

PCB Layout Checklist

To start quoting a PCB layout, you can send the following information in an email to sales@etech-web.com.

- A netlist in a suitable format. OrCAD (Cadence/Allegro) or PADS (Mentor Graphics) work well, but we can handle just about anything.
- Your expected layer count and spacing/technology requirements. Tell us about your desired finish thickness and your anticipated assembly technology (Pb-Sn or RoHS, etc.).
- Any specific layer stackup requirements or requirements for power/ground islands or guard rings.
- A board outline. This can be a simple set of dimensions if the board is rectangular or a sketch on a cocktail napkin if it's a little more involved. If it's a lot more involved, a more serious drawing is in order.
- "Panelization" and routing requirements for manufacture, if any.
- Information about critical traces (clocks, high speed circuits, balanced pairs, stripline impedances, sensitive analog circuits, etc.).
- Any unusual requirements (gold fingers, flex circuitry, etc.)
- Your desired turnaround time to get a set of Gerber files for manufacture.
- Any component data sheets you think will speed the process of quoting or layout.
- Contact information for a purchaser in your organization so we can start a credit check process if you'd like open terms with us.
- Full contact information for the individual with authority to make design changes.

This is enough to get us started and probably get you a ballpark quote that'll be accurate to +/- 20%. As we learn more, we can refine things from there. Even if we're only just doing layout, we may ask for the native format schematic, particularly on a more complex PCB.

Be aware that we cannot quote PCB layout based on a PDF of a schematic and/or spreadsheets or text documents. They simply lack too much information for us to reliably estimate time to completion. A netlist is a minimal requirement, although ideally we'll have a native format schematic in addition.

If you'd like us to bid on an entire build of your prototype, please understand that having your schematic becomes mandatory, since we need to be assured that purchasing information is buried in it and agrees with whatever other BOM information we have. In the long run, burying BOM information in the schematic will mean fewer maintenance problems, and it'll mean any future revision to your board will cost considerably less.

In addition to the basic layout information you provide us (see above), on a bare PCB or "turnkey" PCB assembly build, we'll also need:

- A native format schematic file.
- Desired turnaround time to bare boards or finished PCB assemblies.

If your schematics include trade secrets or proprietary information, we're happy to sign your non-disclosure agreements – or provide you with one of ours — to protect your intellectual property.

Call at 888-400-5868

Email at sales@etech-web.com

