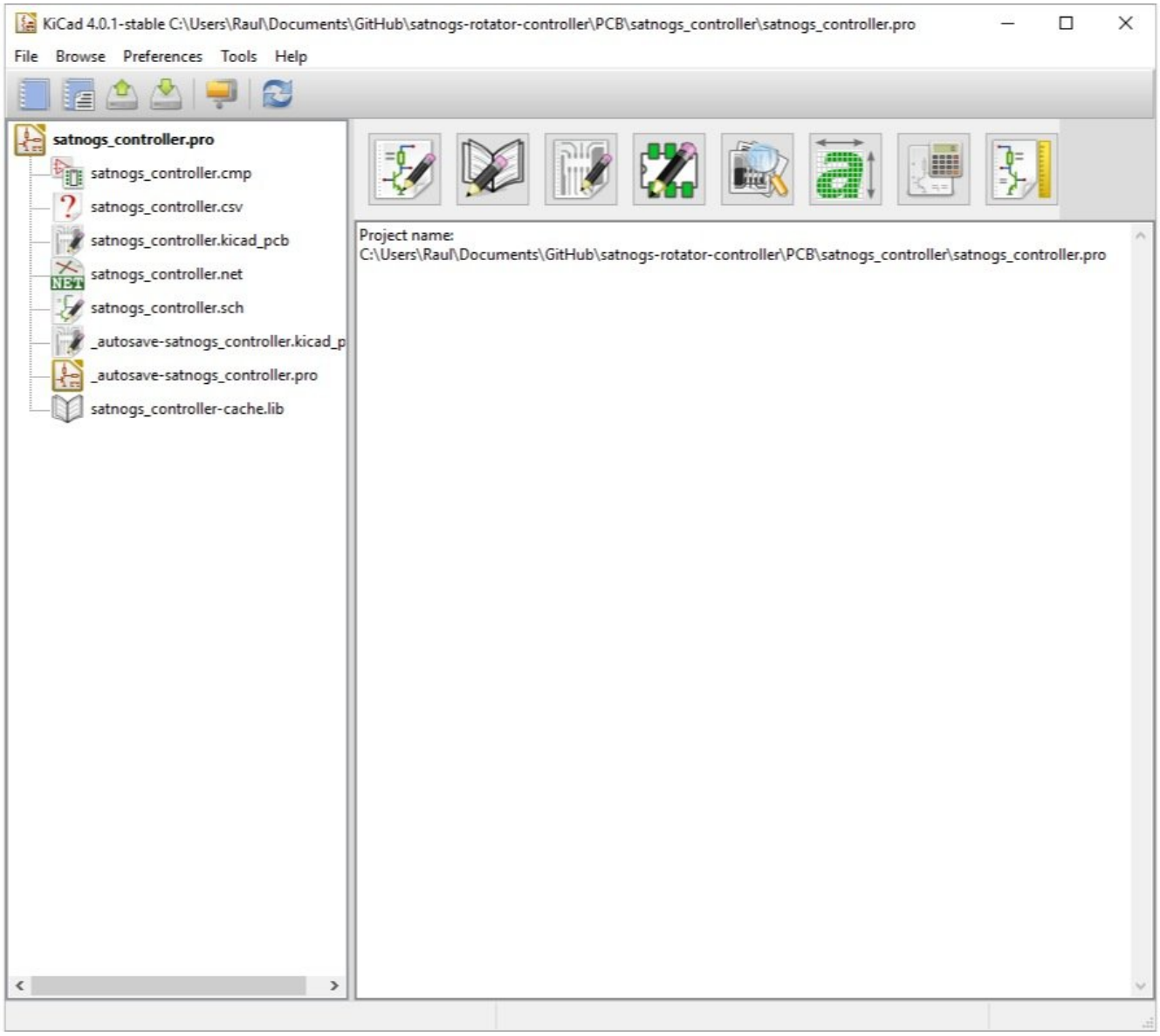
SatNOGS

SatNOGS PCB Printing Files

KiCAD to Postscript to Inkscape

Written By: Raul Pegan



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