

3D Printing

(which I consider to be a legitimate form of Computer Graphics display...)



Oregon State
University

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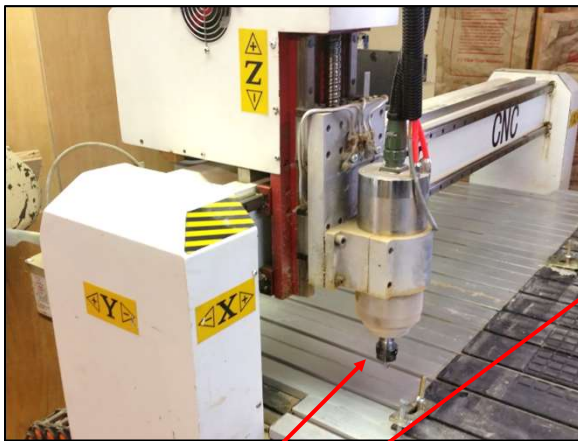
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3dPrinting.pptx

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1

In the Beginning, All Manufacturing was "Subtractive"



1. The whirling drill bit follows a 3D path around a block of metal, wax, or wood
2. Chips fly
3. A block of metal becomes a part



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Today's 3D Printing Process

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"3D Printing" is generally considered to be some sort of "**Additive**" process in which layers of material get deposited on previous layers. (Additive manufacturing is also sometimes called *Stereolithography*.)

The current frenzy in 3D Printing consists mostly of desktop systems that deposit layers of molten plastic, like this one. But there are many others.

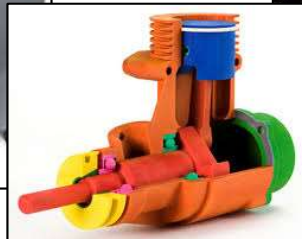
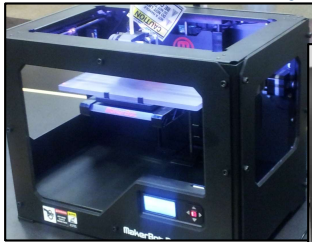


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Examples of 3D Printing using a Variety of Materials

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Portland's Laika uses Color 3D Printing to Make Faces for Stop-motion Movies

5



From *Kubo and the Two Strings*



5

The 3D Printing Geometry File

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3D Printers are fed a file called an "STL File", which lists all the triangles in the object. All 3D CAD-ish systems (as well as TinkerCad, Thingiverse, and Blender) can produce this type of file for you.

```
solid
facet normal 0.00 0.00 -1.00
  outer loop
    vertex -2.000000 -2.000000 0.250000
    vertex -1.980000 -1.980000 0.250000
    vertex -1.980000 -2.000000 0.250000
  endloop
endfacet

facet normal 0.00 0.00 -1.00
  outer loop
    vertex -2.000000 -2.000000 0.250000
    vertex -2.000000 -1.980000 0.250000
    vertex -1.980000 -1.980000 0.250000
  endloop
endfacet

...

endsolid
```

In this particular file, these coordinates were in units of inches.

Some 3D Printers still use **inches**, but most now seem to use **millimeters**.

Check! It matters!

Note: there are 25.4 mm/inch

If you sent this file to a millimeter-based 3D printer, the part would come out very, very tiny! ☺

6

thingiverse.com

7

Customizer by MakerBot

Home My Things Queue Browse Search

Customizable pendant (Name of project)

Parameters you can set

- Parameters:**
 - A Parameter 'a' of the curve: 2
 - B Parameter 'b' of the curve: 1
 - C Parameter 'c' of the curve: 5
- Curve:** The curve to draw (See instructions for curve equation and parameters). Rhodonea curve
- Rose Thickness:** 1 (Thickness in millimeters of the rose)

<http://www.thingiverse.com/apps> Copy View Source **Create Thing** (Retrieve the STL file)

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Tinkercad

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Click on Import→STL

Download 3D Print

Include ☒ Everything in the design.

