



valentine's day  
family fun



# Valentine's Day Family Fun

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My mom always made an effort for holidays, big and small. I remember many years of receiving a gold charm (it was the 80s!) and a box of candy each Valentine morning. It wasn't a huge deal, but it was. You know what I mean?

In this PDF, you'll find some suggestions for easy and affordable **Valentine's Day Family Fun**. To make things a little easier, I've even included some printable to make quick work of the planning. I hope you have a wonderful Valentine's Day with your loved ones!

## Decorate!

Even if you are not big on decor — I am not — young children love, love, LOVE, holiday decorations. Together you can create a simple **“Love Does” Banner** to hang on your mantel. You can also add more decorations like streamers, balloons, and homemade hearts. Include the kids in the crafting and decorating!

## Make special foods.

- Special foods can turn a minor holiday like Valentine's Day into something special. If you need help deciding what to make, check out this [Valentine's Day Meal Plan](#) that includes a menu for the entire day, links to recipes, and a grocery list.
- Make a super easy afternoon treat that feels fancy. **Cinnamon Puffs with Chocolate Fondue** come together very quickly. The recipes are included in this PDF.

## Give a small gift to your kids.

- Gifts don't need to be elaborate. Just a little something to let your kids know that you thought about them. If you want to gift them with experiences, create a **coupon book** for them. To make it easy for you, I've included a customizable coupon template in this PDF.
- Instead of just handing the gifts to your kids, build the anticipation a bit by hiding the gifts and **sending them on a treasure hunt**. Give them one clue that will lead to more clues that will eventually lead to the gift. I've included some clue hearts that you can fill out, cut, and then hide to lead them to the treasure.

## Spend time together.

- Have a **Family Movie Night**. Rent a family-friendly movie and pop some popcorn. You can [make stovetop popcorn](#) in just a few minutes. So delicious! Try adding some cinnamon sugar to the buttered popcorn for a sweet twist.
- Have a **Family Game Night**. Bust out your favorite board games or try a new game. If it's not in the budget to purchase a new game, check with your friends to see if they have any great games you can borrow for the night.
- **Get outdoors!** If the weather cooperates, head out to the park, beach, mountains...wherever your family would enjoy some fresh air together.