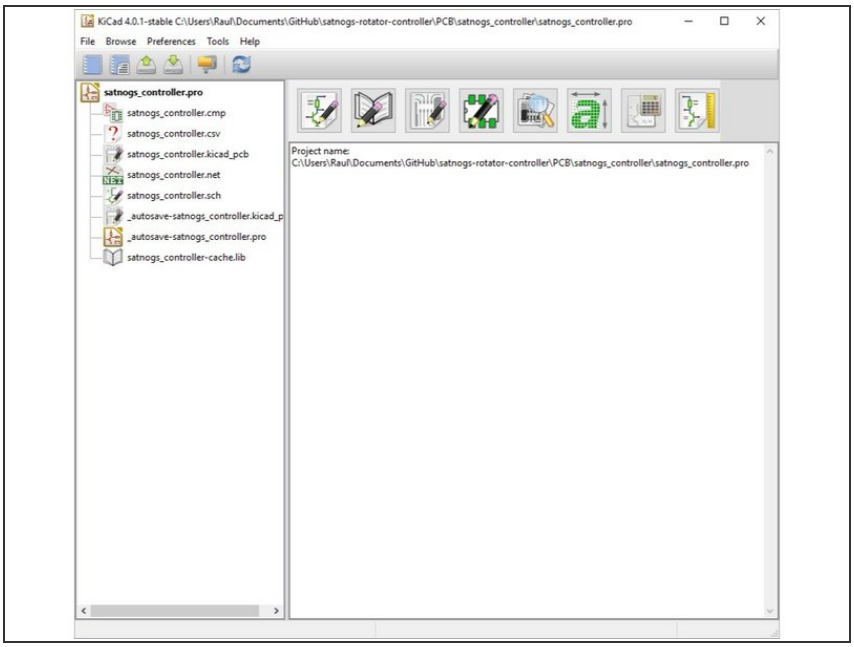
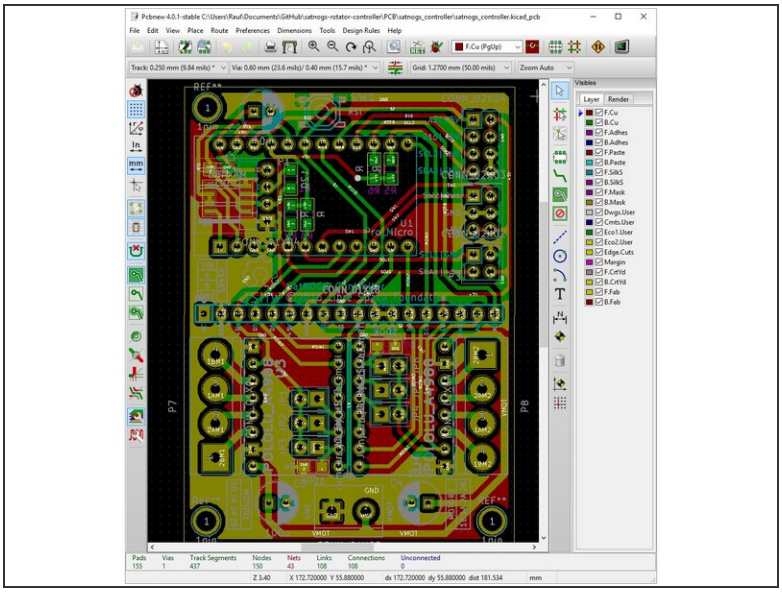
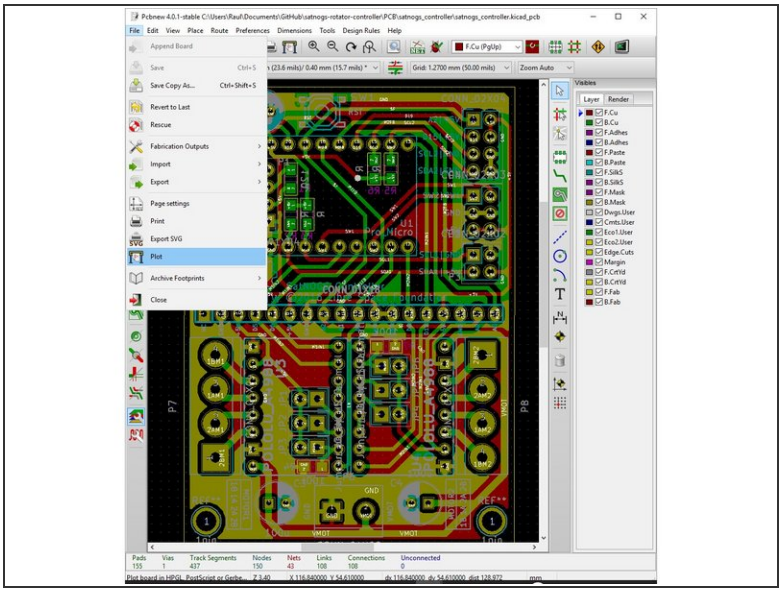
Step 1 — Open the Program



