

CAD – computer aided design

CAM – computer-aided manufacture

Cam – a shaped disc or eccentric wheel

Cantilever – a beam supported only at one end

Capacitor – a device which stores charge

Carbohydrates – sugars and starches

Carbon fibre – a resin with carbon threads in it

Carbon steel – steel with carbon added which can be tempered

Cascamite – a type of adhesive supplied as a powder

Case hardening – to create a hard surface on the outside of a metal surface by carburising

Characteristics – the qualities of a material or ingredient

Chill – to cool below 8 degrees C

Circuit symbol – the drawing which represents the component in a circuit diagram

Clamping – forcing two materials together using a G-clamp or vice

Closed loop – a system with feedback

CMOS – complementary metal oxide semiconductor

CNC – Computer numerically controlled; used of a range of machinery controlled by computers

Compliant materials – textiles, paper

Components – parts of a project

Composite – mixture of two or more metals

Compressive strength – the ability of a material to withstand being squashed

Concept map – a map of understanding and learning

Coniferous – tree which has cones; usually an evergreen

Context – where the design need occur

Control language – special commands to help you give instructions for control

Conversion – cutting timber into useful sizes

Corrugation – putting a series of folds into paper or card

Crating – using lightly drawn boxes for guidance

Criteria – requirements which must be met

Cross section – the cut face showing when you cut through something

Cupping – becoming rolled across the width of a plank

Curing – heating a resin to set it