

3D Printer FAQs

Who can use the 3D printer?

Anyone! You don't need a library card and 3D printing is free on a first come, first served basis.

When can I use the 3D printer?

The 3D printers are available on a first come, first served basis any time the library is open. All prints must be completed 30 minutes before the library closes. Staff assistance is required, and staff may make recommendations about your print to improve quality and promote equitable use.

Do I need to bring anything?

Library staff are equipped to help you find a design on Thingiverse. If you would like to bring your own STL file, you can upload it to your personal cloud or bring it on a thumb drive to the library.

What kind of 3D printer do you have?

Type of Printer: PolyPrinter 229

Printer area: 229mm x 229mm x 229 mm (9in³)

Filament: 1.75mm ABS

The 3D printer carts carry several colors of filament to choose from. If you want to bring your own, we recommend PolyPrinter filament but can print with any 1.75mm ABS filament.

The 3D printers at the Northwest Branch and Golden Triangle Branch carry 1.75mm NinjaFlex filament as well as ABS.

Slicing Program: KISSlicer

Printing Program: PolyPronter

I've created my own design; can I print that?

Absolutely! You can design your own object using Tinkercad or other computer-aided design (CAD) software. Save your design as an STL file, and upload it to your personal cloud or bring it on a thumbdrive to the library.

What if I have to leave before my print is finished?

If you leave a note with your name, the date, and a description of your print, we can keep your completed print for up to 7 days. If the print fails and you are not there to troubleshoot together, staff will move on to the next person in line.

Is there anything I can't print?

Items that are prohibited by local, state, or federal law.

Items that are unsafe, harmful, dangerous, or pose an immediate threat to the well-being of animals or people.

Items that are obscene or otherwise inappropriate for the Library environment, at staff discretion.

By submitting objects for printing, guests assume all responsibility for, and shall hold the Library harmless in, all matters related to patented, trademarked, or copyrighted materials.

How do I learn more about 3D printing?

Join us for programs on 3D printing, 3D design, and more! Check your local library for dates and times. We also encourage you to explore the library collection.