- Open KiCAD

Step 2 — Go to the Plot menu





- Open the PCB Editor
- Click on File -> Plot

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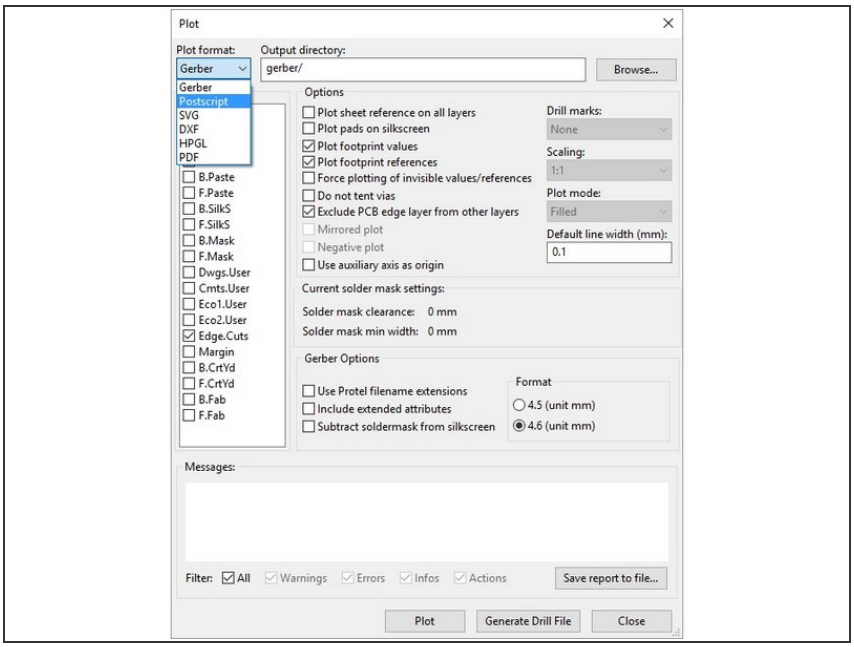
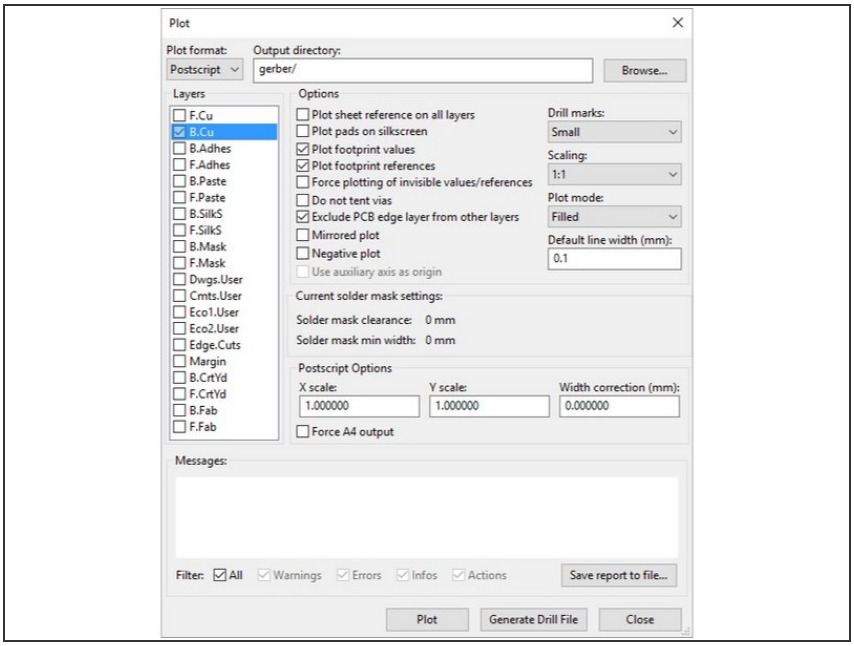
Step 3 — Select the plot settings



