Press Brake Bending Capability Guide

Understanding tonnage, and what our press shop can do

Our Press Brake Capacity

Silver Technomech operates ten CNC press brakes ranging from 40T to 160T, alongside four power presses (from 20T) and one shearing machine, as part of our integrated press shop.

Note: Maximum bend length and maximum material thickness vary by machine and by material. Exact figures for each press brake in our line-up are being finalised — for a specific component, send us your drawing and material spec and we'll confirm feasibility directly rather than you having to estimate from a general chart.

How Press Brake Tonnage Works

Tonnage is the amount of force a press brake can apply, and it determines what combination of material thickness and bend length a machine can handle. As a general rule:

• Thicker material requires more tonnage to bend cleanly.

• A longer bend line requires more tonnage, even at the same material thickness, because the force is spread across the full length of the bend.

• Higher-strength materials (e.g. stainless steel vs. mild steel) require more tonnage than mild steel at the same thickness.

• Tighter bend radii generally require more tonnage than a wider, gentler bend.

This is why press shops run a range of tonnage machines rather than one — smaller components with short bend lines don't need a 160T machine, while larger structural parts do.

Why This Matters When You Submit a Drawing

Include material type and thickness on every drawing — this is the single biggest factor in feasibility.

• Note bend length for each fold, especially for longer panels.

• Flag any tight-radius bends specifically, as these may need a smaller-tonnage machine even on thicker material.

• If a component has multiple bends, let us know the sequence — some bend orders are easier to tool than others.

Getting a Feasibility Check

Rather than trying to match your component against a generic tonnage chart, send us your drawing directly. We'll confirm whether it's within our press shop's capability and flag anything that needs adjustment before you commit to a design.

Don't see a term you're looking for? Send us your drawing or specification and we're happy to walk through it with you before you submit a formal RFQ.

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