

Know Your Laser Cutter

Laser Cutter Hardware

1. Laser cutter name <i>How do users refer to the machine¹</i>	
2. Location <i>Building, room etc</i>	
3. Brand <i>If known</i>	
4. Type <i>Usually CO2</i>	
5. Power rating <i>In Watts or milliWatts</i>	y
6. Air assist <i>Yes, No, details</i>	y
7. Cooling system <i>Usually water</i>	y
8. Venting system <i>Usually a pipe or filter unit</i>	y
9. Bed raise and lower <i>No, or Yes + vertical distance</i>	y
10. Rotary attachment <i>Yes, No, or we have one somewhere</i>	y
11. Bed dimensions <i>Width and depth of cutting area</i>	yy

Laser Cutter Control Software

12. Software name	yy
13. Version	yy
14. Requires licence/dongle?	yy
15. Download <i>Can you get a copy to learn on?</i>	yy
16. Communication with laser cutter <i>Single dedicated machine / dedicated machines on local network / any PC</i>	yy
17. Input vector file formats <i>SVG, DXF etc and file versions</i>	yy
18. Raster file formats <i>If any, e.g. JPG, TIFF</i>	yy

¹ Sometimes a nickname or “the red one”. Harder than it should be, but often these machines have no brand name, or are actually a mixture of several bits of hardware - a Franken-cutter.