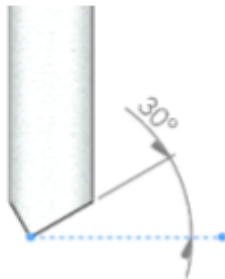
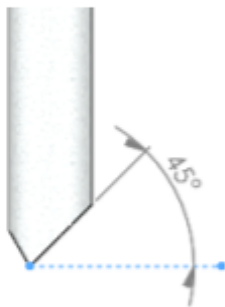
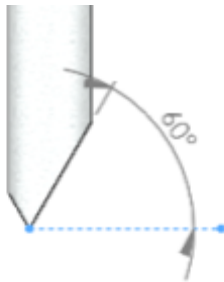


Which blade type should I use?

Guidance on the 3 different blade types and which to use

What are the different blade types?

There are 3 different types of blade, defined by their cutting angle. The different angles can be applied to different material types and thicknesses. The diagram below represents how the different angles are measured.



Note that the steeper the angle, the deeper the blade extends.

How to identify which is which

Blades ship with a protective cap, and the colour helps indicate the blade's angle. Watch out though, it's easy to put the wrong cap on a blade!



Angle (degrees)	Colour cap
60	Blue
45	Red
30	Yellow

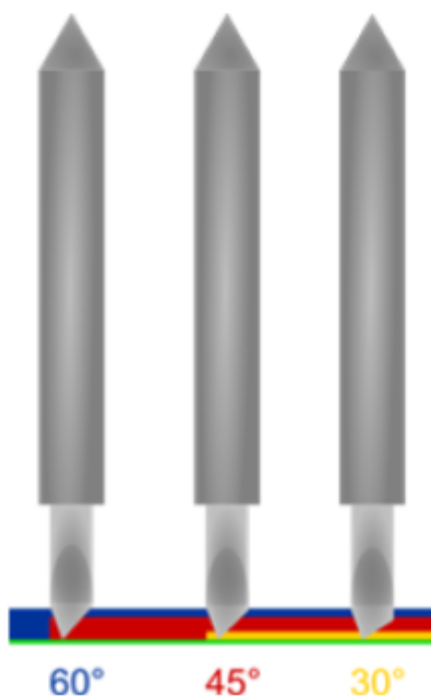
What are the different blades types used for?

Different blade angles work better for different materials.

Theory

- A steeper angle (e.g. 60°) can reach deeper, and is therefore used for thicker materials. But, this attracts a higher cutting load (which may cause tearing).
- A shallower angle (e.g. 30°) has a reduced cutting load. But it cannot reach as far, and therefore is ideal for thinner materials.

A good rule of thumb is to use as shallow an angle as the material thickness will allow.



*Cutting mat/ backing paper

Examples of use

Angle (degrees)	Colour cap	Material used
60	Blue	Thick media such as card, rigid vinyl, fabric, cork, and magnet
45	Red	Medium media such as vinyl (adhesive and heat transfer), paper and thin card
30	Yellow	Thin media such as film or window tint