

What tools can I use?

The makerspace classifies tools into two categories: simple and complex.

Simple tools are those that require no in-person training, are often portable, and would cause limited or minimal injury or damage if misused. Examples of simple tools include:

- hand sewing equipment, such as needles and thread
- basic hand tools such as screwdrivers, hammers, tape measures, speed squares, etc.
- cordless drills
- the Cricut vinyl cutter
- crafting supplies such as paper, glue, tape, acrylic or tempura paint, etc.
- computer lab computers and laser printers
- cleaning equipment and supplies

Any member can use simple tools at any time.

Complex tools are those that require training, are usually not portable, and would cause significant damage or injury if misused. Members **must** be trained and certified by an area lead prior to using complex tools. Examples of complex tools include:

- the laser cutter or engraver
- 3D printers
- any woodshop power saws, planers, jointers, or sanders
- any metalworking or jewelry making equipment
- sewing machines
- the upright vinyl cutter
- the X-Carve and Shapeoko CNC wood milling machines
- hot-air rework equipment
- any other equipment marked with a "Training required" tag or sticker

All complex tools are marked with "Training Required" stickers. If you have any questions about simple vs. complex tools, please talk to a staff member, area lead, or board member.

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