# Make a “Love Does” Banner

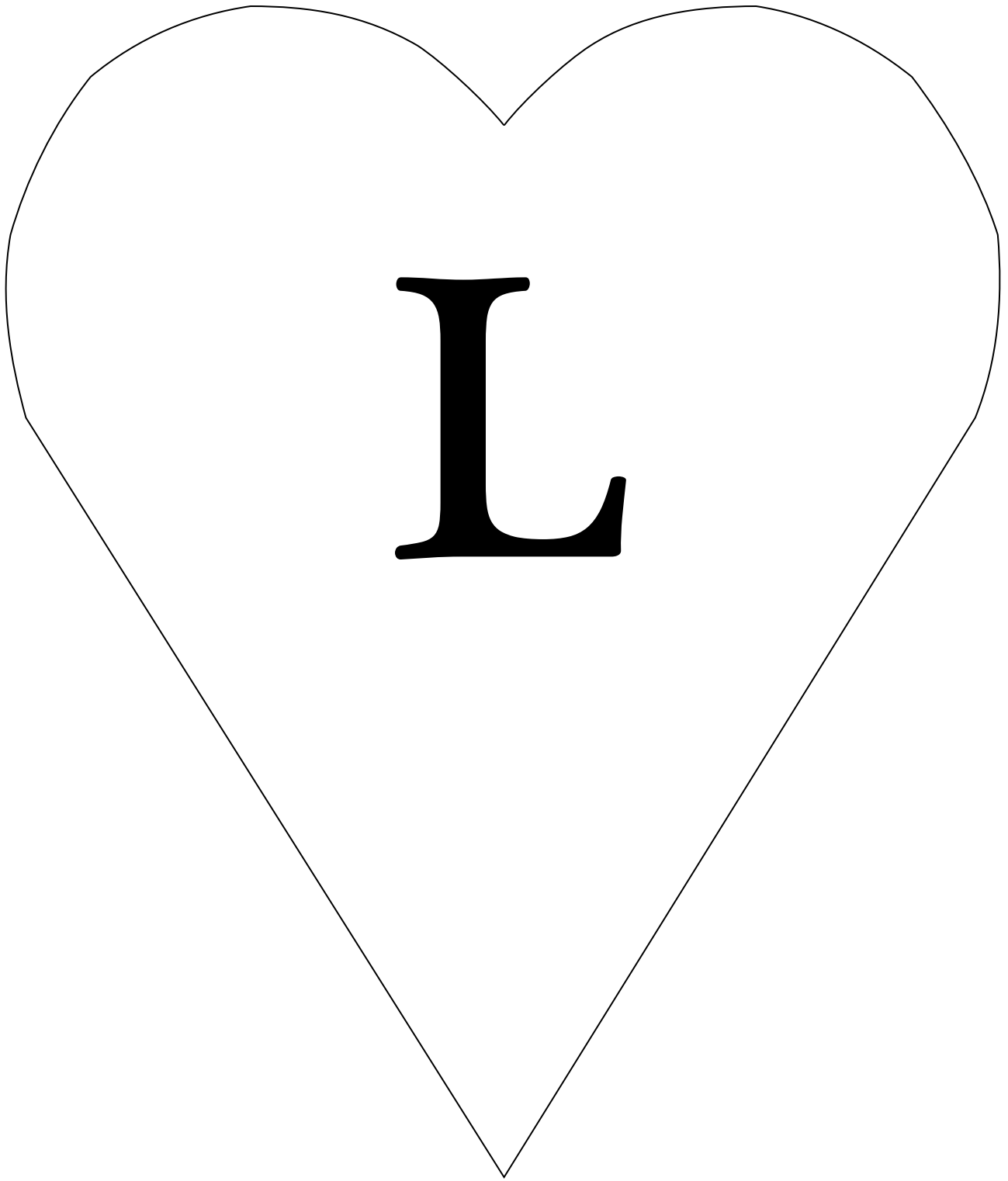
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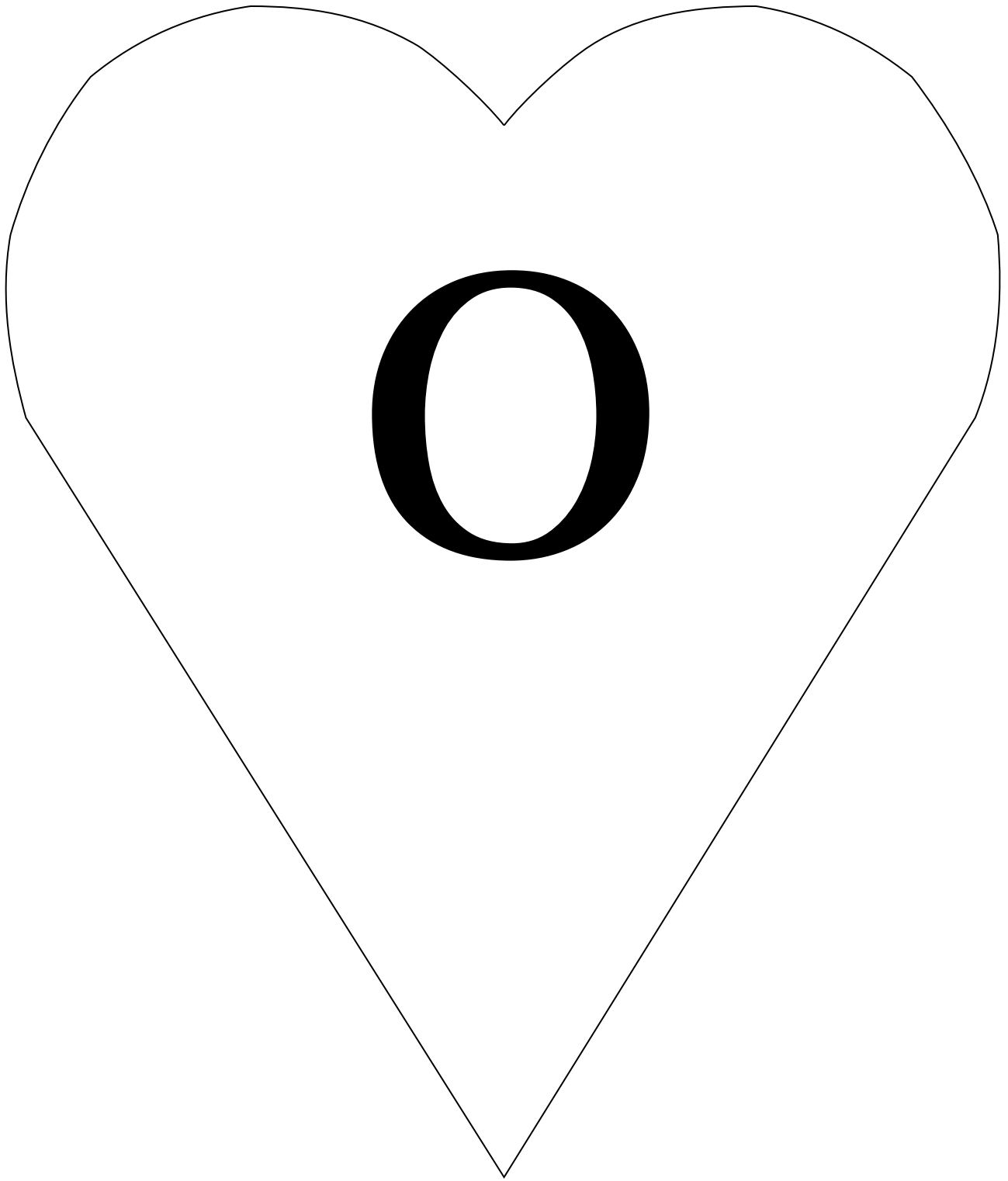
- copy paper
- colored or designed scrapbook paper
- glue stick
- scissors
- string or baker's twine or brads
- hole puncher