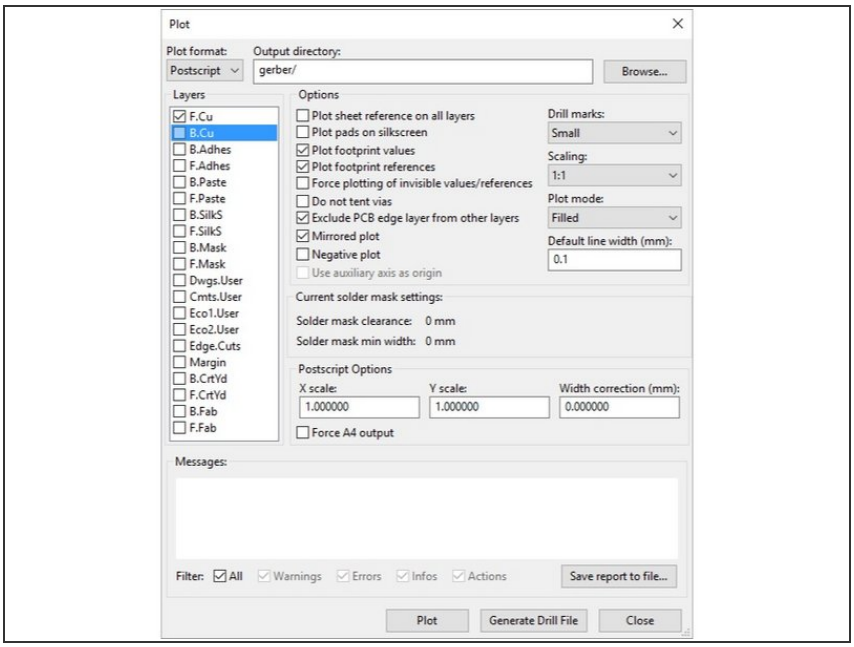
- Select Postscript from the drop down menu
- Choose a directory for the destination of your files.
  - In this example it is set to the default, "gerber/"

