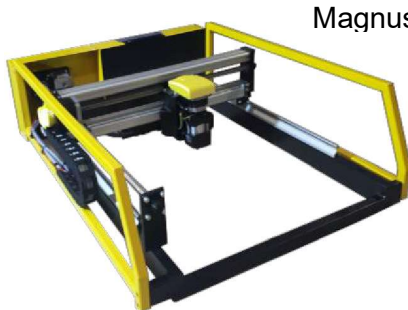




## Magnus Series Impact Etching Machines



Magnus 1 and 3



Magnus 5 and 7

### I've decided I need an Impact Etching Machine but which one to choose?

The Mag 1 is really only useful if you are planning on just doing tiles or small designs with the etcher. We don't usually recommend it for memorial masons as the benefit of doing larger images usually more than justifies the relatively small price difference.

Next up is the Mag 3 and this is a good option for most masons. It's the one we first bought for our workshop and will do most of the designs you would ever need - the largest images (just under 2' by 1'4) are big enough to have significant impact on most standard memorial sizes. Because it doesn't have legs, you don't have to try and position a memorial underneath it but this benefit is the biggest downfall in normal use too. In normal use (gravestones rather than tiles) the frame of the Mag 1 and 3 has to rest on the stone. We initially thought that we would place the etcher on top of the memorial and start it off but images are often placed in corners of the memorial which means part of the etcher hanging off the edge of the memorial. As the etcher head gets closer to the area to etch it can then become unbalanced. We counteract this by placing one edge of the etcher on a fixed workbench and offer the memorial up to the etcher via a pump table (as shown on the right). One other issue you can face with the design of the Mag 1 and 3 is where there are raised sections on the memorial, these can interfere with the frame and prevent you from etching where you want to.



Which takes us to the Mag 5 which is the smallest freestanding etching machine. This is the unit that I now have for my workshop, so why did I upgrade? Our first thoughts were that the legs would be an issue when trying to position the memorial under the head but this hasn't been a problem, there is always enough space (48" between the legs on the long side) to get memorials into the perfect place and you can work around areas where the memorial is raised (such as carvings) because the frame doesn't get in the way. Whilst it's unusual for us to want to do a design larger than the ones a Mag 3 can produce, having the machine set up in a dedicated location without the need to balance the frame on the stone makes it worth the extra cost to us.

The Mag 7's size is unlikely to be fully utilised in a memorial context but if you want to do architectural work then the images it can create have significant impact and will produce quick profits due to the high value associated with the images it creates.