Teru Teru Bōzu – A Wish in Metal

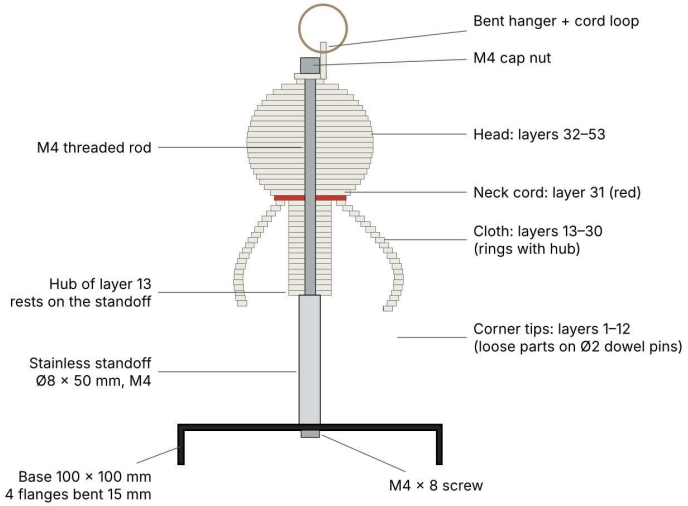
XLAS, Dilbeek (Belgium) · 39th Precision Sheet Metal Technology Fair · Formative arts fabrication · Technical sheet

1 The piece



Material	Aluminium 5754 (AlMg3), 2 mm
Parts	84 laser-cut layer parts + base + hanger
Layers	53 × 2 mm, every contour unique
Size	100 × 100 × 165 mm (incl. base)
Joining	No welding: Ø2 dowel pins, M4 rod, cap nut
Finish	Powder coat: matt white, red cord, black base
Machines	Bodor i7 fiber laser · HBM finger brake
Accuracy	± 0.1 mm

2 Construction (section)



3 Process

1. Design

A square cloth draped over a ball was modelled in 3D and sliced into 2 mm layers. Each layer received its own cutting contour.

2. Engineering

Rings get a hidden hub with 3 spokes (M4 rod Ø4.5 + orientation pin Ø2). Loose corner tips are positioned by 4 hidden Ø2 dowel pins; the lowest tip stays closed so no pin is visible.

3. Laser cutting

All 86 parts nested on one 1370 × 370 mm sheet (15.6 m cut length, 283 pierces). Layer numbers laser-marked on faces hidden by the next layer.

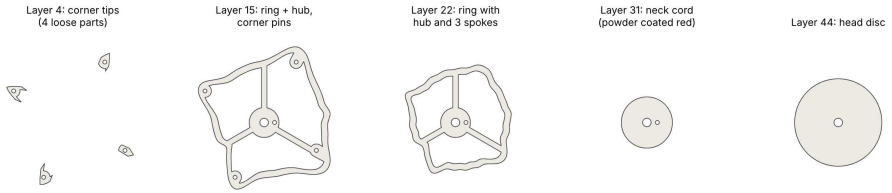
4. Bending

Base: 4 flanges 90° on the finger brake. Hanger bracket: 1 bend.

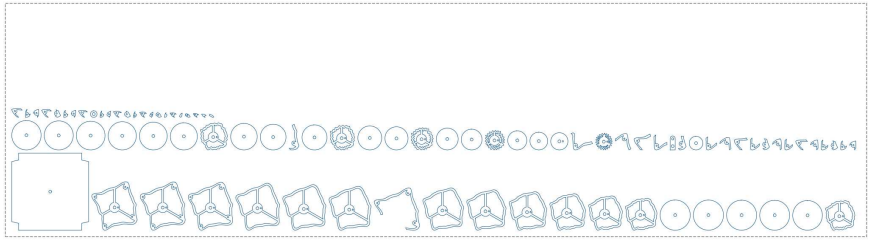
5. Assembly

Two sub-assemblies (cloth, head) stacked on a temporary rod and pins, then powder coated; neck cord coated red separately; final assembly on the M4 rod and a stainless standoff.

4 Typical layers (true shape, same scale)



5 Nesting: 86 parts on one sheet 1370 × 370 mm



Tradition says the face of a teru teru bōzu is drawn when the wish comes true – so we left it blank.