

Laser is a truly great invention of mankind. As it often happens with big discoveries, lasers have found their application in many areas of life.

In medicine laser is used for vision correction. In that way, for example, nearsightedness (when you see good up close, but see badly in the distance, it happens because light beams are focused in front of the retina), farsightedness (conversely, when you see good in the distance, but see badly up close, that in turn happens because light beams are focused behind the retina), astigmatism (when you don't have clear vision in principle because light beams are focused in various points) and poor age-related vision are treated with a laser surgery.

In military industry laser of course found his application too. Laser weapon can destroy various targets, but the larger the object, the more energy is needed. Because of that it is quite difficult to design a small laser weapon. But it is still possible to develop the weapon to attack small targets, missiles, mines or tanks with fuel, for example. Besides, the laser can be the basis for traumatic weapon. Such a weapon will be used not to kill, but to stop, because the laser burn is still painful, so it will prevent criminal's actions. Also the laser can be used to dazzle enemy.

In heavy industry laser is used for cutting. Focused laser controlling by the computer can melt, burn or vaporize any material. This cutting method has several advantages. A material to cut can be both hard and fragile. The process is very accurate and can also be very fast.

There also exist laser pointers, which in their turn have many applications too. According to the name the laser pointer are used to point out something, for example, during a presentation. The laser pointers can be used to play with pets, as the laser spot attracts cats and dogs. In amateur astronomy it is possible with the laser pointer to point out some stars or constellation.

It is also possible in the future to use solar sail. This invention being a very thin mirrored square uses laser pressure to move in outer space. Though created force isn't too great, it can act for a very long time accelerating the object to the speed near to speed of light. However, such a sail is not quite big and very fragile, so it hasn't yet been widely used.

Besides listed applications there are a lot of other ones. As laser is a convenient means of energy transmission, it is also a useful tool and will be used often in the future.