

The Art-O-Mat

by Matt Brieger

There is this little thing called Art-O-Mat. It is in roughly 47 states, and it is coming to North Dakota. It is a continuous event. Basically, there are cigarette vending machines that have been repurposed to vend art. One unit of art costs \$5.

I need to make a prototype. If/when that gets approved, I will then produce 50 units for the vending machine. I plan on using the laser cutter, a machine I don't know how to use. Art-O-Mat tends to favor handmade over machine-made, so I will employ a digital process with some hand painting, and possibly sanding.

I am making wooden coins featuring mythological creatures. I also need to make a 2 X 2 inch display for the machine.

I won't have time to make 50 different designs. I should only spend roughly \$2.50 and 30 minutes per unit. With a \$10 hourly wage that would put my cost per piece at \$7.50. The sale price is \$5 per unit. I think I get 80% of the sale. So I would get \$4 per unit sold.

Cost: $\$130 + (51 \text{ units} + \text{display} + \text{defective units})$

Time: 26 hours + (50 pieces, 1 prototype, 1 display, additional pieces for myself/defective units)

Total sale income: \$200

My net income: $\$70 - x$, where x is defective units.

I get graded on this for my class, at least the prototype.

In other words I need to spend \$2.50 per object. After the \$5 sale, minus \$1 for Art-O-Mat, I will receive a net income of \$1.50 per unit. Minus \$2.50 for the prototype, I could make a \$73.50 profit, assuming that I sell all 50 objects and make no mistakes that drive up the cost I would have to absorb.