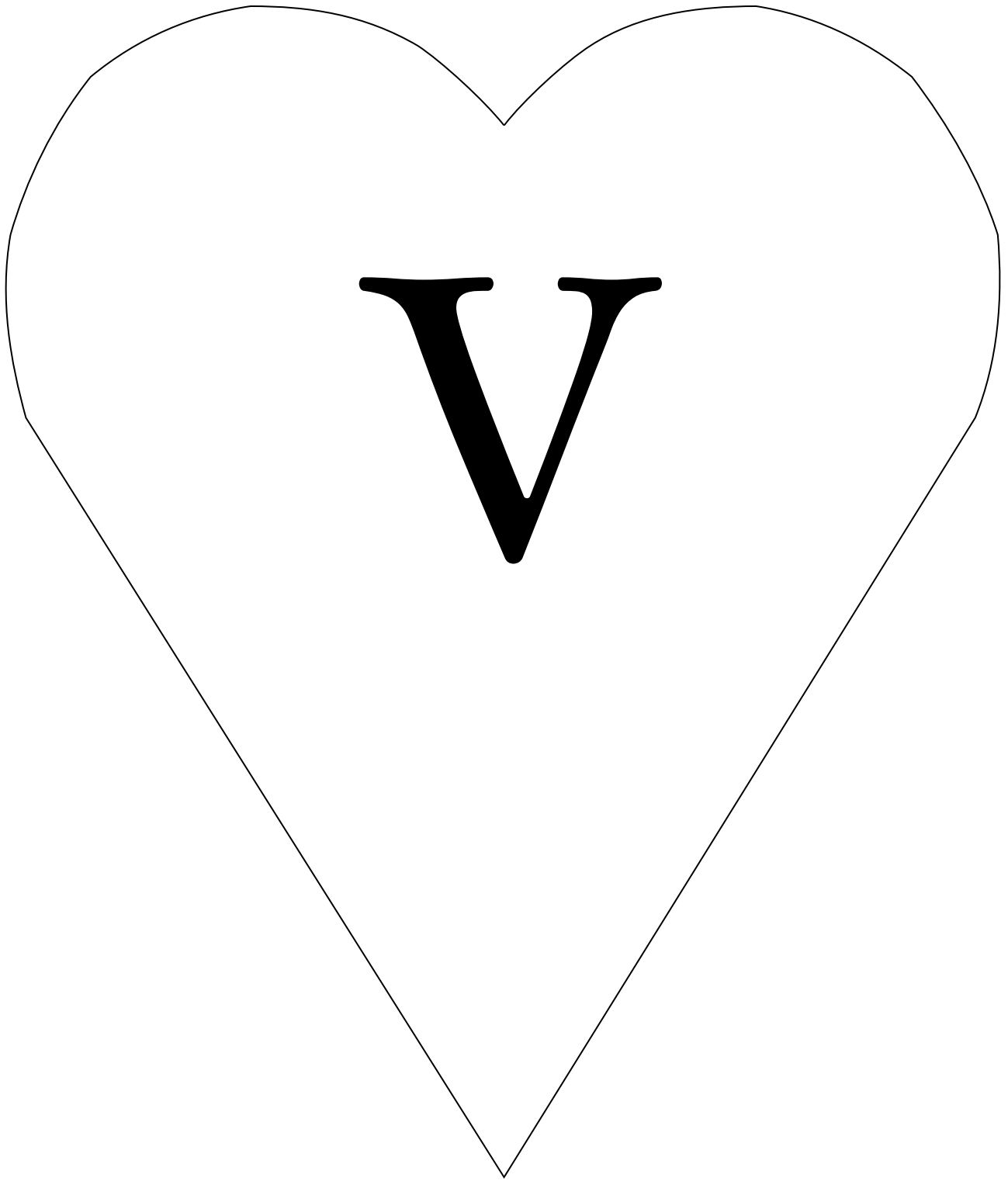
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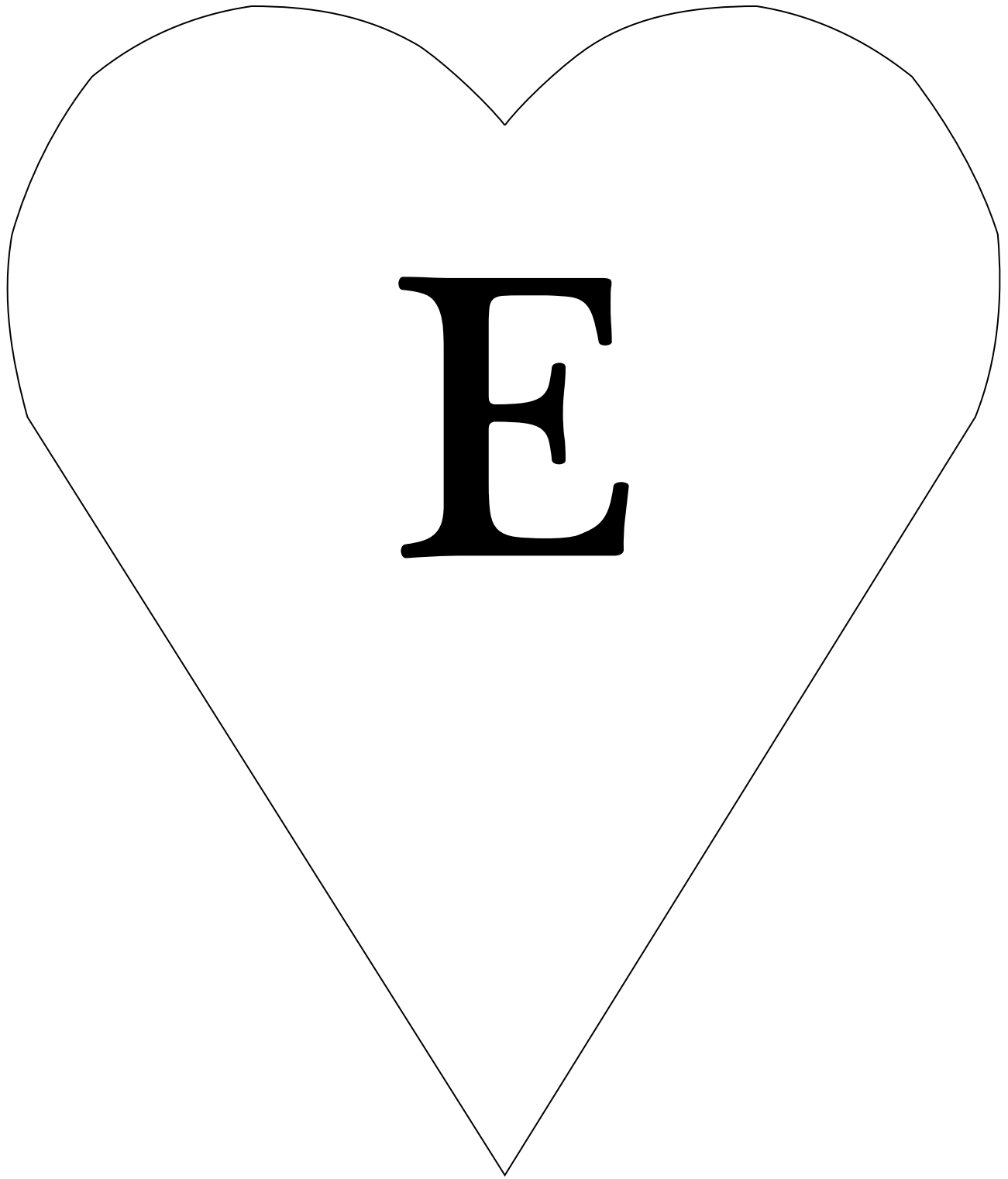
1. Print out the eight letters in the template included in this PDF onto copy paper. If you want to use more than one color, alternate the colors in the printer feed tray.
2. Cut out the hearts along the lines.
3. Glue each heart onto colored paper. Cut out each one, leaving a larger border of colored paper around the outsides.
4. Trace one of your larger hearts onto a piece of colored paper to serve as the space between the two words.
5. Punch a hole on the side of each heart. String twine through the holes of two hearts to tie them together. Alternatively, you could use brass brads instead.
6. Hang your banner.



