

THE VILLAGES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

TRIM SAW BLADES

Blade Sizes and Maximum Thickness of Material to Cut

Saw Blade Size	Visible height of blade above surface	Maximum Thickness of Material
4"	3/4"	1/2"
5"	1 1/2"	1"
8"	3"	2 1/2"

A trim saw is to be used for trimming excess material from around your cabochons. The thickness of the material you cut should be no thicker than 2/3 the size of the visible cutting area of the saw blade (the distance from the work surface to the top of the saw blade).

The saw blade size is the diameter of the blade. You should know three additional measurements of the blade. The first one is the arbor hole size. Our saws have a 5/8" arbor hole. The next one is the Core; this is the thickness of the inside of the saw blade (that does not have diamonds impregnated on it. The last measurement is the Kerf which is the thickness of the saw blade's rim (the part of the blade with the diamonds impregnated. The dimension of the kerf is what matters most because the kerf determines how thick of a cut you will get... The kerf does get thinner over time as the saw blade wears away with continuous cutting.

If there is excessive oil or water spraying from the saw blade while you're cutting, this means you have over-filled the oil or water reservoir. Fill the reservoir with water (or oil) so that just the bottom of the saw blade is sitting in it, about 1/8" deep.