

SHREDDER SECURITY LEVELS EXPLAINED



Shredder security levels explained

Explore the world of shredder security levels, understanding cut types and DIN levels, to help find the right shredder to safeguard your information.

RECOMMENDED BY THE FELLOVES WORKLIFE COACH

If you need to dispose of personal or confidential paperwork, a shredder is likely to be the answer.

By shredding documents into thin strips or small particles, making them almost impossible to reassemble and read, all shredders are designed to make sensitive information harder to access.

However, which type of shredder you choose depends on just how high security your needs are.

Cut type

A shredder will either reduce a document into strip cuts, cross cuts, mini cut or micro cuts.

Strip cuts are ribbons up to the length of the shredded document, and these are usually featured on lower security shredders.

Higher level security shredders usually produce cross cuts, which are much shorter strips.

The highest-level security shredders will reduce your documents into micro-cuts, which are even smaller than cross cuts.



STRIP-CUT

DIN Levels P-1 & P-2

Offers basic document security.



CROSS-CUT

DIN Level P-3

For confidential documents. Difficult to assemble and read.



CROSS-CUT

DIN Level P-4

For confidential documents. Difficult to assemble and read.



MINI-CUT

DIN Level P-4

For extra peace of mind with confidential documents.



MICRO-CUT

DIN Level P-5

For highly confidential documents. Virtually impossible to assemble and read.



HIGH SECURITY

DIN Levels P-6 & P-7

For strictly confidential documents requiring security precautions of the highest level.

DIN levels

These tell you how strong the level of security is by the size of shred. Ranging from DIN 1 to DIN 7, the higher the number, the smaller the shred size and the greater the security will be.

A shredder offering DIN 1 can leave you with shreds of around 4 x 12mm, whereas a typical DIN 7 spec shredder can reduce documents to 0.8 x 5mm particles, or around 15,000 particles per A4 sheet.