

Helpful Links to Get Started

3D Design Software

Here is a selection of the best, commonly used CAD programs for creating models that can be used in 3D printing, simulations, and other applications. It can be helpful to start with some pre-made designs to understand the basics (more information included below). Though each will allow you to create your own 3D designs, consider which application will best suit your project.

Web Applications:

- (Beginner) www.tinkercad.com/
- (Intermediate) <https://stephaneginier.com/sculptgl/>
- (Advanced) www.onshape.com/

Software available in the Computer Collaborative Space (iMac computer lab):

- (Beginner) <https://www.blender.org/download/>
- (Intermediate) <https://www.autodesk.com/products/fusion-360>
- (Advanced) <https://www.rhino3d.com/7/>

3D Designs (and some laser designs)

Top websites for design files. Be aware that some of these websites also offer paid designs.

- <https://www.thingiverse.com/>
- <https://www.printables.com/>
- <https://makerworld.com/en>
- <https://cults3d.com/en>
- <https://www.cgtrader.com/free-3d-print-models/toy>
- <https://www.turbosquid.com/Search/3D-Models/free/printing>

Laser Design Software

These programs should work similarly to Adobe Illustrator; the software we use at the library to create laser files:

<https://inkscape.org/>, <https://vecteezy.com/editor>, <https://vectr.com/>

Laser Designs (and some 3D designs)

Top websites for design files. Be aware that some of these websites also offer paid designs.

- <https://3axis.co/>
- <https://www.festi.info/boxes.py/>
- <https://www.instructables.com/workshop/laser-cutting/projects/>
- <https://www.ponoko.com/free-laser-cutting-files-templates>
- <https://shop.glowforge.com/collections/>
- https://www.etsy.com/market/laser_design

LinkedIn Learning (previously known as Lynda)

You will need a library card to access these links. Links will only work after you have logged into LinkedIn Learning using your library card number and pin number.

- *Laser Cutting: Design for Fabrication*
<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/laser-cutting-design-for-fabrication/>
- *TinkerCAD: Modeling Custom Designs for 3D Printing*
<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/tinkercad-modeling-custom-designs-for-3dprinting>
- *Learning OnShape*
<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/learning-onshape>
- *Designing a Replacement Part using 3D Printing*
<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/designing-a-replacement-part-using-3dprinting>

Content Creators

Social media can be a great learning resource for makers! Here are some of the most informative content creators on YouTube for 3D printing, laser engraving, etc.

- *Teaching Tech*
<https://www.youtube.com/@TeachingTech>
- *Maker's Muse*
<https://www.youtube.com/@MakersMuse>
- *Zack Freedman*
<https://www.youtube.com/@ZackFreedman>
- *CNC Kitchen*
<https://www.youtube.com/@CNCKitchen>
- *xTool (laser manufacturer)*
<https://www.youtube.com/@xToollaser>

Center for Innovation Video Playlist

Be sure to check out our YouTube playlist for specific tutorials and refresher guides!

- Fayetteville Public Library
<https://www.youtube.com/@FayettevillePublicLibrary>