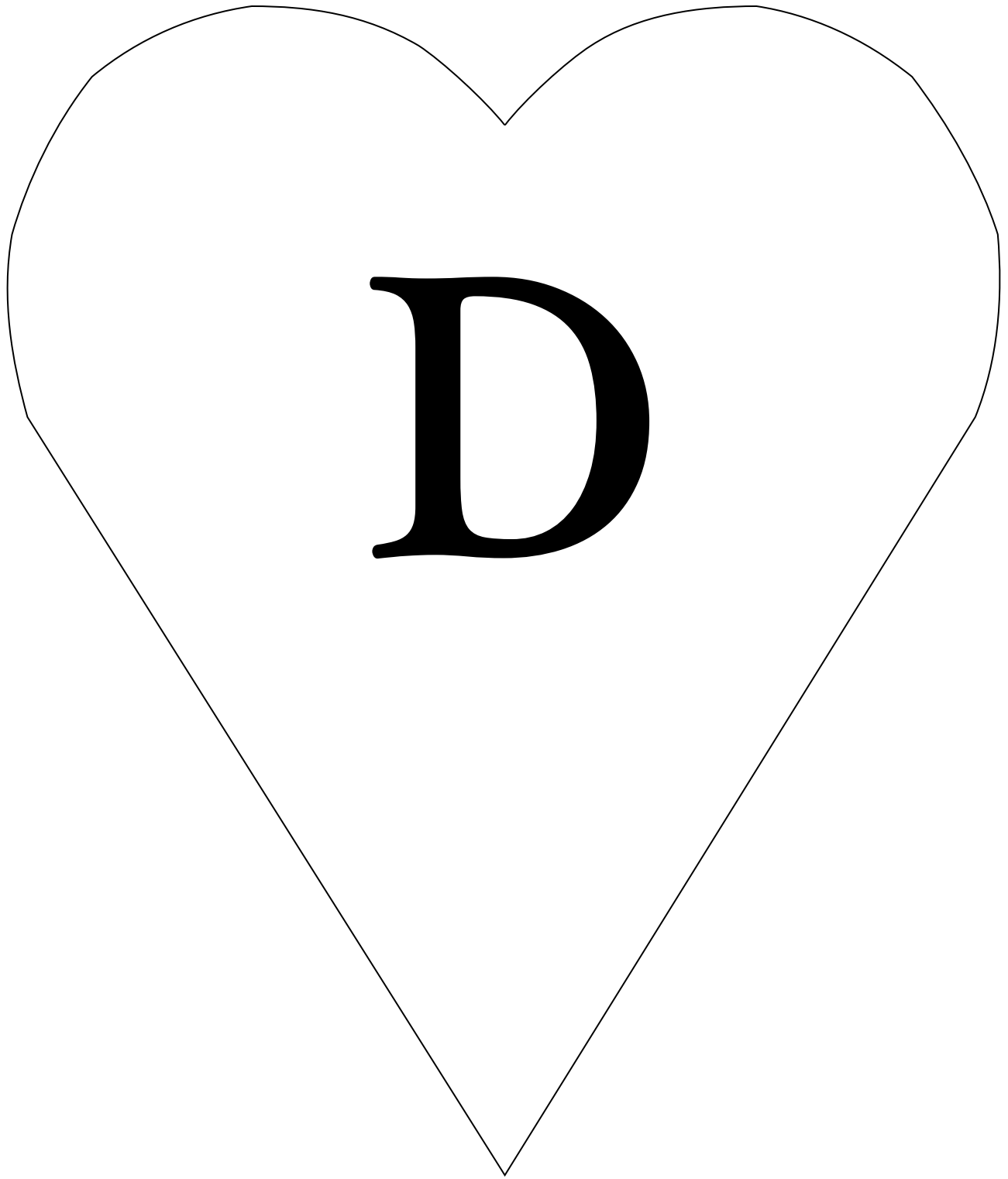


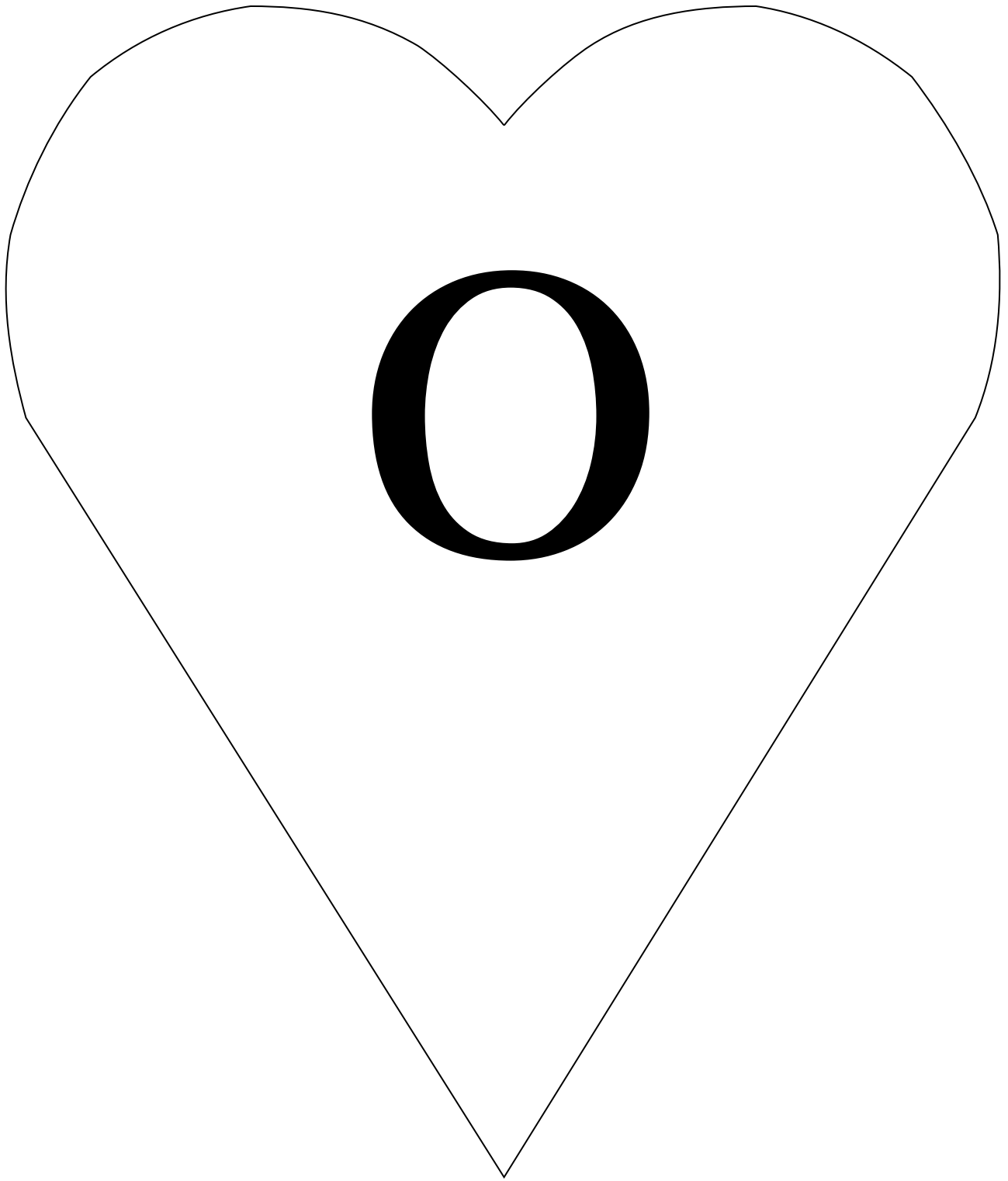


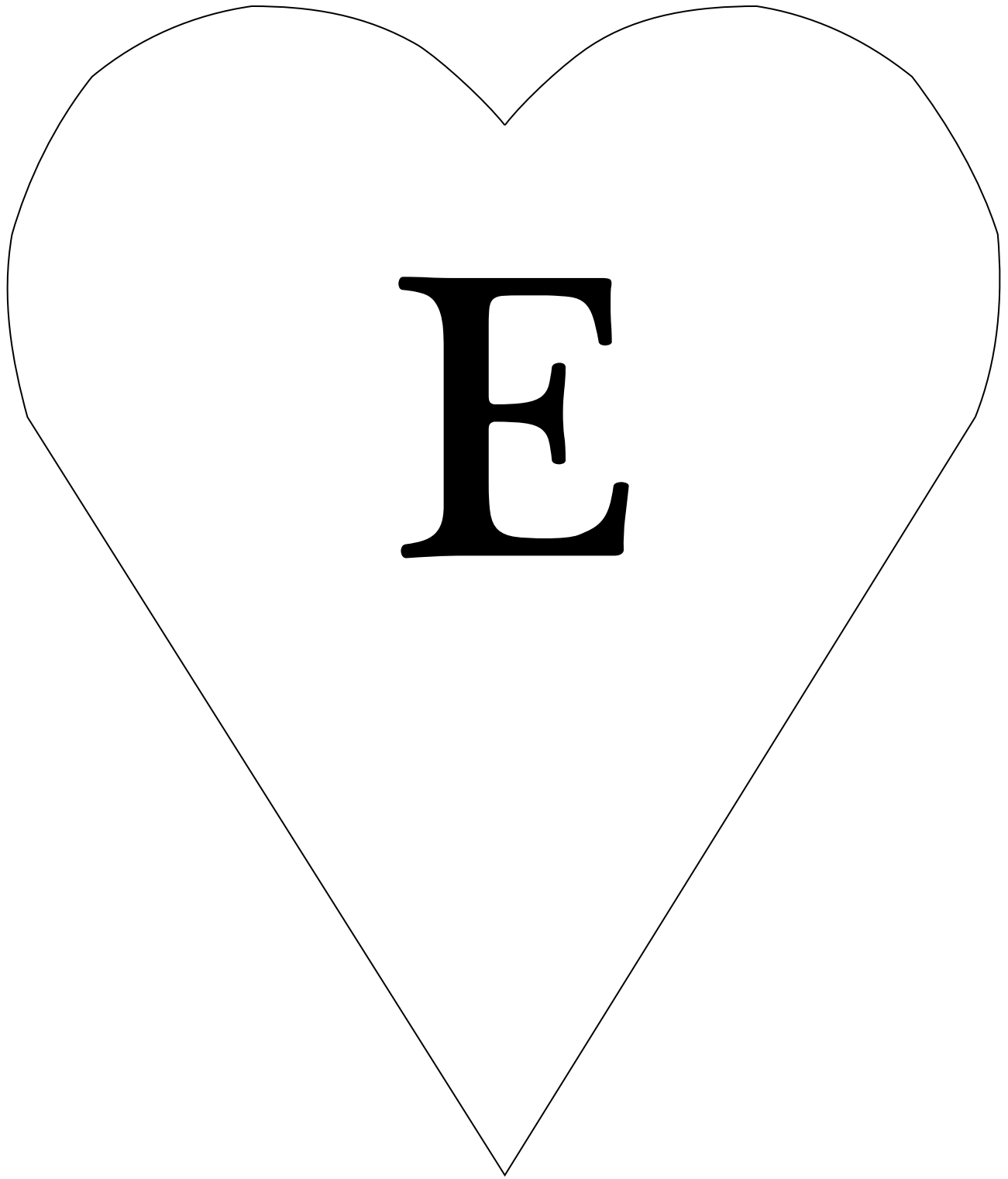


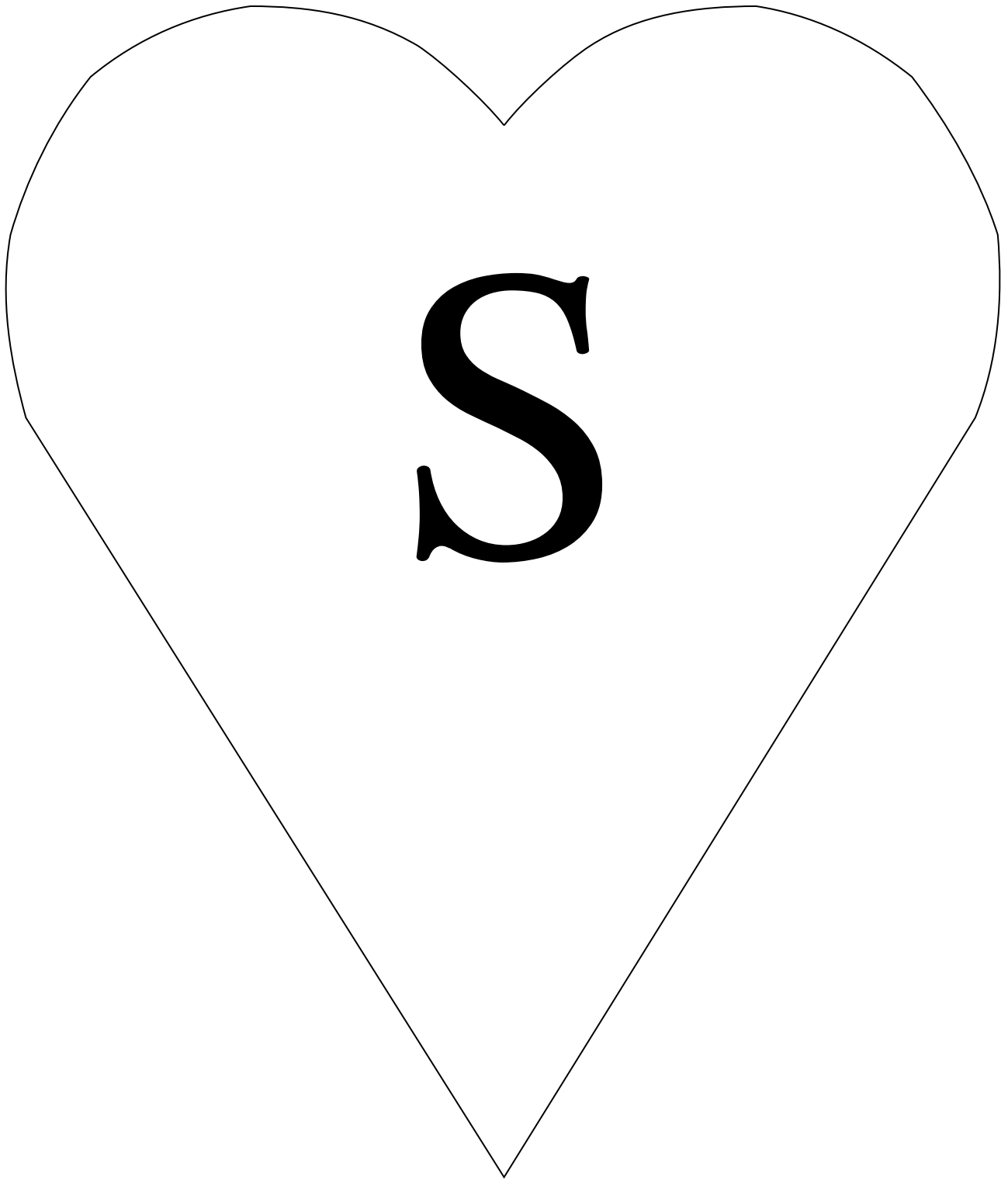












# Cinnamon Puffs

## Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- one sheet (1/2 package) commercial puff pastry, thawed according to package directions

## Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 400°. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. In a small bowl, combine the sugar and cinnamon until well blended.
3. Unfold the sheet of puff pastry and sprinkle it generously with the cinnamon sugar. With a sharp knife or a pizza wheel, cut the puff pastry into 2-inch long sticks. Spread the pastry pieces out over the baking sheet so that they have at least 1/2-inch space between them.
