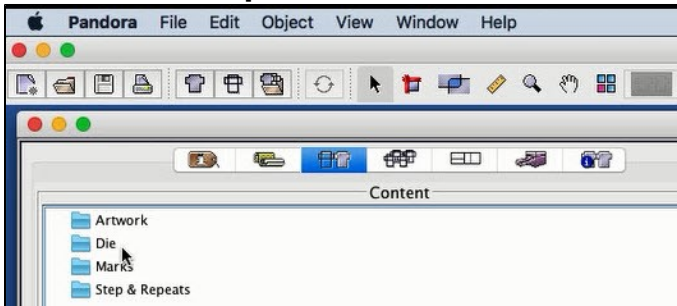


# Creating a Smart Layout for nesting die files

You can use the Smart Layout feature to automatically gang single die files (files containing only one die station) for production. This video provides information about using the Pandora Smart Layout feature for nesting dies: [Pandora\\_SmartLayout\\_NestingDies.mp4](#). (If you have problems viewing this video, try a different browser.)

Before creating a Smart Layout, confirm that there is a die station in the file you are importing and that die crease lines are closed. Otherwise, you will receive this error message: Cannot retrieve valid key line from the file: <file name>

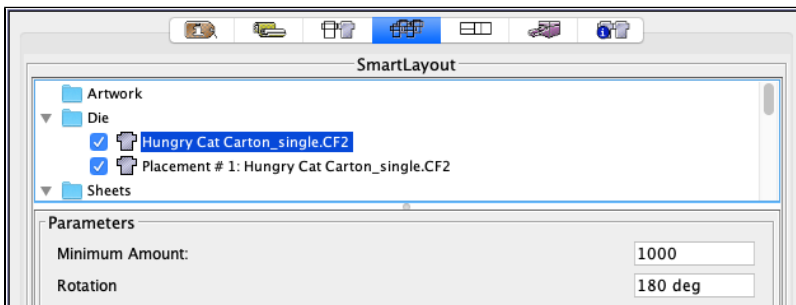
1. Select **File > Import > Die**.



2. In the Import Die dialog box, navigate to the location of the die file, select the file, and then click **Open** (Macintosh) or **Import** (Windows).
3. When the die appears in the **Die** folder on the **Content** tab of the Information window, drag it to the **layout** view.  
If you have already imported a substrate to the **layout** view, the software will center the die on the substrate.
4. From ShopMap, add a substrate.
5. In the **job properties** pane, select SmartLayout for dies.

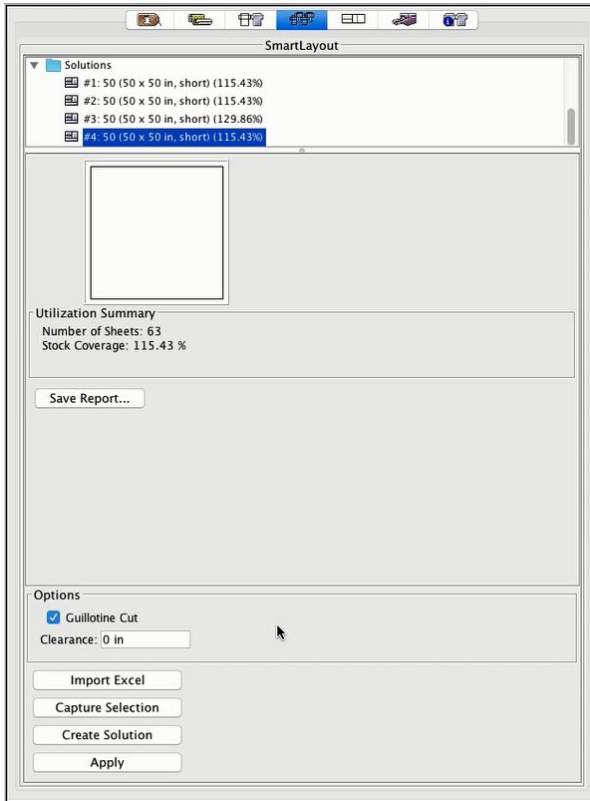


6. Select an item under **Die** and, in the **Parameters** section, provide values for **Minimum Amount** and **Rotation**.



7. In the **Margins** area, enter a value to set the distance between die shapes.
8. To view the results of your settings, click **Create Solution**. You can click **Cancel** if you need to stop the process of creating solutions.

9. If desired, change the settings to produce different ganged layouts and click **Create Solution** to view the results.



10. (Optional) To capture a solution without applying the results, click **Capture Selection**.
11. (Optional) To generate a job report, click **Save Report** and specify where to save the .txt file.
12. Under **Solutions**, select the solution that produced the best layout for your purposes.
13. Click **Apply**.