For 3D Print:

- ☐ Selected shapes (you need to select something first.)
- ☐ .OBJ
- ☒ .STL
- ☐ GLTF (.glb)

For Lasercutting:

- ☐ .SVG

[More information](#)

Opening Brave Turing-Lapptstl

You have chosen to open:

- Brave Turing-Lapptstl** which is: STL file (70.8 KB) from: blob:

What should Firefox do with this file?

- ☐ Open with Applications/wordpad.exe (default)
- ☒ Save File
- ☐ Do this automatically for files like this from now on.

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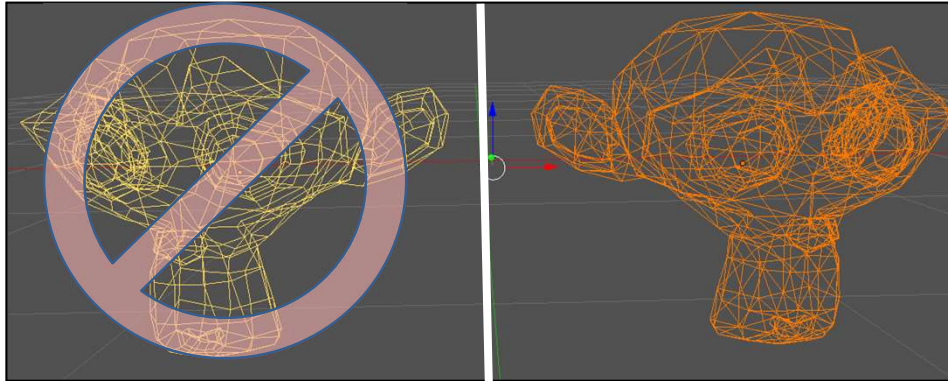
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Object Rules for 3D Printing

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1. The object must be a mesh and **consist only of triangles**.



Quads and triangles

Triangles only

In Blender: Modifiers → Add Modifier → Triangulate

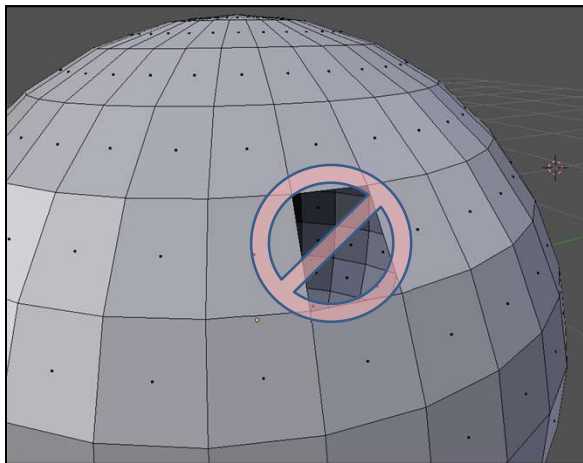
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Object Rules for 3D Printing

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2. The object *must* be a legal solid. It *must* have a definite inside and a definite outside. It can't have any missing face pieces.



“Definite inside and outside” is sometimes called “Two-manifold” or “Watertight”

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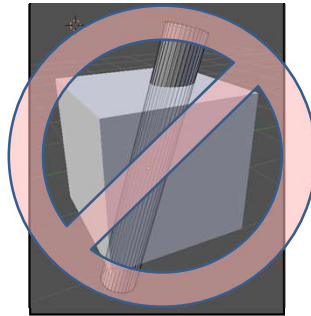
10

Object Modeling Rules for 3D Printing

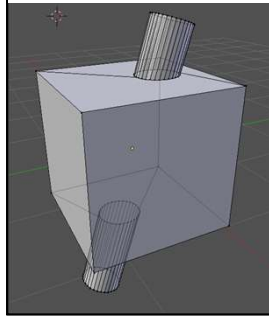
11

3. You can't make a compound object by simply overlapping two objects in 3D. If you want both shapes together, do a Boolean union on them so that they become one complete, legal object.

