

Match the Cut

User Guide



What's New



What's new in Match the Cut 1.1.10

Match the Cut 1.3.1 introduces features and enhancements detailed below.

New Import Options

Ability to ignore layers by name (Configurable in Settings). Also the ability to ignore dashed or dotted lines (Configurable in Settings).

Single Branch Import

Import can now resolve profiles with a single branch and still create a catalog item.

Reorder Tags

Tags can now be reordered in the settings menu.

Debug Display Mode

Useful for validating the rendering and primary edge detection

Starting



System Requirements

Match the Cut requires Windows 10 or later with at least 8GB of RAM.

The initial install is a trial version that limits the number of profiles and limits the time the app is valid (2 weeks). To remove the trial version, contact The Developing Company to purchase a license or multiple licenses.

Install ODA File Converter

If you are planning on importing .dwg files, they must be first converted to .dxf files. To do this, there is a free application – ODA File Converter that can batch-convert CAD files.

Install ODA File Converter by following the link below. Scroll down the page until you see the option to download the Windows version.

https://www.opendesign.com/guestfiles/oda_file_converter

Follow the instructions for installation.

Catalog Basics



Match the Cut catalog workflow

The overall process of importing and organizing your profiles has a general flow, but can be tweaked based on what works best for your company. The most important aspect of a useful catalog is concisely organizing the catalog in a way that will allow you to find profiles in the future.

Step 1 – Set location parameters and tags in Settings

In the Settings tab found on the bottom left-hand side of the app, you will find two organization sections: Location Info and Tags.

Location Info is intended to show the physical location of the knife. There are five labels available, but not all labels need to be used. Some companies will not use any labeling system. Others may use only three labels: Location, Cabinet, and Drawer. Use whatever labels your team wants to record and what will be helpful in locating the knife.

Tags are a second form of labels that you can apply to individual profiles. Some examples of tags could be the year they were created, the type of molding or the catalog the profile is referencing. They are customizable to suit your needs.

Limitation Note – After a Tag is created and profiles are tagged, if that tag is deleted, it will be removed from all profiles and cannot be restored. Tags can however be renamed.

Step 2 – Import a single file or batch import

In the Catalog view, you will see the “Add” and “Batch Add” buttons in the top right. You can either add a single item or a folder of items.

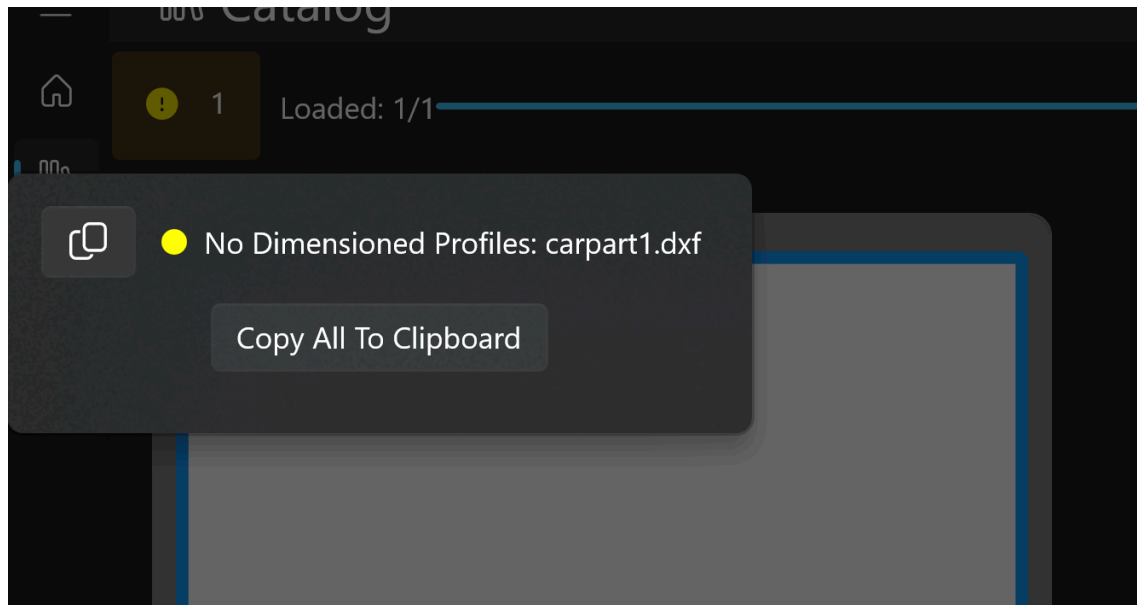
Types of files supported – “.jpg”, “.jpeg”, “.png”, “.tiff”, “.tif”, “.bmp”, “.gif”, “.ico”