Step 4 — Plotting the back side



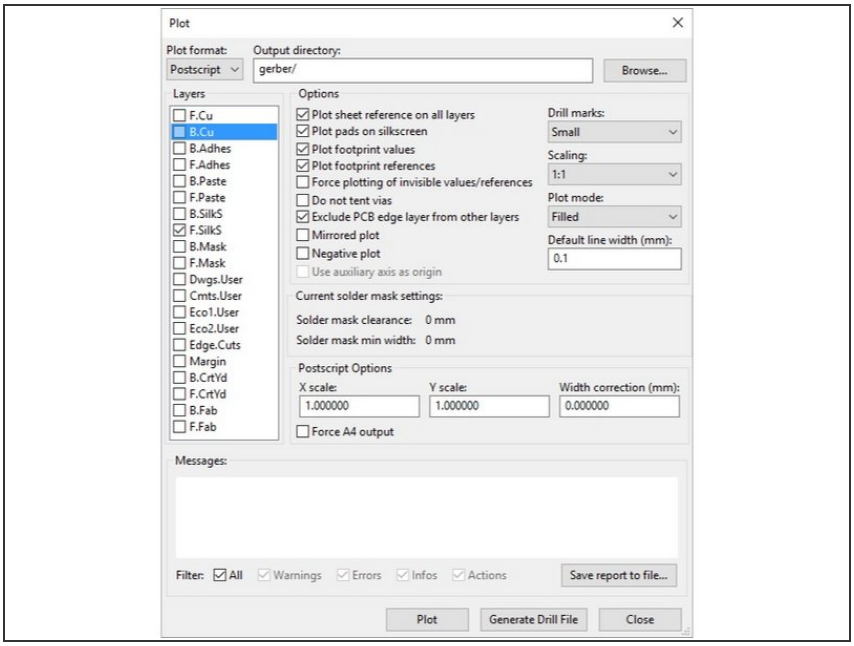
- Select back side
- Since it is already mirrored, we do not need to select "mirrored"
- Select 'small' under 'drill holes'
- Click on 'Plot'

Step 5 — Plotting the front side



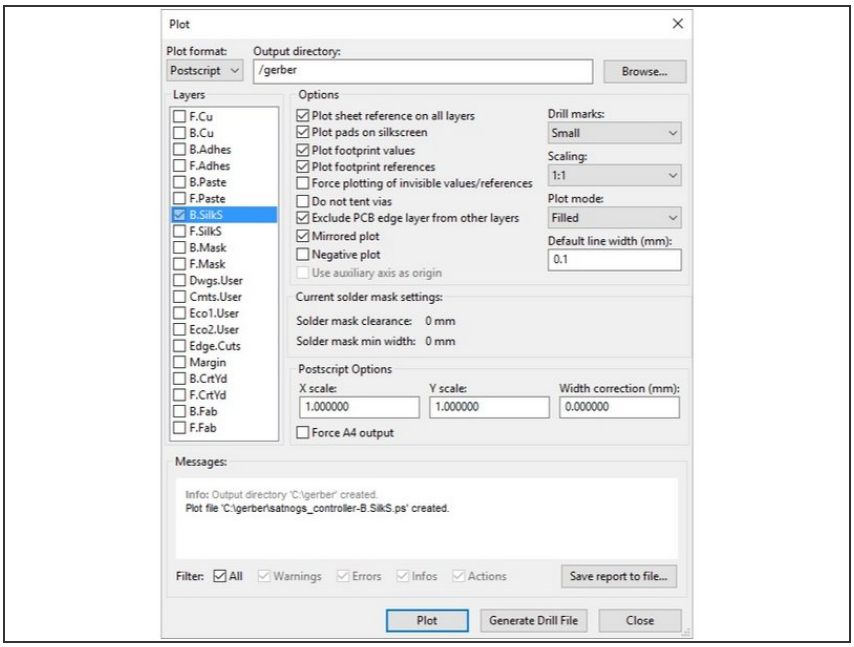
- Select the front side
- Since this is not mirrored by default, select 'mirrored plot'
- Every other option stays the same as before
- Click on 'Plot'