Overlapped in 3D -- **bad**



Boolean union -- **good**

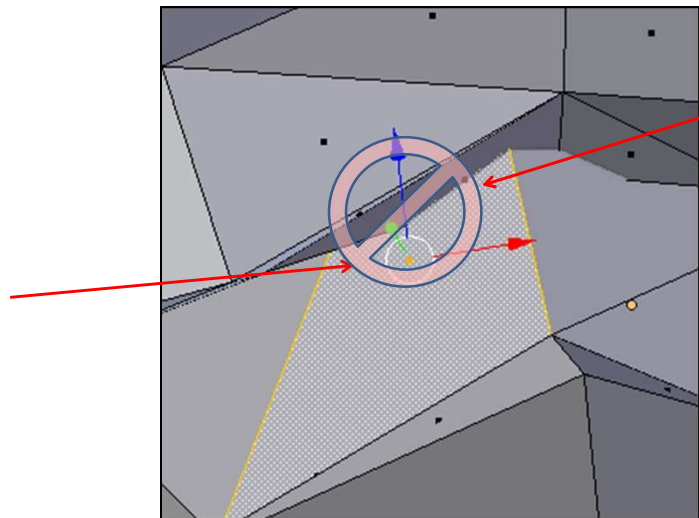


11

Object Rules for 3D Printing

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4. Each edge in the mesh must bound 2 and only 2 triangles (this is known as the **Vertex-to-Vertex Rule**)



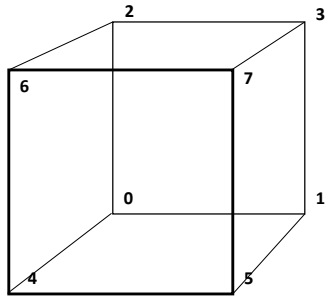
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The Simplified Euler's Formula* for Legal Solids

13

$$F - E + V = 2$$

F Faces
E Edges
V Vertices



$$\text{For a cube: } 6 - 12 + 8 = 2$$

*sometimes called the Euler-Poincaré formula

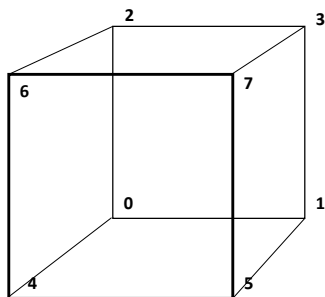
13

The Full Euler's Formula* for Legal Solids

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$$F - E + V - L = 2(B - G)$$

F Faces
E Edges
V Vertices
L Inner Edge Loops (within faces)
B Bodies
G Genus (number of through-holes)



$$\text{For a cube: } 6 - 12 + 8 - 0 = 2(1 - 0)$$

*sometimes called the Euler-Poincaré formula

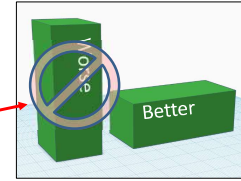
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Advice on 3D Printing

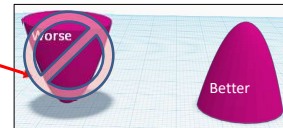
15

Don't make the part too big to start – it will take a long time to 3D print. It's nice if you can fit several models in a single run.

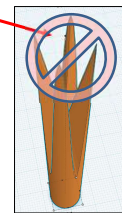
Try to rotate the part so the smallest dimension is vertical. It's stronger that way, and it builds faster.



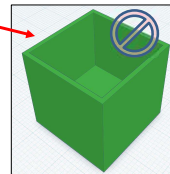
The 3D Printer will like it better if the part gets smaller as it goes up, not the other way around.



Don't design the part with long, thin edges. They will snap right off.



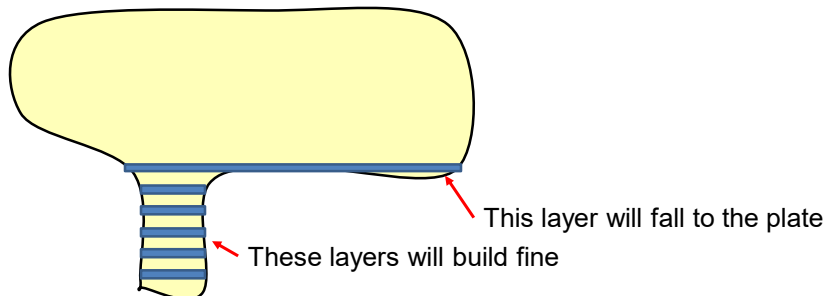
Don't make walls too thin – they will break.



