



GRAVOGRAPH NEW HERMES

Shop Safety

No one likes to talk about safety. We'd rather hear about an interesting new product or process, or a better, faster method, or a way to make more profit. But without a few basic safety guidelines, profit won't do you any good. We'll get to the interesting and profitable part soon enough; first, we have a few reminders of things you already know.

1. Don't turn on the machine unless it's plugged into a surge protector. This is not only for safety, but for economic reasons as well. An engraving table is an expensive investment; protect it.
2. Likewise, make sure the machine is on a sturdy table or stand. These machines are heavy, and vibrate quite a lot when they are running. Make sure it's not going to fall.
3. Keep a fire extinguisher handy. You never know.
4. Use a chip-collection system on your machine, and wear eye protection. During engraving, tiny bits of plastic or metal can fly everywhere.
5. If you have long hair, tie it back out of harm's way, and keep neckties and shirtsleeves clear of the moving parts of the machine.
6. Don't touch any part of the area around the spindle while the machine is running. It can be difficult to tell what's moving and what's not.
7. Rubber floor mats around your machines are a good investment. Not only do they keep the floor from getting slippery with dust, but also if you drop a sign or a cutter, the mats give them a better chance of survival than a concrete or wood floor.
8. Be careful with hobby/utility knives and with cutters. Remember, a sharp knife is safer than a dull one, but it still deserves respect.