CAD file type support – “.dxf”

Once imported, the item will either be added to the catalog or an error will appear in the top left. When an error occurs, the file is not added to your catalog.

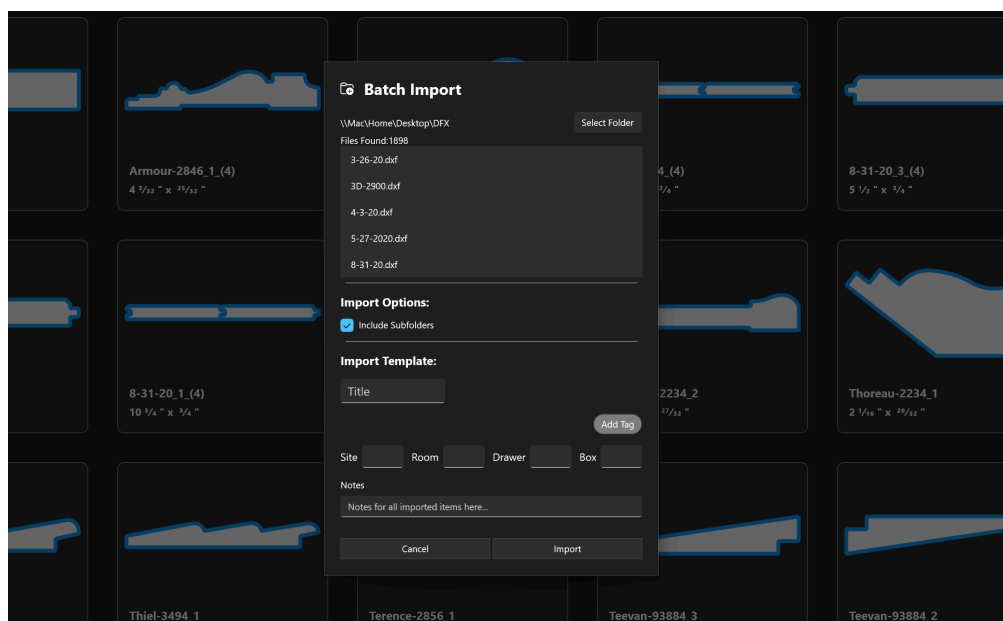
Step 3 – Organize your catalog

Once files are imported, you can click on a file to see an Individual view of the profile. Here you can add tags, set the locations, and add any additional notes to help you find the profile in the future. There is also a Favorites feature (Star) to temporarily mark a profile as important so that it is easily found in the future.



Errors

If errors occur while attempting to import files into the catalog, an error marker will appear in the top left. By clicking on the error you can see why the file did not import. There are also Copy buttons in the error box so that you can send any error codes to support@thedevelopingcompany.com who can then look at why the file couldn't import.



Batch Import Options

When importing multiple files through the Batch Add button, a dialog box will appear that allows you to change the aspect of multiple profiles.

Selecting Folders

After selecting a folder, you can check the box whether you would like the system to include subfolders or just the files that exist in the folder you selected.

Batch import options

Under the Import Template settings you can change

- The title of all imports
- Add tag(s) to all imports
- Add location information for all imports
- Add a note to all imports

Finding Profiles

Searching

Auto-suggestion results will appear in the search bar as you type. Searches go across titles, locations, file name, tags, and notes.

Filters

Filtering options are based on the Location Info and Tag information provided by you in settings. You can also filter based on size or favorites only.

Sort

Sort the catalog top to bottom or bottom to top by a variety of parameters.

