

Laser Cutter Safety Rules and Information

1. The *Fab Lab* is the room housing the laser cutter and the 3-D printer in the back of classroom D104.
2. The Fab Lab machines can only be operated by students when there is a trained adult in the Fab Lab or in D104.
3. A trained individual (who has passed the safety test) must monitor the machine while it is running. This means that someone should stay in the actual Fab Lab, although a very quick trip into D104 and back to the Fab Lab is okay.
4. Only individuals who have been trained and who have scored 100% on the safety test may operate the laser cutter.
5. If you are not comfortable with operating the laser cutter, you should not be operating it.
6. The blower must be turned on at all times while the laser cutter is cutting. The blower is loud, but it must remain on during cutting.
7. Do not open any part of the laser cutter while it is cutting. [If you open the lid of the machine while the laser cutter is operating, it will stop and cancel your current job, but still – do not open it. If you need to cancel a job you can use the buttons on the control pad.]
8. Not all materials may be laser cut. Attempting to cut certain materials will damage the machine and void its warranty. For a list of compatible materials, consult the list on the wall near the phone. The list is not complete. Other materials may be cut, but before cutting those materials, consult a trained adult.
9. Do not assume, just because you find some material in the Fab Lab, that the material you have found is safe to laser cut.
10. PVC cannot be cut on the laser cutter. Any materials that produce hydrogen chloride or vinyl chloride cannot be cut on the laser cutter.
11. Even after you have been trained to use the laser cutter, you must still ask and receive an instructor's permission before you use the machine.
12. If other people come near the laser cutter while you are operating it, *you* are responsible for making sure that those other people follow safety procedures related to the running machine. If you need backup from someone with more perceived authority, ask a nearby adult for help.
13. If the Fab Lab air becomes uncomfortably unclean, you may temporarily prop open the door to the parking lot. Be sure to close the door when you are finished.
14. Sometimes items in the laser cutter actually catch on fire. In case of a fire in the laser cutter, use the metal fire suppression board to smother the fire. This is a metal square situated on the floor to the right of the laser cutter.