

LSL10-3A - November 2, 2017

Item # LSL10-3A was discontinued on November 2, 2017. For informational purposes, this is a copy of the website content at that time and is valid only for the stated product.

LASER SAFETY SIGNS

Provides a Clear and Concise Indication of Nearby Laser Systems
Signs for Class 2, 3A, 3B, and 4 Lasers Available



LSL10-2
Class 2 Sign



LSL10-3A
Class 3A Sign



LSL10-3B
Class 3B Sign



LSL10-4
Class 4 Sign

[Hide Overview](#)

OVERVIEW

Features

- Laser Safety Signs Available Covering Laser Classes 2 Through 4
- Numerical Stickers Included for Wavelength and Power Values
- Sign Dimensions: 10" x 12" (25.4 cm x 30.5 cm)

Thorlabs offers laser safety signs for Laser Classes 2 through 4 to indicate to personnel when and where a laser system is in use. They may be used individually or with our previous-generation LSL10 lightbox. Numerical stickers are also included with each sign, as shown in the photo to the right. Included are two each of the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6; three each of the digits 7, 8, and 9; and five each of the digits 0 and 5.

Please Note: The signs are provided without a wavelength or power level specified. Each sign comes with a set of numeric labels to allow you to customize the sign for your specific wavelength and output power as required by ANSI Z136.1 and other pertinent laser safety regulations.



Click to Enlarge
Numerical Stickers Included with
Each Sign



Click to Enlarge
LSL10-3B Class 3B Sign Shown
with
Previous-Generation LSL10
Lightbox

[Hide Laser Safety](#)

LASER SAFETY

Laser Safety and Classification

Safe practices and proper usage of safety equipment should be taken into consideration when operating lasers. The eye is susceptible to injury, even from very low levels of laser light. Thorlabs offers a range of laser safety accessories that can be used to reduce the risk of accidents or injuries. Laser emission in the visible and near infrared spectral ranges has the greatest potential for retinal injury, as the cornea and lens are transparent to those wavelengths, and the lens can focus the laser energy onto the retina.

Safe Practices and Light Safety Accessories



- Thorlabs recommends the use of safety eyewear whenever working with laser beams with non-negligible powers (i.e., > Class 1) since metallic tools such as screwdrivers can accidentally redirect a beam.
- Laser goggles designed for specific wavelengths should be clearly available near laser setups to protect the wearer from unintentional laser reflections.
- Goggles are marked with the wavelength range over which protection is afforded and the minimum optical density within that range.
- Laser Safety Curtains, Laser Barriers and Blackout Materials can prevent direct or reflected light from leaving the experimental setup area.
- Thorlabs' Enclosure Systems can be used to contain optical setups to isolate or minimize laser hazards.
- A fiber-pigtailed laser should always be turned off before connecting it to or disconnecting it from another fiber, especially when the laser is at power levels above 10 mW.
- All beams should be terminated at the edge of the table, and laboratory doors should be closed whenever a laser is in use.
- Do not place laser beams at eye level.
- Carry out experiments on an optical table such that all laser beams travel horizontally.
- Remove unnecessary reflective items such as reflective jewelry (e.g., rings, watches, etc.) while working near the beam path.
- Be aware that lenses and other optical devices may reflect a portion of the incident beam from the front or rear surface.
- Operate a laser at the minimum power necessary for any operation.
- If possible, reduce the output power of a laser during alignment procedures.
- Use beam shutters and filters to reduce the beam power.
- Post appropriate warning signs or labels near laser setups or rooms.
- Use a laser sign with a lightbox if operating Class 3R or 4 Lasers (i.e., lasers requiring the use of a safety interlock).
- Do not use Laser Viewing Cards in place of a proper Laser Barrier or Beam Trap.



Laser Classification

Lasers are categorized into different classes according to their ability to cause eye and other damage. The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a global organization that prepares and publishes international standards for all electrical, electronic, and related technologies. The IEC document 60825-1 outlines the safety of laser products. A description of each class of laser is given below:

Class	Description	Warning Label
1	This class of laser is safe under all conditions of normal use, including use with optical instruments for intrabeam viewing. Lasers in this class do not emit radiation at levels that may cause injury during normal operation, and therefore the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) cannot be exceeded. Class 1 lasers can also include enclosed, high-power lasers where exposure to the radiation is not possible without opening or shutting down the laser.	
1M	Class 1M lasers are safe except when used in conjunction with optical components such as telescopes and microscopes. Lasers belonging to this class emit large-diameter or divergent beams, and the MPE cannot normally be exceeded unless focusing or imaging optics are used to narrow the beam. However, if the beam is refocused, the hazard may be increased and the class may be changed accordingly.	
2	Class 2 lasers, which are limited to 1 mW of visible continuous-wave radiation, are safe because the blink reflex will limit the exposure in the eye to 0.25 seconds. This category only applies to visible radiation (400 - 700 nm).	
2M	Because of the blink reflex, this class of laser is classified as safe as long as the beam is not viewed through optical instruments. This laser class also applies to larger-diameter or diverging laser beams.	
3R	Lasers in this class are considered safe as long as they are handled with restricted beam viewing. The MPE can be exceeded with this class of laser, however, this presents a low risk level to injury. Visible, continuous-wave lasers are limited to 5 mW of output power in this class.	
3B	Class 3B lasers are hazardous to the eye if exposed directly. However, diffuse reflections are not harmful. Safe handling of devices in this class includes wearing protective eyewear where direct viewing of the laser beam may occur. In addition, laser safety signs lightboxes should be used with lasers that require a safety interlock so that the laser cannot be used without the safety light turning on. Class-3B lasers must be equipped with a key switch and a safety interlock.	

Class	Description	Warning Label
4	This class of laser may cause damage to the skin, and also to the eye, even from the viewing of diffuse reflections. These hazards may also apply to indirect or non-specular reflections of the beam, even from apparently matte surfaces. Great care must be taken when handling these lasers. They also represent a fire risk, because they may ignite combustible material. Class 4 lasers must be equipped with a key switch and a safety interlock.	
All class 2 lasers (and higher) must display, in addition to the corresponding sign above, this triangular warning sign		

[Hide](#)

Part Number	Description	Price	Availability
LSL10-2	Class 2 Laser Safety Sign 10" x 12"	\$30.75	Today
LSL10-3A	Class 3A Laser Safety Sign 10" x 12"	\$30.75	Today
LSL10-3B	Class 3B Laser Safety Sign 10" x 12"	\$30.75	Today
LSL10-4	Class 4 Laser Safety Sign 10" x 12"	\$30.75	Today

 **DANGER**

Laser Radiation
Avoid Direct Eye
Exposure



nm

mW

Class 3a

0123456789
0123456789
000555103