Matching



Types of Files to Match

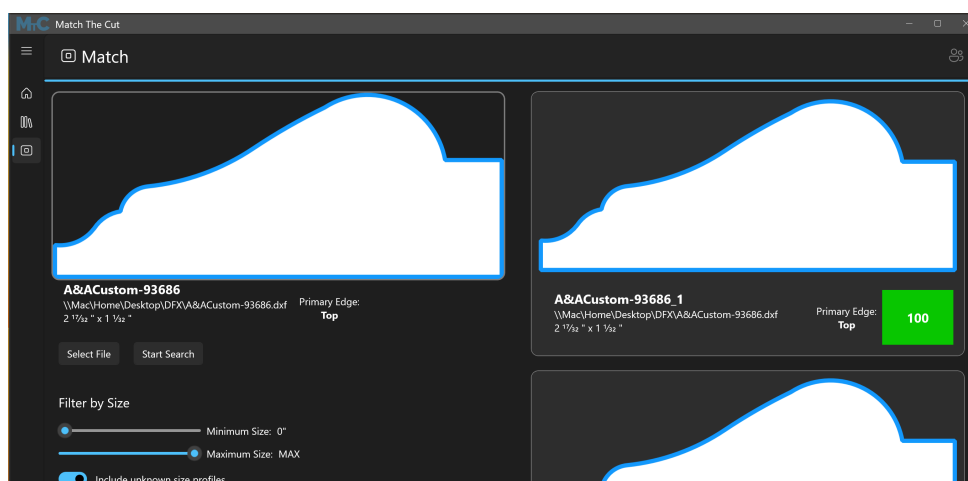
In order to match a new profile against the catalog, you must be able to upload an outlined image to the Matching screen. Each company may have a different method for getting the new profile into the system.

Note – the higher the contrast and the more complete the shape, the better the system will be able to recognize the shape. Match the Cut will only auto-detect the dimensions of the profile for .dxf files, not for image files.

Preparing Files

To ensure that Match the Cut recognizes and matches the correct shape, it is important to import images that have certain qualities. [Examples in Appendix A](#)

- High-contrast images – outline drawings should be done in dark ink. Pictures should have a dark profile with a light background.
- Shapes should reflect the profile shape – there should be no gaps in the lines (watertight profile) and there should be no extra marks such as overhangs, sketch lines, or extra marks on the image. Backgrounds should be as uniform as possible.
- Images should be primarily the profile – cropping in on the profile can help remove any extra marks the system may pick up.

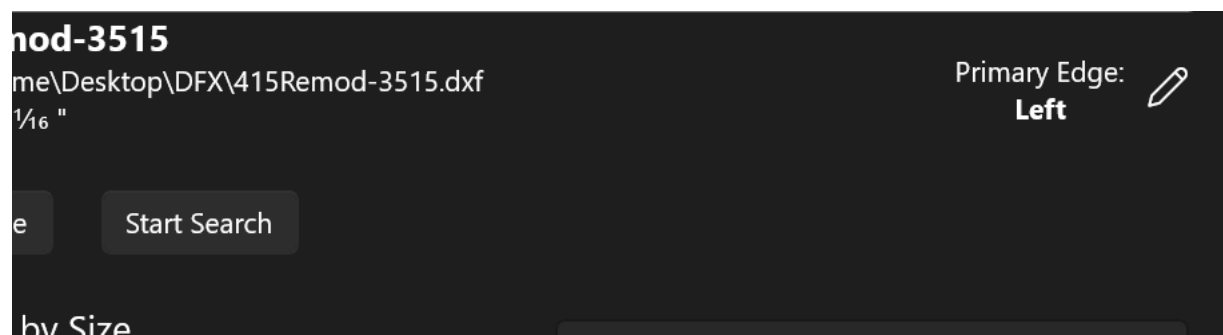


Find a Basic Match

1. Click the Match button on the left side of the screen.
2. Choose "Select File" and locate your new profile file.
3. Matches will automatically appear on the right side of the screen with a corresponding match percentage.
4. If a match is found, more info can be found by locating the profile in the catalog. You can quickly navigate to a specific match in the catalog from the match results by right-clicking on the match and selecting "Open in Catalog"

Find a Match by Length

If you are looking to find a match specifically by length, you can move the size sliders to the desired length. The matches will update automatically. You can toggle to include unknown lengths.