Step 6 — (Optional) Obtaining the silkscreen



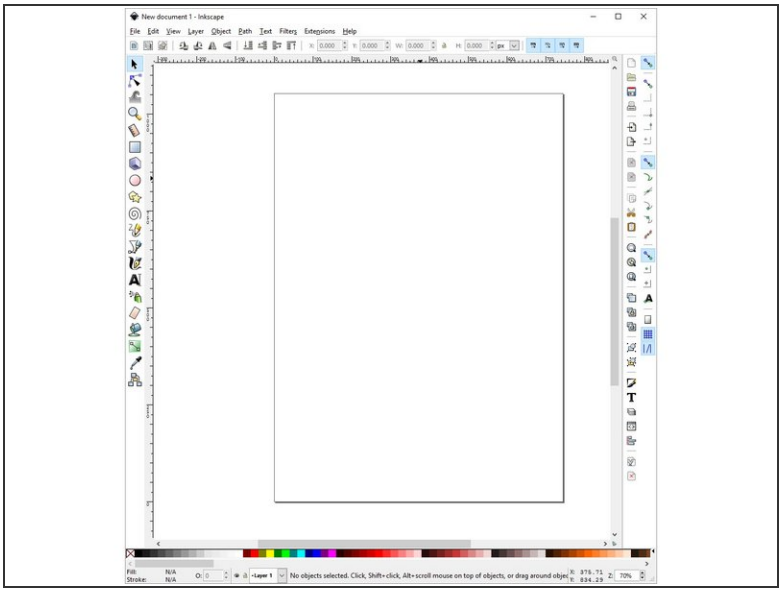
- Silkscreens help with placing components, but they are an optional step
- Select the Front Silkscreen
- The options here depend on what you prefer.

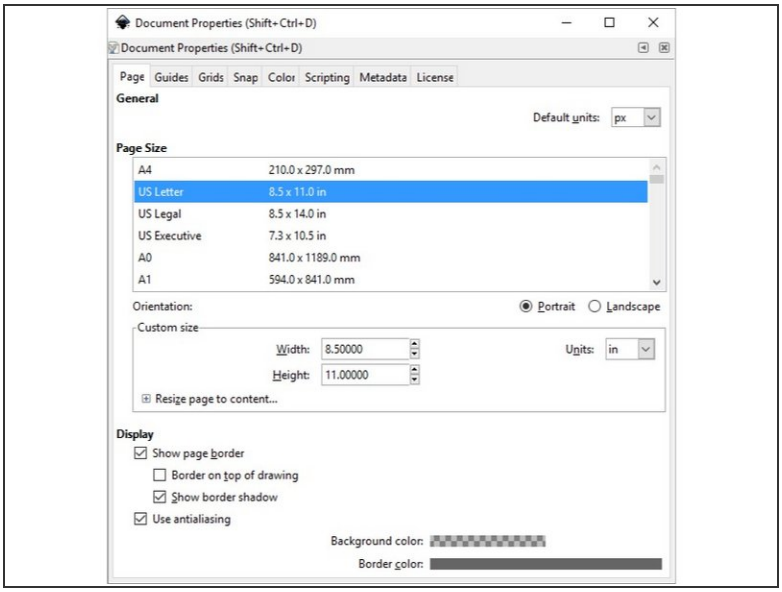
Step 7 — Back silkscreen



- The back silkscreen is mirrored, so select "mirrored plot" to reverse this.

Step 8 — Open Inkscape





- Open Inkscape
- Under File -> Document Properties, select the correct page size you will be printing

