# LASER CUTTER



## **SOFTWARE**

Adobe Illustrator

Available in Rooms 301, 401, 402, and the VRC. Other software can be used but your final design must be exported as a .PDF or .Ai file.

## **REQUIRED BEFORE USE:**

- Radiation Laser safety training
- Signed user authorization form
- VRC consultation

## PLAN AHEAD

Matte board is available to prototype your designs. Other materials are available for purchase in the VRC that will be charged to your Bursar account.

#### The laser cutter can engrave and cut:

- Wood
- Paper
- Coated Metal (cannot cut)
- Plastic (must be purchased in the VRC)
- Other materials can be pre-approved before purchase

## **APPOINTMENTS**

#### Two appointments are required:

#### 1) Consultation

• A 15 min consultation is required to determine specifications & print time before you can schedule a laser cut appointment

#### 2) Laser Cutter

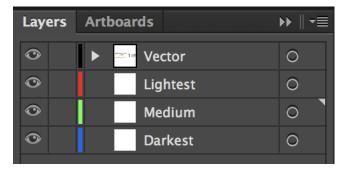
- Laser cutter appointments will be scheduled during consultations
- Students will work with VRC staff to use the laser cutter, and are required to monitor the equipment during the entire cut

### **FILE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Name files: Lastname Filename
- Document needs to be in RGB
- Maximum dimensions 24" x 18"
- Check that your file is at full size / 1:1 scale
- Vector cutting lines need to be a black .001 pt stroke
- Raster lines need to be a .5 pt stroke or greater
- Art board must have 1/4 inch margins on all sides

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## **COLOR MAPPING GUIDE**

- 1) Before you set up your file, come into the VRC office to look at material examples and decide how many "shades" you need.
  - The 4 COLOR METHOD will give more contrast between the layers.
  - The 8 COLOR METHOD will have a more gradual gradient appearance.
- **2)** Make sure your color settings are set to RBG and RASTER line widths are set to 0.5 or greater.
- 3) Set up your layers as shown using either the: 4 COLOR METHOD (top-left) or the 8 COLOR METHOD (bottom-left).
- **4)** Set up your color settings to match the RGB color settings shown on the right. The Raster lines must match their layer color setting.