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Watch Out for Overhangs!

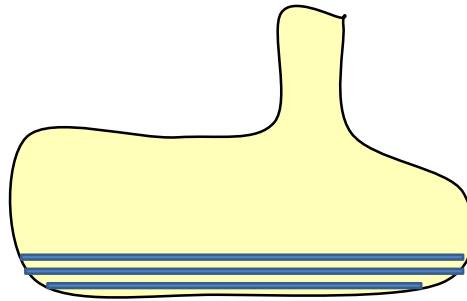
16



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Note that, if you build this object upside-down,
it will probably be fine

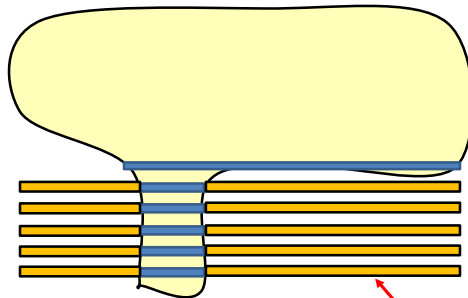
17



17

Watch Out for Overhangs!

18

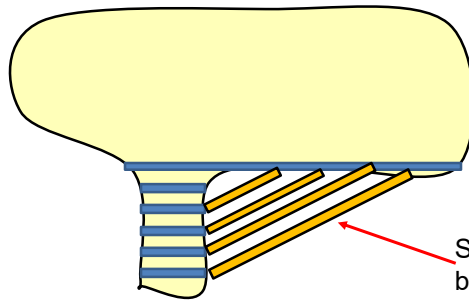


Some 3D printers handle overhangs
by leaving unused material in place
to support the overhangs

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Watch Out for Overhangs!

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Some 3D printers handle overhangs by using software to add "support structures" to the overhangs

Some 3D printers handle this better than others...

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What Happens if You Don't Follow the Rules?

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Check here:

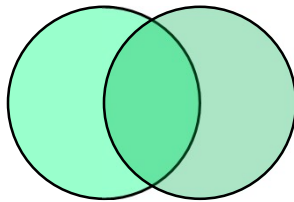
<http://twistedsifter.com/2013/08/when-3d-printing-goes-wrong/>



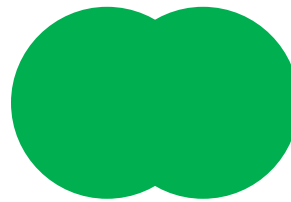
20

How Can You Guarantee That You Are Modeling With Legal Solids?
Remember the "3D Venn Diagrams"

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Two Overlapping Shapes



Union



Intersection

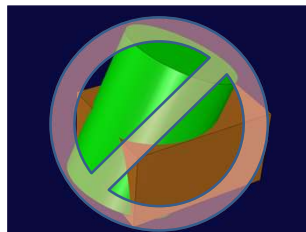


Difference

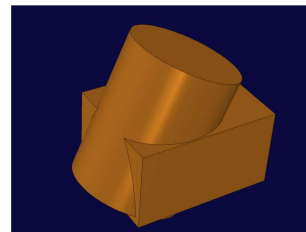
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How Can You Guarantee That You Are Modeling With Legal Solids?
Remember the "3D Venn Diagrams"

