

Drawing Considerations

Corners:

All the cutters are circular which means that internal corners will have a radius left the size of the cutter. The smaller the diameter of the cutter, the smaller the radius of the cut.

Depth of cuts and diameter of cutter:

Generally the rule is that each time you cut into the material you can only go down as deep as the cutter is wide i.e. if you use a 6 mm cutter each cut can only be 6mm deep. As an example if your material is 18mm thick we will have to pass the cutter over the material 3 times. So the wider the cutter the more material it can clear and the faster and cheaper it will be.

Space between components:

Smaller or thinner items (anything smaller than 300 x 300mm or thinner than 150mm in any direction) tend to move around during cutting as their surface area is not big enough for the vacuum to hold them securely in place. To deal with this the machine is programmed to leave tabs, small areas where the material is not removed, a bit like an Airfix kit. This means that you need to allow enough room around the smaller items so that there is enough material left to hold on to. We recommend leaving at least 35mm between smaller items.

Cutting depths:

The machine can cut to different depths, not just all the way through.

Work Area:

The size of the cutting area is 2440x1220mm but please be aware that you need to keep to leave a border around the edge of your sheet. This should be at least 5 mm + the width of the cutter.

Fills:

The machine can cut an area to be cleared within a shape, rather like the fill tool on Photoshop or Illustrator. However this can make for a lot of cutting if large areas need to be cleared.

Holes:

Holes are fine too.

Cutters:

There are loads of cutters available - http://www.wealdentool.com/acatalog/Router_Cutters_1.html

If you need a specific type of cutter let us know and we will order them in for your job.

Standard cutters are 3mm, 4mm, 6mm, 8mm diameter.

Offsets:

The machine can cut on the line, offset outside the line or offset inside the line, and you will need to specify which. If you cut along the line with an 8mm cutter there will be 4mm cut off either side of the line. But if the line is the actual edge you want then you will need specify which side of the line you want us to cut.