

Precision Meets Performance: Graphite Susceptor Machining at Bay Carbon

In today's high-tech manufacturing landscape, **precision is everything**—especially when it comes to thermal systems that drive industries like semiconductors, aerospace, and energy. At the center of many of these systems is a component that quietly does its job under extreme heat and pressure: the **graphite susceptor**.

At **Bay Carbon**, we specialize in the **precision machining of graphite susceptors**, combining decades of hands-on experience with state-of-the-art equipment to meet the tight tolerances and demanding specs required by advanced industries.

Let's take a closer look at how we do it—and why it matters.

What Is a Graphite Susceptor?

A **susceptor** is a component that absorbs electromagnetic energy—like RF or microwave energy—and converts it into heat. Graphite is the material of choice in many of these applications due to its unique mix of properties:

- High thermal conductivity
- Ability to withstand temps over 3,000°C
- Low thermal expansion
- Electrical conductivity
- Lightweight and easy to machine

Graphite susceptors are used in **semiconductor wafer production, crystal growth systems, epitaxial reactors, and more**. They play a crucial role in heating substrates, distributing thermal energy uniformly, and minimizing contamination risks.

But here's the thing: even the best materials won't perform if they're not **machined with precision**.

The Challenges of Graphite Machining

Graphite is both a dream and a challenge for machinists.

On one hand, it's soft and machinable without the intense tooling demands of metals. On the other hand, it's **brittle, dusty, and in some cases anisotropic**, meaning its properties vary depending on direction.

That's why graphite machining requires:

- ✓ Special tooling and high-speed CNC equipment
- ✓ Dust control systems to manage airborne carbon
- ✓ Expert setup and fixturing to prevent breakage
- ✓ Close attention to grain structure, porosity, and thermal behavior




At **Bay Carbon**, we've honed this craft over four decades—and we don't just “machine & purify graphite,” we **engineer solutions**.

Our Machining Capabilities

From R&D prototypes to full-scale production, our team delivers highly accurate graphite susceptors with features like:

- Diameters up to 40”
- Deep internal bores
- Multi-zone thermal designs
- Complex pocketed or finned surfaces
- Tight flatness and parallelism

We offer:

-  **Turning** – For cylindrical susceptors and round components
-  **Milling** – For complex 3D geometries and custom features
-  **Drilling & Boring** – For alignment holes, gas channels, and more

All of it is backed by in-house **CMM inspection**, surface finish testing, and optional **material purity certification**.

Going Beyond Machining: Coatings & Purification

Many graphite susceptors we machine are used in **extreme environments**—often in the presence of reactive gases or within ultra-clean chambers.

That's why we offer support for:

- ✦ **Silicon carbide (SiC) coatings, Tantalum Carbide Coating, and Pyrolytic Coating** – For corrosion & oxidation resistance and reduced particle shedding
 - ✦ **Graphite purification & Heat Treating** – Removing impurities to meet semiconductor-grade specs
 - ✦ **Thermal modeling support** – For optimized susceptor performance
This end-to-end approach ensures that each susceptor isn't just shaped right—it's **ready for mission-critical use.**
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Where Our Susceptors Go

Bay Carbon's graphite susceptors are trusted by industry leaders in:

- **Semiconductors** – Epitaxial reactors, diffusion furnaces, MOCVD systems
- **Crystal Growth** – Silicon, GaN, sapphire, and other substrate production
- **Aerospace** – High-temp testing and simulation platforms
- **Energy** – Nuclear R&D, fuel cell systems, advanced battery lines
- **Heat Treating/Induction Heating** – Vacuum & Induction Furnaces

Each application brings its own set of demands—and we work side by side with our customers to deliver tailored solutions.

Why Choose Bay Carbon?

We're more than a graphite machine shop—we're your **engineering partner.**

- ✓ **45+ years** of carbon and graphite experience
- ✓ In-house experts on machining, material science, and coatings
- ✓ U.S.-based production with rapid turnaround
- ✓ Scalable manufacturing from prototype to high-volume
- ✓ Trusted by customers who need **precision without compromise**

We understand that one size never fits all. Every susceptor has a story—and we help you write it, from CAD file to the final part.

Let's Build What's Next

Whether you're refining an epitaxial process, scaling a new crystal growth platform, or pushing the envelope in aerospace R&D, your systems depend on reliable thermal components.

Let's talk about your next susceptor project.

At Bay Carbon, we're ready to help you bring it to life—with precision, speed, and unmatched attention to detail.