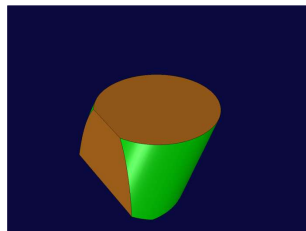
22



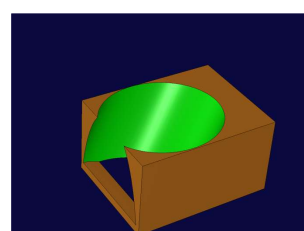
Two Overlapping Solids



Union



Intersection



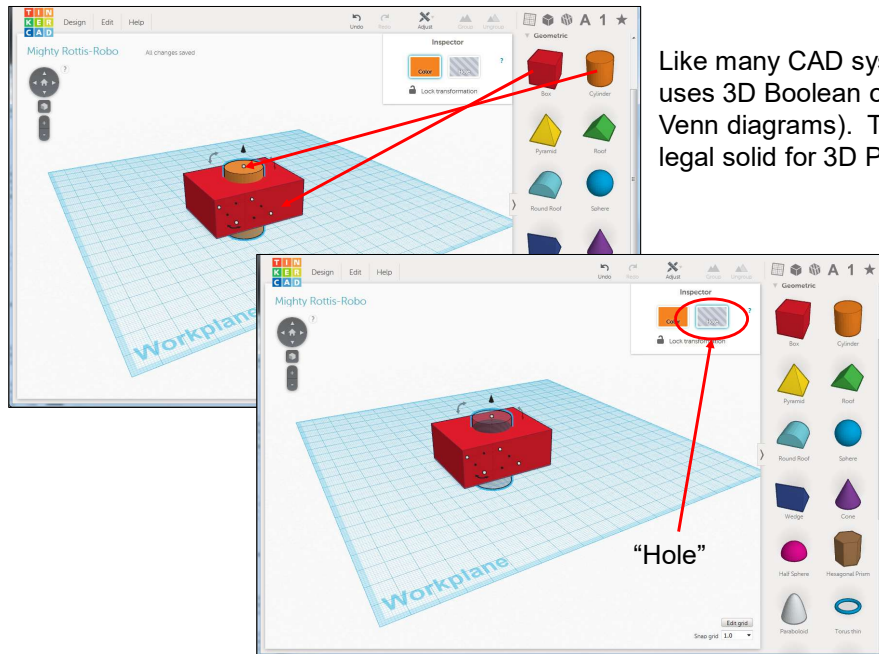
Difference

This is often called Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)

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TinkerCad: <http://www.tinkercad.com>

