# Acrylic Sheets (Assorted Colors and Thicknesses)

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Materials & Stock

Photo: Gangulybiswarup — CC BY 4.0 — via Wikimedia Commons (Painting_On_Acrylic_Sheet_In_Progress_-_Kolkata_2024-02-23_2408.jpg)

Acrylic sheet (PMMA) is a tough, clear or coloured plastic used for signs, displays, models, laser cutting and protective covers, available in thicknesses from 2 to 10 mm. Cast and extruded acrylic cut cleanly on the laser and polish at the edges.

## Key Features

- Clear, black, white and coloured sheets
- Thicknesses 2, 3, 5, 6, 10 mm common
- Cast acrylic polishes edge clear
- Extruded acrylic cuts cheaper
- Scratch-resistant and UV stable grades

## Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Laser cut signs, panels and enclosures
- Build display cases and product models
- Cut windows and covers for projects
- Engrave awards and nameplates

## Safe Operation

1. Keep the protective film on during cutting
2. Set laser power and speed for the thickness
3. Cut with the recommended settings from the chart
4. Break flat on a scored line for quick work
5. Remove and polish edges with a scraper

SAFETY NOTES

- Never laser PVC or vinyl - chlorine gas hazard
- Acrylic edges are sharp after cutting - deburr
- Bend with a strip heater, not over a flame
- Wear eye protection when cutting
- Store sheets flat, film side up, away from heat

## Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean with a soft cloth and acrylic cleaner
- Remove film promptly or it can bond
- Store sheets vertically in a rack
- Keep offcuts in a scrap bin for small jobs
- Protect the surface from scratches

## Specification & Buying Notes

Stock clear 3 mm and 5 mm plus black and white 3 mm for laser work, and coloured scrap packs. Cast acrylic is best for engraving; extruded suits simple cutting. Check the maximum sheet size the laser accepts.