Change Matching Profile Primary Edge

If the auto-edge detection is not selecting the side you want to search on, you can manually change the side to top, right, bottom, or left. After changing the primary edge, you must select Start Search to update the results.

Find an Advanced Match

If you are looking to find a match based on the non-primary edge, you can toggle on advanced search. Advanced search will look beyond the primary edge to determine if another profile matches multiples sides if you need to narrow down the search results, or alternatively match against a different edge if the primary edge is not of interest for your search .

Note – advance search will take longer, especially for larger catalogs.

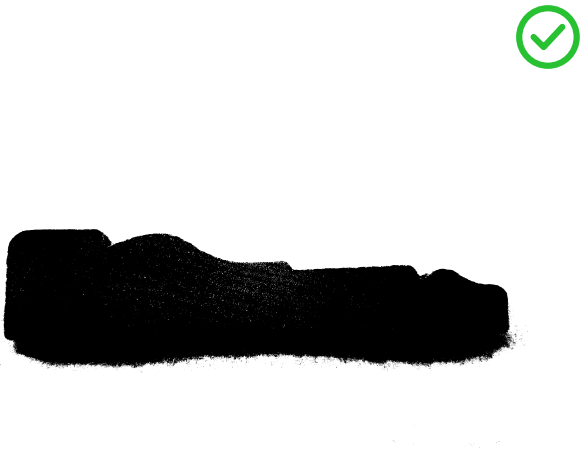


Appendix A – Images

High Contrast

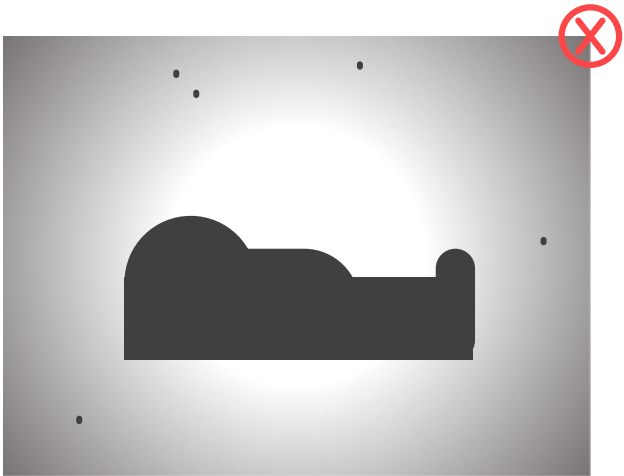