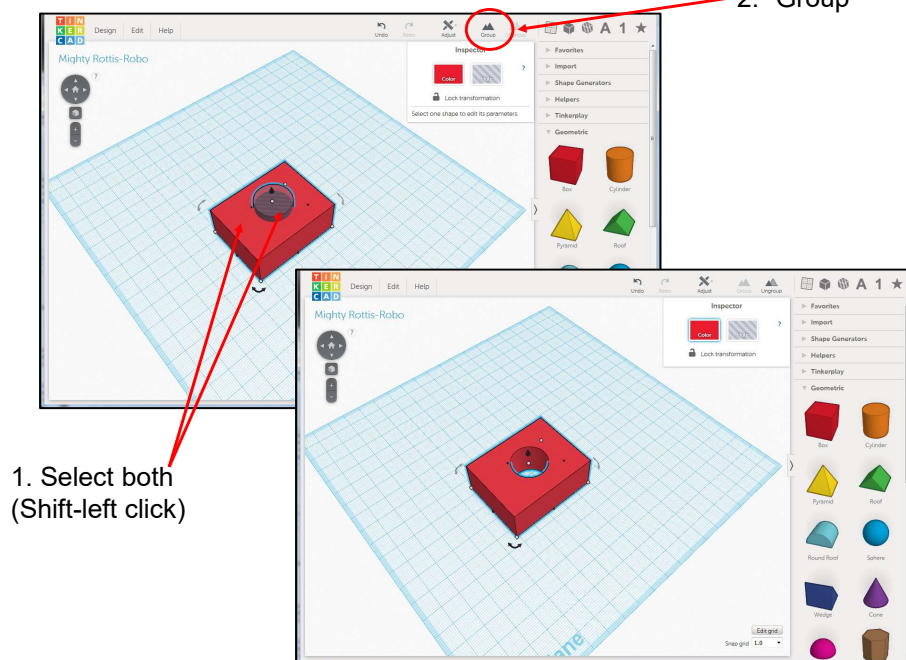
23



23

TinkerCad

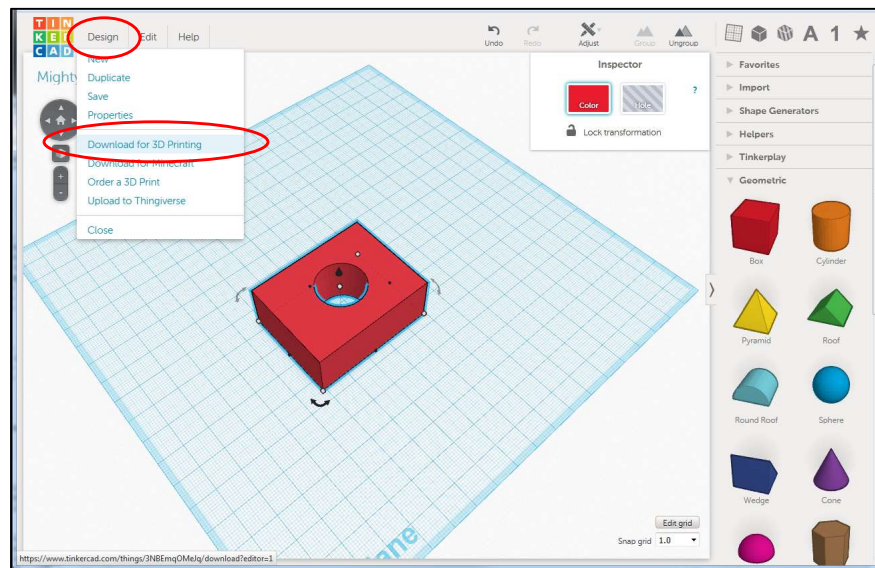
24



24

TinkerCad

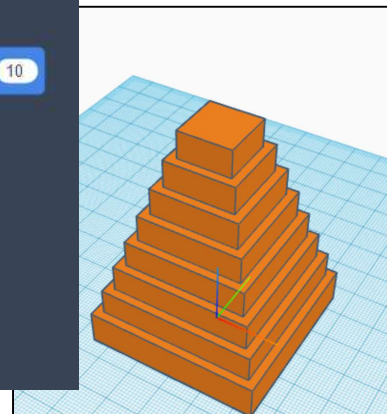
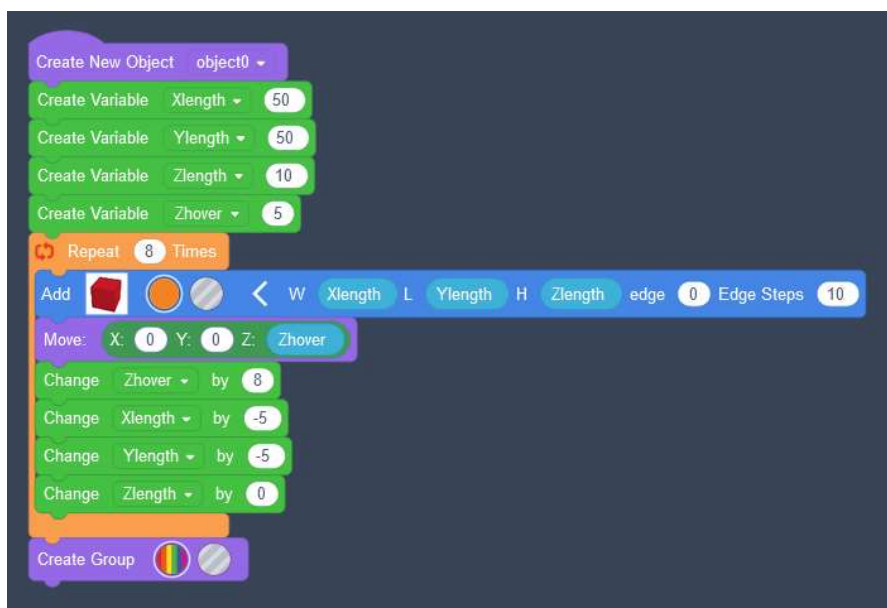
25



