



LASER CUTTING

MATERIALS GUIDE

Cutting Materials	Notes
*Wood/ Plywood/ Composites	see back for suggested cutting power and speed
*MDF /Engineered Woods	
Paper / Cardstock	
*Cardboard	Cuts well, may catch fire so keep an eye on it
Cork	
*Acrylic/Lucite/Plexiglass	Cuts well leaving a polished edge
Mylar	Cuts well. if thin, could warp, bubble, or curl
Cloth/ Felt/ Hemp/ Cotton	All cut well
*Leather/ Suede	Thin Leather can be cut (only use real leather)
*Depron Foam	Used often for hobby, or architectural models, cuts well
*Foam Core Board	Cuts well, foam core may shrink

***can also be etched**

Etching Materials	Notes
Flat Glass	Etches Great, leaves a sandblasted look finish
Curved Glass	Can be etched with use of the rotary device
Ceramic Tile	
Anodized Aluminum	Vaporizes anodization away
Painted/ Coated Metals	Vaporizes paint away
Stone/Marble/Granite	Leaves a white textured look when etched

Avoid! Materials	Notes
PVC/Vinyl/Pleather/Artificial Leather	Emits chlorine gas - can ruin the optics and cause metal parts to corrode
ABS/HDPE/Milk Bottle Plastic	Melts, leaves behind gooey residue and catches fire.
Materials with Sticky Glue Backing	Glue can vaporize and coat the lens causing it to crack
Polypropylene/Polystyrene Foam	Catches fire very quickly, melts, and burns rapidly
Epoxy	Laser will not cut, it burns and creates lots of smoke
Fiberglass	Mix of glass and epoxy, laser will not cut