## LASER CUTTING

## Skill Tree: Color in the boxes and level up your skills

Use for individuals or as a group by picking a colour each and coloring in a part of the box. Everyone's journey is different and you can interpret the goals flexibly. The aim is to inspire you to learn and try new things. Not everything needs to be completed.



Make a laser cut project that's bigger than yourself

Use a Galvo/

Make a hard

material bend with

living hinges

Make a custom

workholding solution

or jig

Make something

with a few different

materials

Do a marquetry

project

Engrave ceramic,

tile or stone

Make a design

using stacked

materials

Find perfect cut

settings for a new

material

Prototype

a project with

cardboard

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Learn your

laser interface

Teach a workshop on laser cutting

Use a 3D design

software, to create a

complex fitted part

Learn how to

use boolean tools

effectively

Learn the kerf

settings for your

laser

Use a camera

mounted to your laser

to position your jobs

O.

Find perfect

image/photo

engraving settings

R

Make an organizer

with laser cutting

Cut something

from timber

Customize a design

using vector software

P

Use a laser

cutter for the first

time

(set your own goal)

Cut a nonstandard material

(e.g. leather, rubber stamp leaf, shell)

Use a rotary

laser to engrave

a curved object

Make something from laser cut fabric / leather

Fix a laser cutter when

something goes wrong

Solve a real-life problem with laser cutting

Use tabs to keep small pieces in

a design in place

Make a stencil

Use an auto-trace function to turn pixels

into vectors

pre-made and laser

etch it ) .

Upload a file

to your laser interface software and use it

(set your own goal)

Upload a design online

(set your own goal)

Use a 3D engraving technique (eg. depth map)

Create a complex design from scratch using vector software

Combine laser cutting with hardware (bolts, hinges etc)

Convert something

from one vector format

to another

a laser cutting skill

Have an idea

and make it in

Add paint or color to a project

F

Combine laser cutting and 3D printing in

the same project Teach a friend

Add electronics to a laser cutting

project

less than 1 hr Make something

from upcycled materials

23 Reverse engineer something for a project

Cut something from acrylic

> Make a simple design in vector software

Get a design wrong and try again

> Use cutting and engraving

Make a

tool with laser cutting

Learn which

Find a pre-made file online to use with your laser cutter

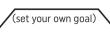
materials are unsafe to cut

in the same project

1 tile = 1 point

**Total Score** 

**HERE START** 



Optimize a repetitive job for

speed

Use a single-line

font

Aa

Join a laser cutting

group (online or in person)

9

Use multiple

passes to cut through

a thick material

Use a box

generator and laser

cut a box

Use a material

test file to test a

new material

Learn what kind of

laser you are using

\*

Set up an exhaust or

air filtration system

₩

Nest parts for maximum material efficiency

(set your own goal)

Fiber laser Cutter

**Engrave** metal

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Fit something to a real-life object (use a photo or scan)

Oj.

Make something

for a friend Optimize a design for engraving

> Modify your laser cutter (air assist, add camera, change firmware,

etc) O.

Make something with a perforated fold/ tear-away

Make something from multiple laser cut parts

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Learn the difference between CO<sup>2</sup> and diode laser cutters

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Make sure safety for using your laser



equipment is in place















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