

# WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR WHEN SHOPPING FOR A CO2 LASER CUTTER?

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# WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR WHEN SHOPPING FOR A CO2 LASER CUTTER?

When it comes to laser cutting, CO2 laser cutters are the most popular choice. They are used for a variety of applications, from cutting and engraving wood and acrylic to etching glass and metal. With so many options available, it can be difficult to know what to look for when shopping for a CO2 laser cutter. This article will provide an overview of the key features to consider when shopping for a CO2 laser cutter.

## Power

The power of a CO2 laser cutter is measured in watts. The higher the wattage, the more powerful the laser cutter. Generally speaking, the higher the wattage, the faster the cutting speed and the thicker the material that can be cut. However, it is important to note that the wattage of the laser cutter is not the only factor to consider when determining the cutting speed and material thickness. Other factors such as the type of material being cut, the size of the material, and the type of laser cutter being used can also affect the cutting speed and material thickness.

## Laser Tube

The laser tube is the component of the laser cutter that produces the laser beam. It is important to consider the type of laser tube when shopping for a CO2 laser cutter. The two most common types of laser tubes are sealed and open. Sealed laser tubes are more expensive but are more reliable and require less maintenance. Open laser tubes are less expensive but require more maintenance and are less reliable.

## Software

The software used to control the laser cutter is an important factor to consider when shopping for a CO2 laser cutter. The software should be easy to use and should provide a wide range of features. It should also be compatible with the type of material being cut and the type of laser cutter being used.

## Safety Features

Safety is an important factor to consider when shopping for a CO2 laser cutter. The laser cutter should have safety features such as an emergency stop button, a safety interlock, and a ventilation

system. It is also important to make sure that the laser cutter is UL certified.

## **Price**

The price of a CO2 laser cutter is an important factor to consider when shopping for one. Generally speaking, the higher the wattage, the more expensive the laser cutter. It is also important to consider the cost of the software, the cost of the laser tube, and the cost of any additional accessories.

## **Warranty**

The warranty of a CO2 laser cutter is an important factor to consider when shopping for one. The warranty should cover any defects in the laser cutter and should provide a reasonable amount of time for the warranty to be in effect.

## **FAQs**

### **What is the difference between a sealed and open laser tube?**

A sealed laser tube is more reliable and requires less maintenance than an open laser tube. An open laser tube is less expensive but requires more maintenance and is less reliable.

### **What safety features should a CO2 laser cutter have?**

A CO2 laser cutter should have safety features such as an emergency stop button, a safety interlock, and a ventilation system. It should also be UL certified.

### **What is the difference between the wattage of a laser cutter and the cutting speed and material thickness?**

The wattage of a laser cutter is not the only factor to consider when determining the cutting speed and material thickness. Other factors such as the type of material being cut, the size of the material, and the type of laser cutter being used can also affect the cutting speed and material thickness.