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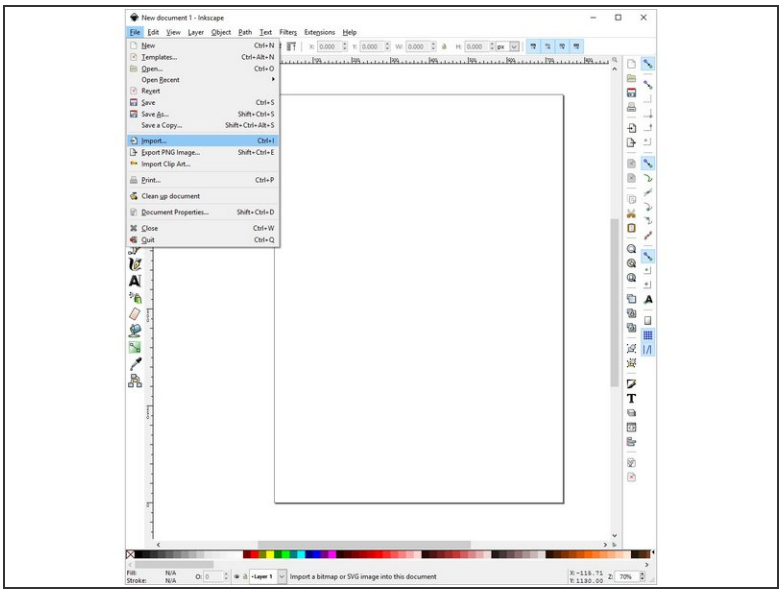
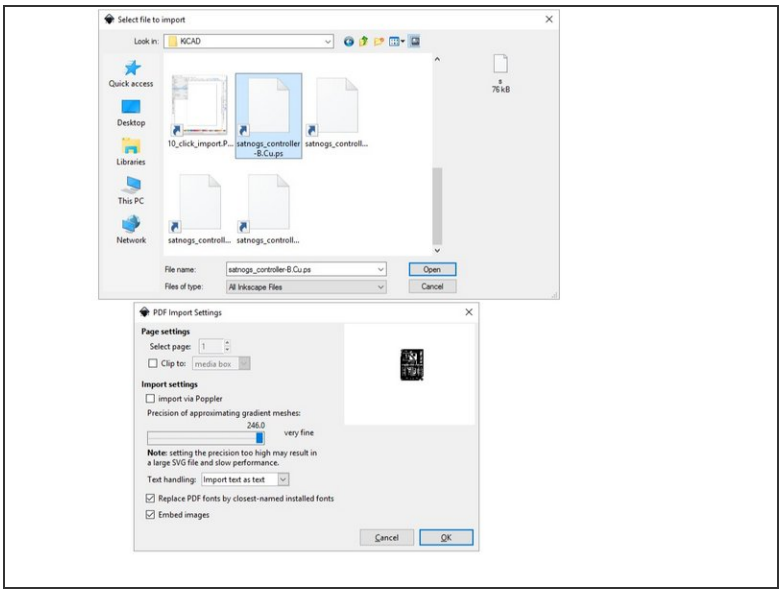
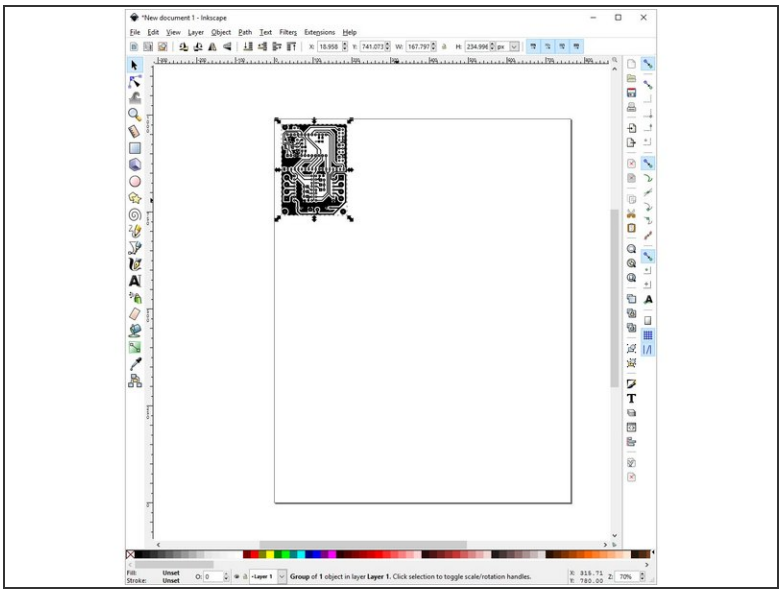
Step 9 — Adding the .ps files

