

GCSE Graphic materials tips

Consider these points on your sheet:

- What materials would you make your model from?
- State materials and the materials properties.
- How will you cut and join your materials?
- What tools will you use?
- What finishes could you use?
- What materials do designers use in industry use, the same, more expensive tools, CAD CAM equipment?
- Environmental issues.

On your research sheet you should consider what materials you could use and the materials properties. You can only use materials that you can cut easily with a craft knife! Include some small material sample and list the materials properties. Note you should cover six to eight materials E.g. -

Example answer - Foam board sample



Foam board is **extremely strong**, yet **lightweight** and is **easy to cut**. I might use this for **my shop front walls** or a **pos unit**. I can **cut it with a steel rule** and a **scalpel**. This can be **fixed with masking tape** and **PVA glue** only, **solvent glues will dissolve the foam**. Foam board can be sanded.

Paper and card

Cartridge, layout, bleed proof, tracing, cardboards mounting, Duplex and foamboard.

More info: -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/graphics/materialsandcomponentsrev2.shtml>

Plastics

You can only use these thermoplastics, including acetate, polyethylenes, Polystyrenes and PVC.

More info: -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/graphics/materialsandcomponentsrev4.shtml>

Wood

You can only use balsa wood.

Finish

You can use fillers (body filler, plaster) and finishing with acrylic, cellulose and water based paints.

More info: -

Finishing techniques -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/graphics/materialsandcomponentsrev6.shtml>

Paints -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/graphics/materialsandcomponentsrev3.shtml>

Gluing

How will you glue these materials you can use a range of appropriate adhesives including PVA, epoxy resins, spray glues / hot glue, cements, tape, adhesive plastic film and masking fluid.

More info: -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/graphics/materialsandcomponentsrev5.shtml>

What tools will you use?

You can use a range of cutting tools including scalpels and craft knives with mats, scissors, rotary cutters, compass cutter, small fret saw; you can even use the laser cutter!

More info: -

A graphic materials shop

<http://www.londongraphics.co.uk/>

Laser cutting

<http://www.crclarke.co.uk/Products/LaserCutting.htm>