

Cork City Libraries 3D Printing

Policies and Procedures

Cork City Libraries provide public access to a 3D printing service. There are five 3D printers (Ultimaker 2+) available for use. For a list of library locations with 3D printers, visit www.corkcitylibraries.ie and search 3D. This document defines how these printers may be used by the public.

Policy:

- Cork City Libraries' 3D Printers may be used by members of the public to make three-dimensional objects in plastic using a design that is uploaded from a digital computer file.
- The 3D Printer may only be used for lawful purposes. You may not use the library's 3D Printer to create:
 - Weapons or constituent parts of weaponry
 - Designs that are obscene, offensive or inappropriate in a library environment
 - Designs that are subject to copyright, patent or trademark or are in violation of intellectual property rights
- The library reserves the right to refuse any 3D print request
- The use of the 3D printer is for educational and hobby purposes only and is not for commercial or financial gain
- There is currently no charge for creating 3D designs using the library 3D printer
- The maximum print time for a design is 8 hours. Designs that exceed 8 hours will be stopped.
- Fair usage policy applies. You are entitled to 1 free 3D print per week.

The Printing Process:

Designs can be created using Computer Aided Design (CAD) software or downloaded from sites such as www.thingiverse.com , www.myminifactory.com , www.youmagine.com , www.ultimaker.com.

Designs should be saved in **.stl** format from the CAD application or website. You **must** then create a **.gcode** file from your completed **.stl** design file using the Ultimaker 2+ compatible **CURA** software

Designs for printing should be submitted in **.gcode** format. You should also submit the original **.stl** file. Staff reserve the right to edit and re-generate the **.gcode** file in order to fix print errors or reduce print times.

Designs must be submitted on a standard size SD card

Designs submitted for printing must be Polylactic Acid (PLA) compatible. This is the material used to print objects.

The 3D printer can only be used by designated library staff. Designs will only be printed at times when staff is available to do so.

Designs submitted will be placed in a queue to be printed. Staff cannot give an exact completion time of the print job at the time of submission.

The library is not responsible for any damage or corruption to the **.stl** or **.gcode** files, the SD card or the 3D object caused during the printing process.

Version History

v2:

5 October 2021: Locations of 3D printers edited.