbon has not been straight.
- **Save:** You have just made a custom ribbon and you want to keep it in memory for later use. Click save. A file name is required. Once the name has been chosen (tip: make it simple and easy to remember), click "ok". The model is saved on the tablet and can be used later via the "Loading" menu.
- **Load:** Clicking this button opens a window with all the templates you have saved via the "Save" menu. Choose the model that you wish to use and it will be automatically loaded.
- **Reset:** Click this button to erase all blocks.



Save menu

Loading menu

4. Personalizing your PIY RIBBONS solution

4.a Importing images to the Tablet

The **PIY RIBBONS** solution allows you to print images, clipart, logos, etc. Since the print is monochrome, use single-color images (for instance, black and white, no grey shade). To import new images, you will need a USB key.

Nom	Modifié le	Type	Taille
logos	03/02/2017 10:02	Dossier de fichiers	
fonts	03/02/2017 10:02	Dossier de fichiers	

From your USB, create the "logos" folder. Insert images you want to import into the table into this folder. Privilege images with the extension jpg or png.

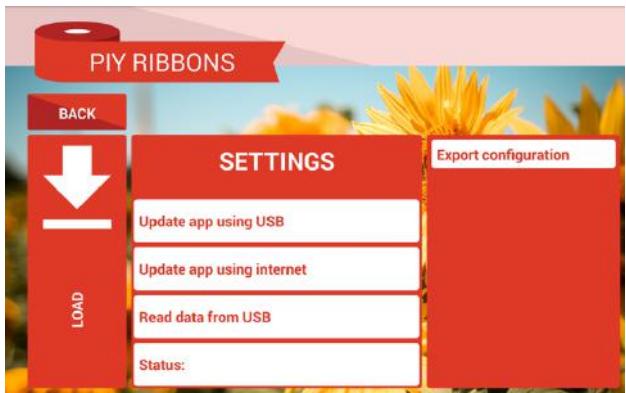
Here an example of ready to use images.

Connect your USB to an available port of your tablet.

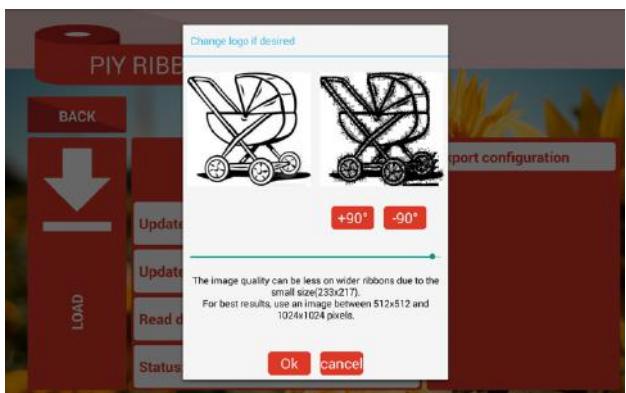
In order to import images, you must have access to the extended menu.
1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.
2. A password is required. Type the letter “e” three times (eee) and confirm.
You are now in the extended menu



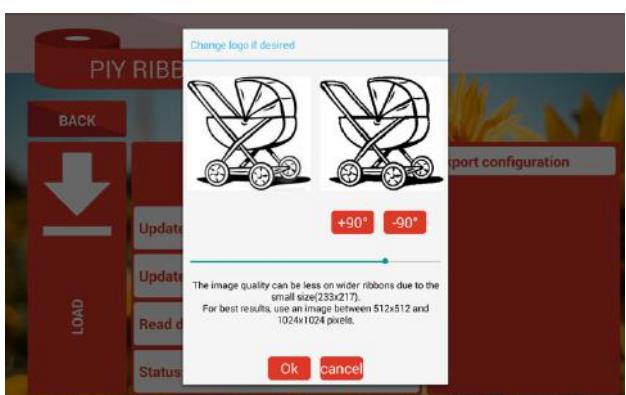
Click the "LOAD" button shown by the arrow and line icon.