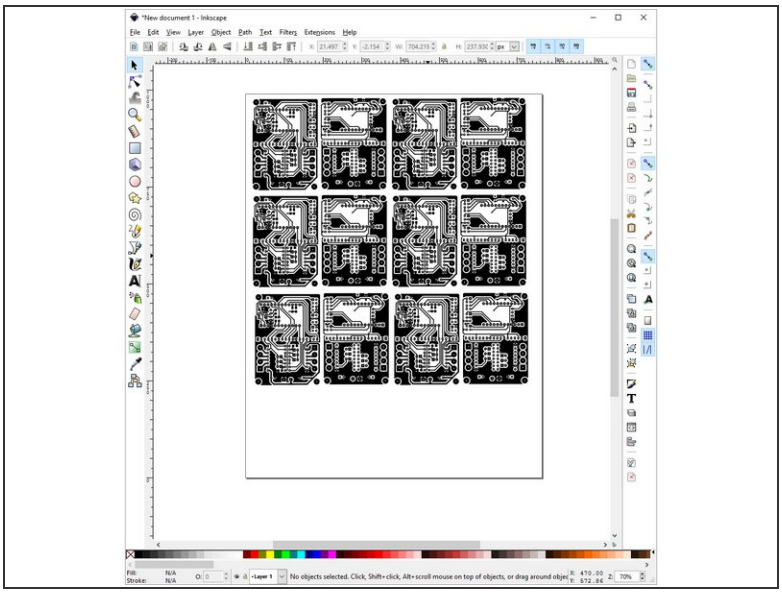




- Select File -> Import in order to obtain the plots
- Select the highest quality possible

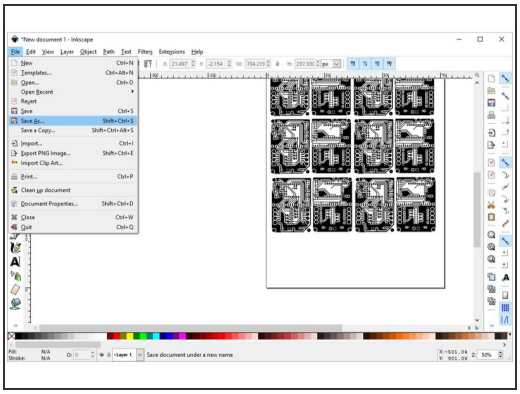
Step 10 — Move and Copy

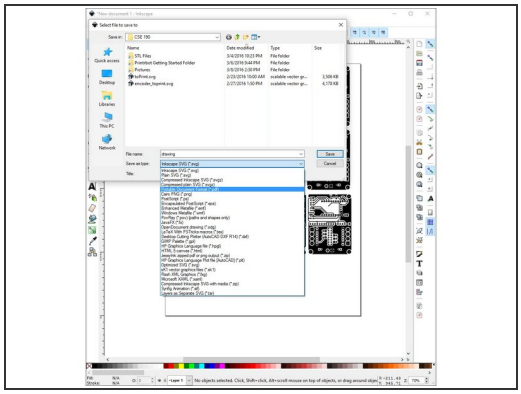


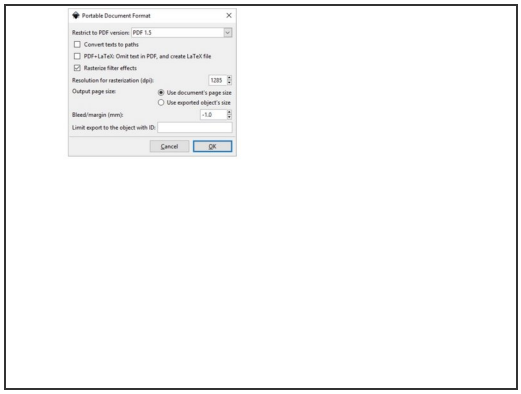


- Place the image in the correct position on your page
- Repeat the process for both front side and back side.
- In order to make the best use of your print, it is recommended to copy the design many times in order to have spares.

Step 11 — Export to PDF







- Select File -> Save As and save your document as a PDF
- The PDF can now be printed onto acrylic paper (or any other method of your choosing) in order to make your own PCBs!

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