

LASER CUTTING GUIDELINES

LASER CUTTING PROCESS

1. Fill out a laser cutting request envelope, specify the file location, and submit it to a shop technician. Leave your material (not your envelope) on a numbered shelf and indicate that number on your envelope. Files are printed in the order they are received.
2. All files must be submitted through the Rapid Prototyping server. USB drives and CDs are not accepted. Be sure the file name on your envelope EXACTLY MATCHES the file in your folder or we will not print it. We will not guess or make assumptions. Also, we will not do corrections to your file for you. If there are any mistakes, you will be called and asked to fix the problems yourself.
3. Typical turnaround for pick-up is after 5:00 p.m. the following day under usual laser cutting demand. Allow more time during finals and other times of heavy demand.

LOCATION OF RAPID PROTOTYPING SERVER

FOR PC

- Start>type "run" in the search bar and hit [enter]
- Then type "\\acswinserver"
- (if prompted for name and password, use your name and password used to login to computers)
- Look for Rapid Prototyping folder and select it.
- Create your folder and copy files into it.

FOR MAC

- Go>connect to server>type "smb://acswinserver"
- (if prompted for name and password, use your name and password used to login to computers)
- Look for Rapid Prototyping folder and select it.
- Create your folder and copy files into it.

PRICING

The cost of Laser Cutting is \$5.00 for the first minute and \$0.50 for each additional minute. There is a cap of \$35 for prints up to 3 hours, and a second cap of \$70 for prints up to 6 hours. For print jobs containing more than 10 files, an additional charge of \$1.00 per file will be added to the total print job. The balance is due at pick-up. Cuts will not be released without payment. This payment should be given to a shop technician in the form of rapid prototyping cards (blue cards), purchased from the business office.

LASER CUTTING MODES

RASTER:

The laser head goes back and forth, line by line to create a filled image. This is used for files where there are solid shapes, such as photo engraving, or lines with width. It is used for engraving only, not to cut all the way through material.

VECTOR:

The laser head follows the vector lines of the file. It can be used for engraving or cutting, but cannot create lines with thickness greater than the kerf (thickness) of the laser.

FILE SETUP

All files should be 2D only. No extruded models will be accepted, because the machine cannot read them. The scale must be in inches.

We cannot cut your file unless the following are met:

ILLUSTRATOR:

1. Vector cut strokes must have a line weight of 0.1 pts.
2. Document Setup must be RGB and use colors specified under "printing information and tips."
3. Document should be formatted to your material size, with the origin (0,0) set to the upper left corner. Files cannot exceed 32" x 18" and must be horizontal.