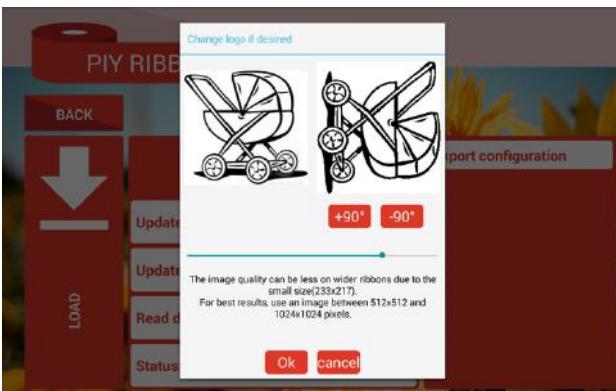
Click on "Reading data from USB".



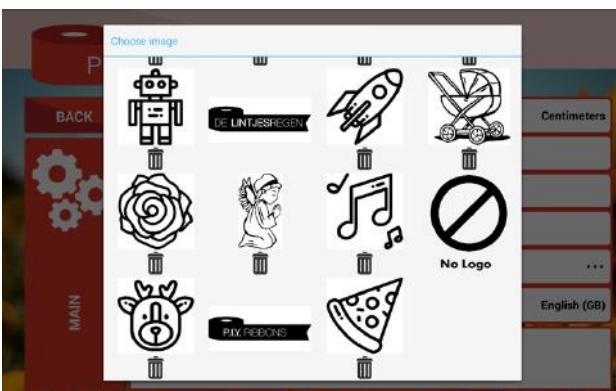
The first image is displayed. The image on the left represents the original image. The one on the right, the image once imported. The blue slider at the bottom allows you to improve the quality of the import as shown in the following image.



You will notice that the blue cursor has moved and the contrast of the imported image has improved. When the image seems correct, click "OK" to import and move to the next image or "Cancel" to not import the image and move to the next one.



The "+90" - "-90" buttons allow you to rotate the image. A message warns you that the data loading is finished. Your images are in the tablet. They will be accessible from the drop-down menus that allow the selection of images.



On the example on the left, we can see the images already in the system as well as the imported images. Only imported images have a small bin. By clicking on this bin, you can delete the imported image.

4.b Importing fonts, backgrounds and template icons to the Tablet

The tablet provides some fonts but additional fonts can be added. Too many fonts can result in slowing down the system. Supported fonts are TTF fonts.

Nom	Date de modification
► backgrounds	12 septembre 2018
► fonts	12 septembre 2018
► logos	14 septembre 2018
► templateicons	2 novembre 2018

From your USB key; create a "fonts" folder. Insert the fonts you want to import on to the tablet. Use fonts with the extension "TTF".

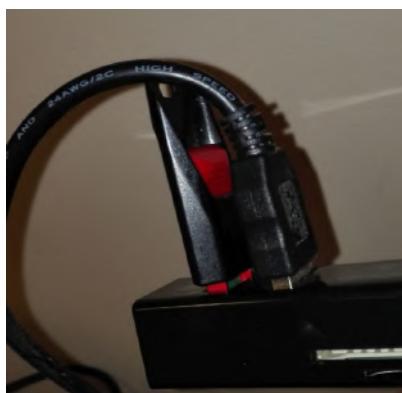
Create a "backgrounds" folder, put all your backgrounds in this folder (png and jpg files).

Create a "template icons" folder, put all your templates icons in this folder (png and jpg files).

Warning: the names of the files cannot contain spaces:

filename.jpg ✓

file name.jpg ✗



Connect your USB via an available port on your tablet.



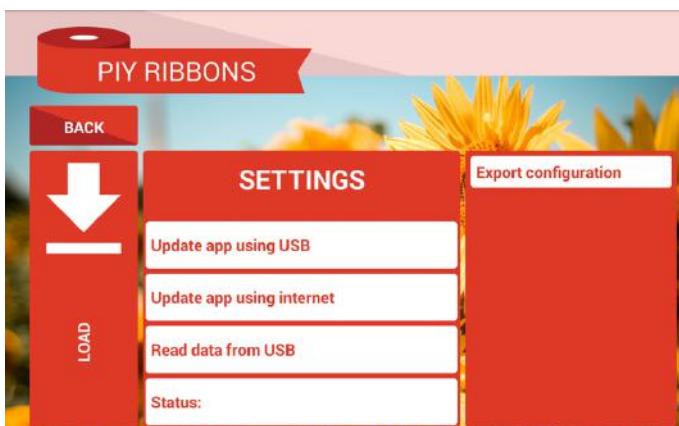
In order to import fonts, backgrounds and template icons you must have access to the extended menu.