4. Bake the puffs for about 10 minutes or until puffy and golden brown. Cool on a rack.
5. Store the puffs for a day or two in an airtight container.



# Easy Chocolate Fondue

## Ingredients:

- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1/2 - 3/4 cup half and half
- cinnamon puffs
- fresh fruit dippers
- cake or cookie dippers

## Instructions:

1. Place the chocolate chips in a microwave-safe bowl.
2. Add enough half and half to almost cover the chips.
3. Heat the cup in the microwave for 20 second intervals until the half and half is hot. The chips may not be melted yet, but they will melt further as you stir the mixture. Stir the mixture with a fork until very smooth.
4. Divide into small ramekins or cups for individual servings.  
Serve with fruit, cake, cookie dippers, and/or cinnamon puffs.

## Other Sweet Treats:

- [Big Puffy Heart Tarts](#)
- [Chocolate Cheesecake](#)
- [Chocolate Mint Bars](#)
- [Cranberry Chocolate Snack Cake](#)
- [Fruit and Nut Energy Bites](#)
- [Homemade Chocolate Cream Pie](#)
- [Maple-Oat Heart Scones](#)
- [Personal Cherry Crumbles](#)

## Treasure Hunt Hearts

Fill in these hearts with location clues. Give your kids the first one, and then they need to solve the clue to find the next clue, and so on, until they find their Valentine's Day gift.