Worse: Low Contrast



Better: High Contrast

Consistent Background



Worse: Variable or Noisy Background

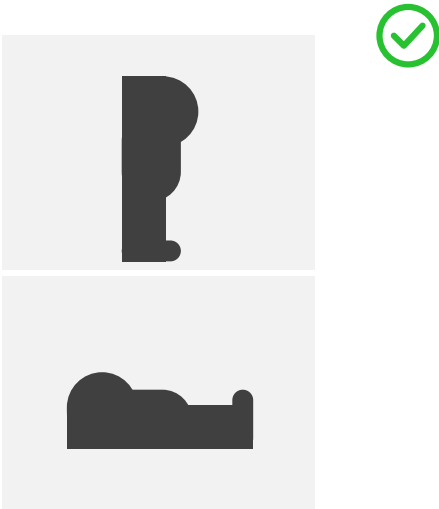


Better: Flat Background

Orientation

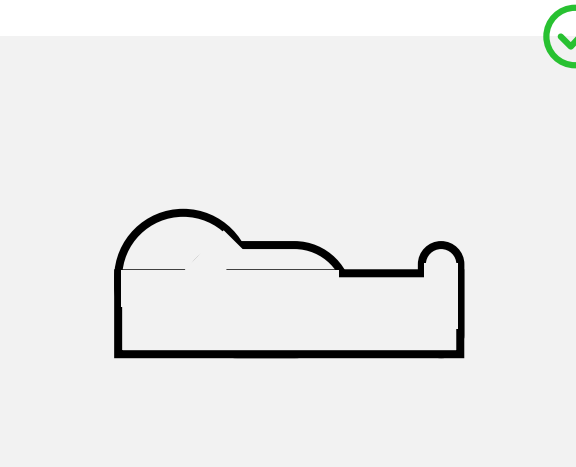


Worse: Titled profile



Better: Horizontal or vertical

Profile Type

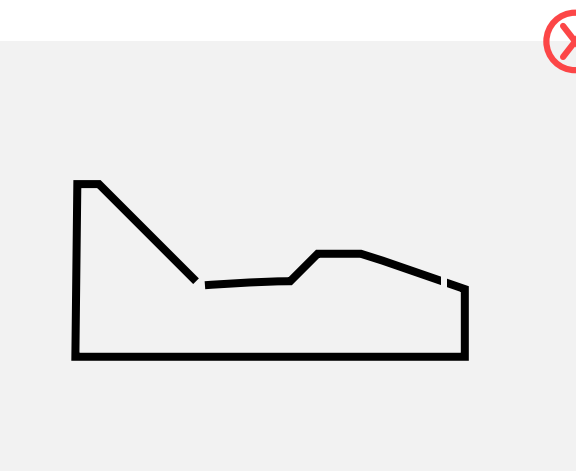


Good: Filled profile

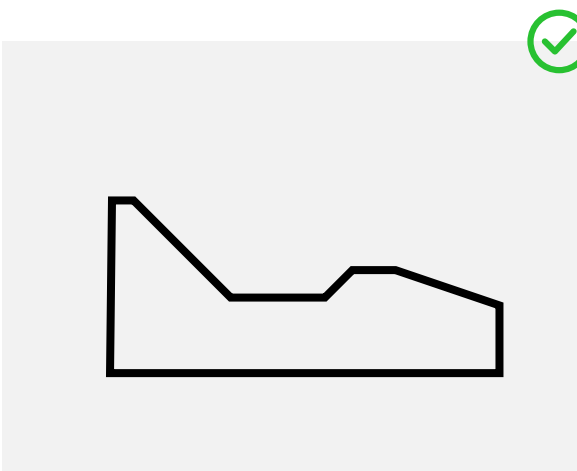


Good: Outline Profile

Closed/Watertight

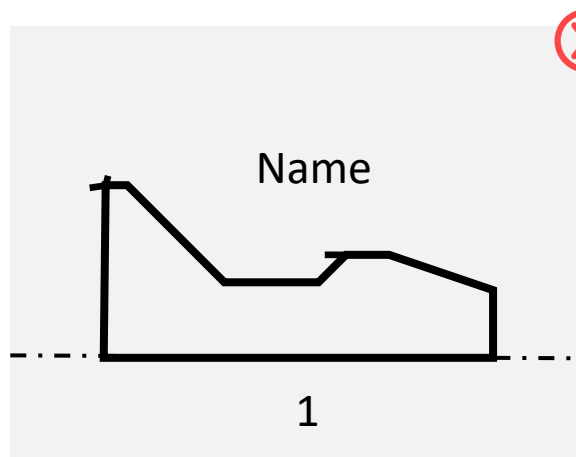


Bad: Outline with gaps/disconnects

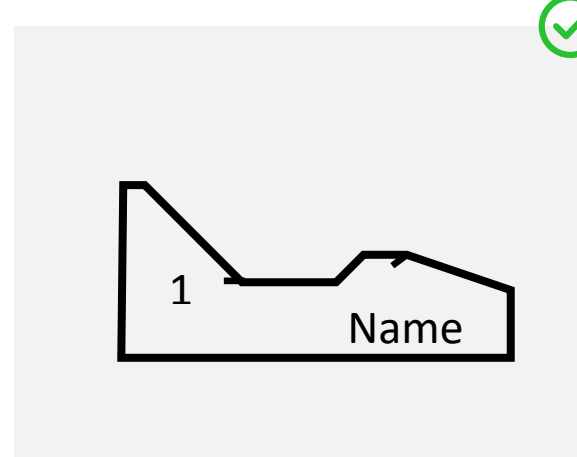


Good: Outline Profile

Extraneous Features



Bad: Extended baselines, corner overextensions, labels outside



Indifferent: Content or features inside the closed profile

Good: Clean edges

The Developing Company

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