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Procedural CSG Using TinkerCad/Codeblocks

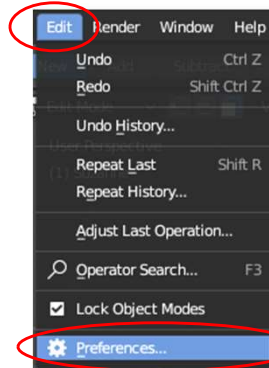
26



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Blender's 3D Printing Utility isn't there by Default

27



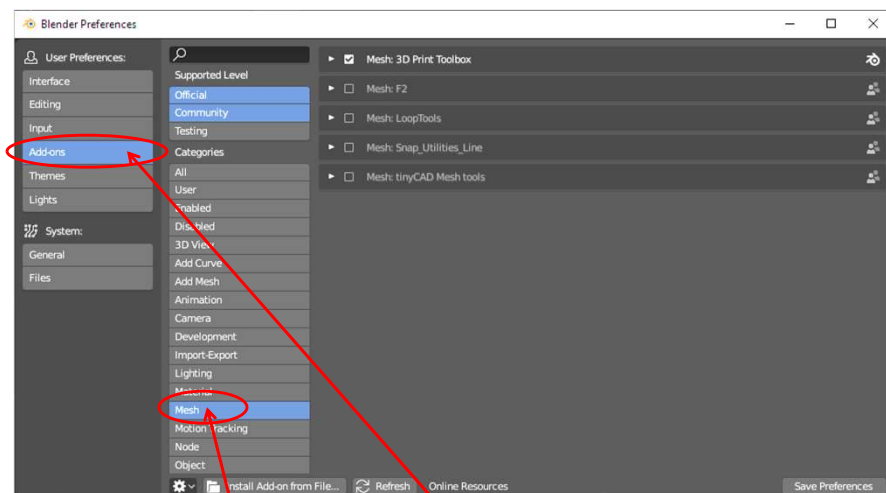
By default, Blender doesn't let you see its 3D Printing utility. You need to tell Blender to turn it on.

1. Click **Edit** → **Preferences**

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Blender's 3D Printing Options aren't there by Default

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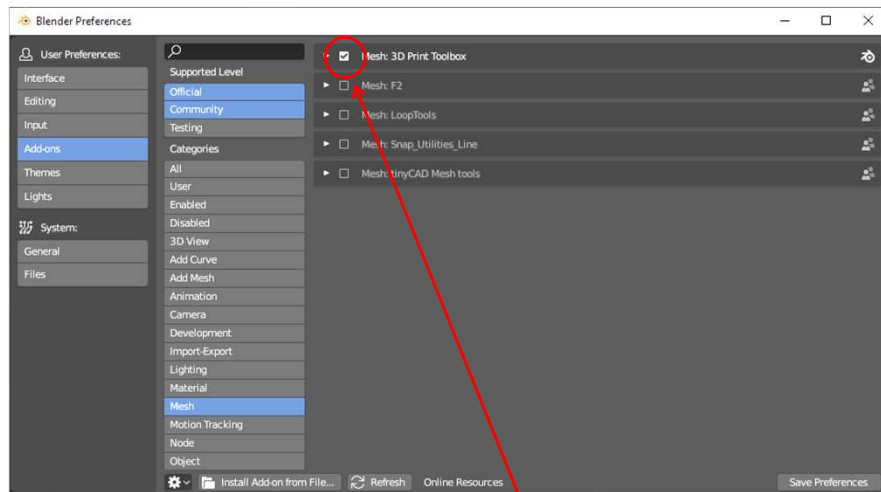


2. Click on the **Addons** tab
3. Click on **Mesh**

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Blender's 3D Printing Options aren't there by Default

