What level of security do you need?

Your security needs depend on the confidentiality of the materials you are shredding. There are 4 main levels of security; the higher the level of security, the smaller the cut size.

STRIP-CUT

A strip cut shredder, level P-2, will provide basic security. Strip cut shreds are typically a 7/32" of an inch wide and as long as the document being shredded. This means that an 8 ½" x 11" sheet of paper will be shredded into approximately 39 particles or strips.

Basic Security - Level P-2

Use for documents with low confidentiality need.

CROSS-CUT

With cross cut shredders (Level P-3 and P-4), paper becomes extremely difficult to assemble and read. Standard cross cut shreds are typically 5/32" x 2". So an 8 ½" x 11" sheet of paper will be shredded into approximately 300 particles. That's a significant increase from the strip cut shredder, providing you with very strong security.

Higher Security - Level P-3 & P-4

Enhanced security for highly confidential documents.

5/32" x 2" - 302 particles per sheet

5/32" x 1-1/2" - 397 particles per sheet

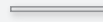Level P-3

Level P-4

MICRO-CUT

If you are shredding highly confidential documents and you desire an even higher level of security, then you should consider a micro-cut shredder (level P-5 and P-6). A standard cut size for a micro-cut shredder is 5/64"x 5/16". This means that shredding an 8 ½" x 11" sheet of paper with a micro-cut shredder could result in 3,700-6,200 particles, depending on model.

Ultimate Security - Level P-5 & P-6

Superior security for highly confidential documents.

5/64" x 5/16" - 3,770 particles per sheet

1/32" x 1/2" - 6,284 particles per sheet

HIGH-SECURITY

Government approved high-security shredders provide the highest level of protection. Level P-7 shredders are created for destroying top secret and classified documents, high-security shredders have a 1/32" x 3/16" cut size. This means that shredding a 8 ½" x 11" sheet of paper will result in more than 15,000 particles.

Government Approved - Level P-7

Delivers a high level of security protection for top secret and classified documents.

1/32" x 3/16" - 15,081 particles per sheet

THE WORLD'S TOUGHEST SHREDDERS™