

LASER PARTS CLEANING

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Here's a neat tip guys. From May 2001 Flying Models, Electric Flight article by Dick Miller.

In building a kit with laser-cut parts, the usual procedure is to sand the burnt edges of the parts because charcoal-to-charcoal (carbon) joints are quite weak, even if you use CA glue. Being inherently lazy, I decided that there had to be a process that could remove the carbonized edge material en masse. I tried everything I could think of to do this: ammonia, bleach, oxalic acid-you name it-and finally settled on hydrogen peroxide, H₂O₂.

This stuff is not dangerous and is available over-the-counter at a pharmacy. It should be applied straight out of the bottle with a cotton swab or sponge. You may also lay the parts on a cloth or several layers of paper towels saturated with H₂O₂.

After treatment, if you're in a hurry for the parts to dry, place them on a paper towel and pop them in the microwave at 10% power for a couple of minutes; repeat as necessary. Just don't overcook them. Hydrogen peroxide is an unstable compound and rapidly converts into water and oxygen. For this reason that the absolutely best results were obtained with a brand new, never-been-opened-before bottle. Hey, we're only talking about 79 cents here, so trash the bottle you've had since you decided to go back to your normal hair color and buy a new one.