



How to Succeed on MaterialBid

We want you to be successful — here are some tips on how to succeed on MaterialBid.

1. Create Your Account Before Auction Day

Register early. Verifying your account, adding payment details, and confirming your shipping info in advance means you're not scrambling when a lot you want opens for bidding.

2. Know What You're Bidding On

Every lot listing includes specs, quantity, condition, and photos. Read the full description before you bid — surplus and secondary material can have mill variances, cosmetic imperfections, or partial quantities that affect value. If something isn't clear, reach out before the auction closes, not after you've won.

3. Set a Max Price and Stick to It

Decide your walk-away number before bidding starts, based on your delivered cost (item price + freight). It's easy to get caught up chasing a lot — a firm ceiling keeps the deal profitable.

4. Remember: It's a Soft Close

If a bid comes in right before the scheduled end time, MaterialBid auctions extend so the listing doesn't get sniped in the last few seconds. If you're serious about a lot, place your best bid with confidence — you won't lose it to a last-second snipe, but be ready for bidding to continue a bit past the original close time.

5. Plan Freight Before You Win, Not After

Buyers arrange their own shipping on MaterialBid. Get a freight quote — or at least a rough estimate — before you bid, so the total delivered cost is part of your decision, not a surprise afterward.

6. Know the Payment and Pickup Windows

Payment is due in full within 7 days of the auction closing, and purchased lots must be picked up within 30 days of the auction closing. Build both deadlines into your plans before you bid — especially if freight or scheduling takes lead time on your end.

7. Bid on Multiple Lots to Improve Your Odds

If you need a certain grade or size of material, watch for it across several lots rather than pinning your hopes on one. Surplus inventory turns over regularly, so more opportunities are usually coming.

8. Have Questions? Ask Early

Contact our team before the auction closes with any questions about material specs, quantities, or pickup/freight logistics: (903) 488-4355.

Ready to start bidding? Browse current auctions or create your account to get started.