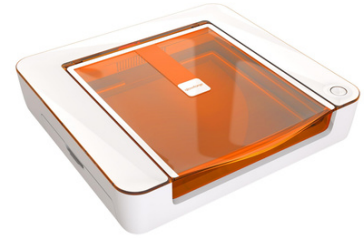


FORGE | Glowforge Aura



Cost

There is no charge to use the laser cutter. The library provides limited proofgrade materials to purchase by the sheet if needed. Please see our Materials Guide for pricing and more information.

Laser Cutting Reservations

- For a reservation, please fill out the Reserve the Laser Cutter form on our website.
 - Reservations available to anyone with a library card in good standing registered at Ela Area Public Library with priority to Ela cardholders.
- You are permitted one two-hour session per day.
 - Extra time may be granted (at the discretion of staff) if no one is waiting. If your project runs over your time limit, we will allow it to continue to print until completion or until the next appointment arrives and is ready to print (whichever occurs first).
- Projects are stopped 30 minutes before Forge closes.
- You have a 15-minute grace period before your reservation is automatically cancelled.

Work Area

Max materials depth: up to ¼" thick

Max material size: 12" x 12" inches

Cutting area approx: 144 in sq.

Glowforge Aura can cut materials up to 1/4" thick, and engrave materials up to 3/4" thick with the cutting tray removed.

Material Capability

Can safely print on any laser-compatible material, including the examples below.

Note: **Most materials work beautifully with the Glowforge Aura, but we recommend against using draftboard and clear, white, and blue acrylic.** All other acrylic colors, and both Light and Thick plywoods, will work wonderfully.



Engrave and Cut:



Wood



Acrylic



Leather



Veneer



Paper



Cardboard



Delrin



Mylar



Rubber



Cork



Sandpaper



Food

...and
hundreds
more!

Engrave only



Stone



Slate



Titanium



Aluminum



Marble



Ceramic tile



Corian

Design

- It is recommended to create your own vector file in advance and attach your project to the Laser Cutting Reservation form. You can also create your file during your 2- hour reservation, time permitting.
- Forge staff are only able to help with basic Inkscape software guidance and encourage the use of supplemental materials like YouTube and Creative Bug to help with editing files.
- Only trained library staff can operate the laser cutter software.

File Types: .svg (preferred), .ai, .png (duotone)

Recommended Software: Inkscape (available in Forge) or Adobe Illustrator (available in the Digital Media Labs)

Free Files: [Thingiverse](#) and [Glowforge community catalog](#)

Laser Cutter Safety

Before you start cutting and/or engraving:

- Do not put anything inside the laser cutter that is not laser compatible.
- Do not stack materials.
- Do not leave things on, or around the laser cutter.
- Allow prints to cool before handling them.

While in use:

- Do not leave the laser cutter unattended.
- Some amount of smoke and odor is normal when the laser cutter is operating and should not be a concern unless it is so strong that it causes irritation.
- Look inside frequently; the flame should move with the laser.
 - If the flame remains after the laser has passed alert the Forge staff member immediately.

