Laser cutters have several hazards associated with their use ranging from the creation of toxic fumes to the possibility of fire.

The following are some guidelines for safe use of a laser cutter.

**Do** wear the appropriate safety glasses when needed. Sunglasses are not considered appropriate protective eyewear.

**Do** inform a supervisor or a manager of any damage.

**Do** ask a supervisor or a manager if you have any questions or concerns.

**Do** clean the system.

**Do** pay attention to what you are doing.

**Do** read and understand everything in the safety documents and operation manual.

**Do** observe the manufacturer’s speed guidelines for the material being cut.

**Do** report all accidents, including near-misses. Actions taken to correct any minor problems can help avoid future mishaps.

**Don’t** operate without proper ventilation to the outside, or connection to a filtration unit.

**Don’t** use materials that are highly flammable, explosive or produce toxic byproducts.

**Don’t** use the laser cutter in a way that could harm anyone.

**Don’t** leave the equipment unattended.

**Don’t** attempt to open or modify the laser cutter.

**Don’t** remove, disable, or modify safety guards.

**Don’t** leave a mess in or around the equipment.

**Quick Take**


– Contact the Laser Safety Officer for concerns related to laser usage and safety.

---

To view fact sheets on other topics, please visit [https://www.temple.edu/ehrs/factsheets](https://www.temple.edu/ehrs/factsheets)