# Coupon Books

Choose from either the Red or Blue versions of the “I Love You” Coupon Book. Customize them by hand or type your text right into the document. You can keep it simple and place them in an envelope, or spend a little more time to turn them into a tear-out coupon book.



## Supplies:

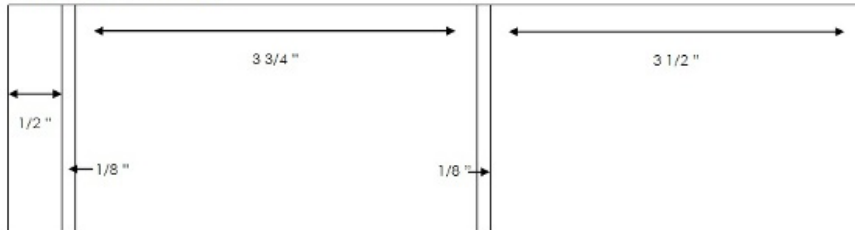
- sheet of customized coupons printed on plain paper (it's easier to use than cardstock or business card paper)
- paper cutter with cutting blade, scoring blade, and perforated blade (or alternatively scissors, ruler, perforating wheel, and embossing stylus)
- stapler
- decorative scrapbook paper for cover
- glue



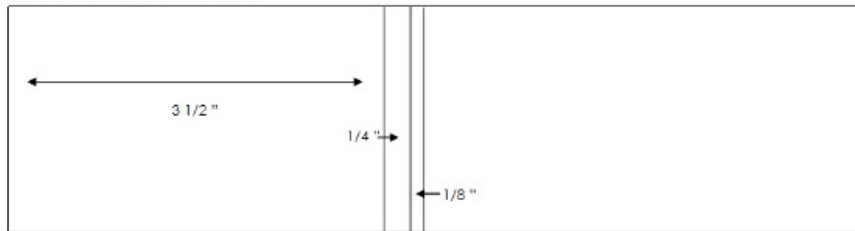
## Instructions:

1. Customize the coupons that are included in this PDF. Red or Blue are available.
2. Use the perforating blade and make a perforation along each column of coupons about 1/4 inch from the left edge of the coupon. (For these particular coupons, I used the edge of the colored rectangle as the edge of the coupon.)
3. Cut the coupons into equal sizes and stack them. (I used the colored rectangle as a guide for the left and top edges of the coupon. Then I cut them so they were 3.5 inches wide which required trimming a bit from the right edge.) Staple them together to the left of the perforated line.
4. Use decorative scrapbook paper to make the cover for the coupon book. For a matchbook style cover, you'll need a strip of paper that measures 2 1/4 inches by 8 inches. For a simple folded cover, you'll need a strip of paper that measures 2 1/4 inches by 7 5/8 inches.
5. Use the scoring blade (or embossing stylus) to score lines for easy folding:
  - For a matchbook-style cover, start scoring lines from the left at 1/2", then over another 1/8", then over another 3 3/4", and then another 1/8".
  - For a plain folded style cover, start scoring lines from the left at 3 1/2", then over another 1/4", and then over another 1/8".

Matchbook-Style



Simple Folded Style



6. Fold along the lines and place your stapled coupon stack inside.

- For the match-book style, the 1/2" flap will fold up and over the left side of the coupon. Place a small amount of glue in between the edge of the coupon and the staple on both sides of the coupon stack and glue the stack to the back cover and the left edge of the flap. If the cover doesn't tuck properly into the flap because of the glue, just trim the cover slightly until it fits.
- For the plain folded style, the 1/4" scoring is part of the front cover. Place a small amount of glue in between the edge of the coupon and the perforated line on both sides of the coupon stack and sandwich between the folded cover.



I LOVE YOU  
SO MUCH

This coupon is good for

With Love from



I LOVE YOU  
SO MUCH

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With Love from



I LOVE YOU  
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## Other Valentine's Day Tutorials

### DIY Valentine's Cards

- [Custom Wrapped Candy Bars](#)
- ["Love is an Open Door" Printable Valentine](#)
- [Marvel Printable Valentine](#)
- [Origami Fish Valentines](#)
- [Printable Bookmarks](#)
- [Super Mario-Inspired Printable Valentine](#)
- ["You're My Kind of Valentine" Printable](#) (for KIND Bars)

### Valentine Gift Ideas

- [Box of Chocolates Money Gift](#)
- [Microwaveable Heat Packs](#)
- [Salt Dough Candle Holders](#)

Thanks for subscribing to the Life as Mom newsletter! Each week you'll receive tips and tricks to help you love your life as mom a little bit more. Plus, you'll be the first to know about special promotions, giveaways, and insider tips to get you firmly on the road to Joyful Motherhood.

Got questions? Please email me! [jessica@LifeasMom.com](mailto:jessica@LifeasMom.com)