1. Click on the numbers 1 - 2 - 3, located at the top right of the tablet.
2. A password is required. Type the letter "e" three times (eee) and confirm.

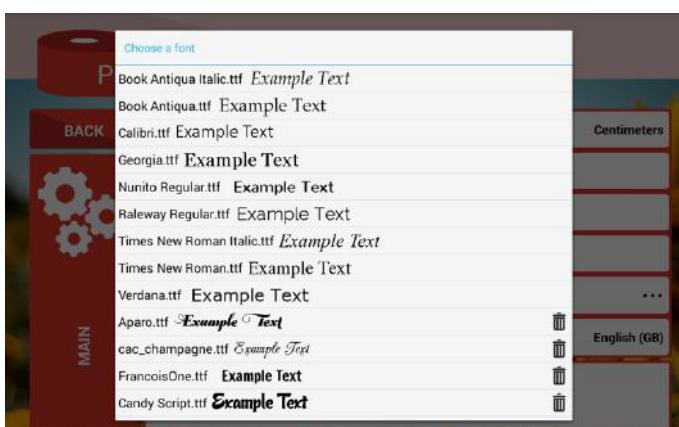
You are now in the extended menu.



Click the "LOAD" button shown by the arrow and line icon.



Choose the option "Read data from USB".
A message warns you that the data loading is finished.
Your fonts, backgrounds and templates icons are now on the tablet.



In the example on the left, we see the basic fonts already in the tablet, as well as the imported fonts. Only imported fonts have a small garbage bin on the right. By clicking on this bin, you can delete the imported font.

4.c Updating the Tablet

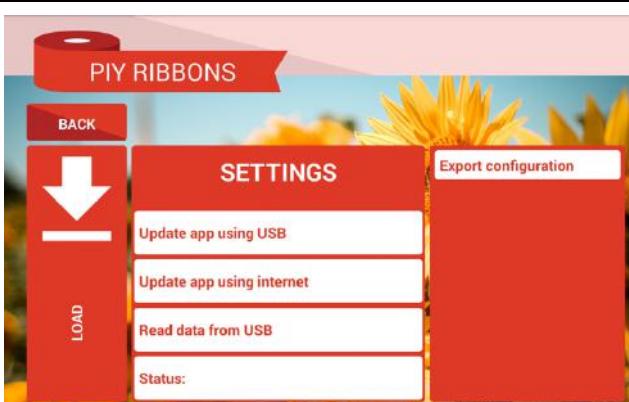
To add new features or improve stability, we provide new versions of the application online.



Click on the "INFORMATION" button shown by a ribbon icon



The "Close application" button allows you to quit the application and enter the settings of the tablet. A password is required. Type "eee". You can connect your tablet to the Wi-Fi network.



In the extended menu, click the "LOAD" button shown by an arrow line icon.
Then click on "update app using internet", the tablet will then update automatically if any update is available.
If you are using the latest version of the application, the message "Use the most recent version" appears.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question	Answer
The printer is not recognized	Check the cable connections. Turn off the printer and then turn it on again. If the printer is still not recognized, restart the tablet.
The ink remains stuck to the satin.	The print temperature is probably too high. Lower the print temperature (see 2.b).
The print is too "clear", the print quality is not bright enough.	The printing temperature is probably too low. Increase the temperature one degree at a time (see 2.b).
The ribbon comes out of the printer but not printed.	The ink is probably installed upside down. Check the direction of unwinding ink and satin (1.a and 1.b).
No ribbon comes out when I run the impression.	Check the direction of unwinding the ink and ribbon. When you open the printer, just below the green guides that hold the satin, there is a sensor (mirror). Make sure this sensor is centered.
The ribbon that comes out is too short or too long.	To change the ribbon length and other characteristics, go to the general settings (see 2.c).
The printer light is flashing.	Check the printer connections. Turn off and on the printer. Check the correct positioning of the ink and satin. Check that the moving part of the printer is securely latched: secure it properly by pressing firmly on the two black PUSH buttons simultaneously. Check if the ink holders are installed in correct position (wider part to the left, narrow part to the right)



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