29

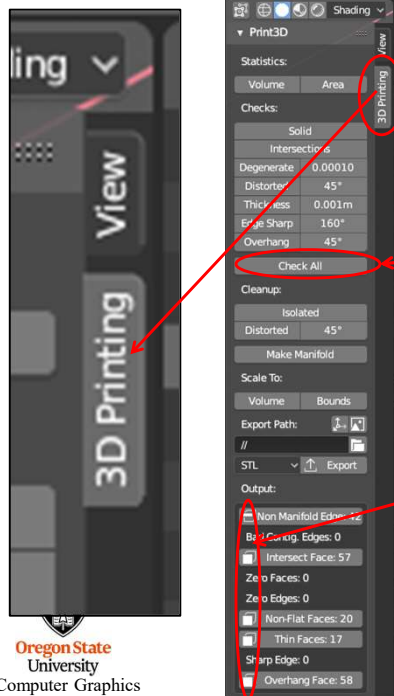


4. Click the **Mesh: 3D Print Toolbox**

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Blender Options for 3D Printing

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3D Printing now shows up in your Properties Region
(hit the 'n' key if you're not seeing it)

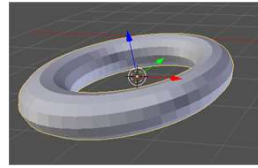
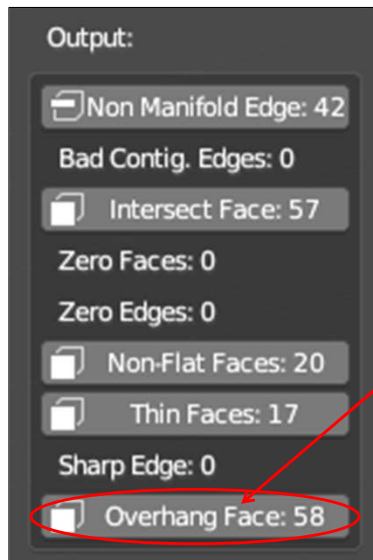
Objects destined for 3D Printing must be "legal solids".
Clicking on object and then on **Check All** will try to determine that

Tab over to Edit Mode. Clicking on any of these will
highlight where they are on your object.

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Blender Options for 3D Printing

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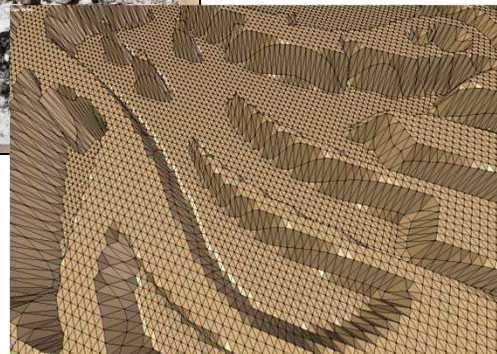
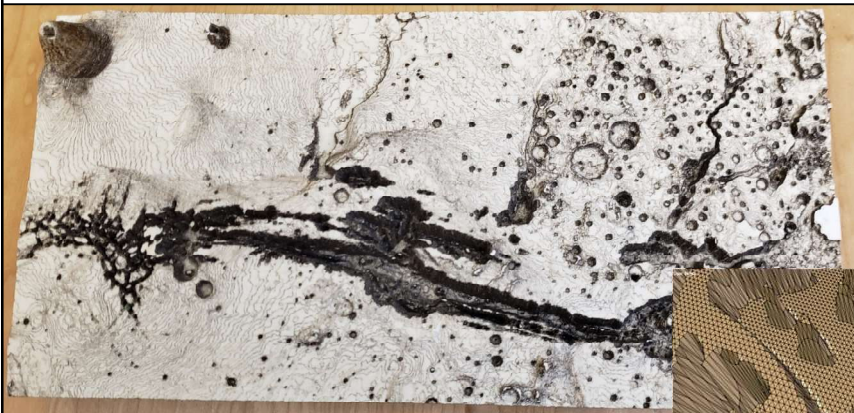
An overhang face is not necessarily a bad thing. The entire bottom of the part will consist of, by necessity, overhang faces.

However, overhang faces that are not the bottom of the part could be a problem.

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Heightmap Files are Straightforward to use with 3D Printing

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A Very Special Heightmap 3D Printing Model (mmm...)

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A Very Special Heightmap 3D Printing Model (mmm...)

34



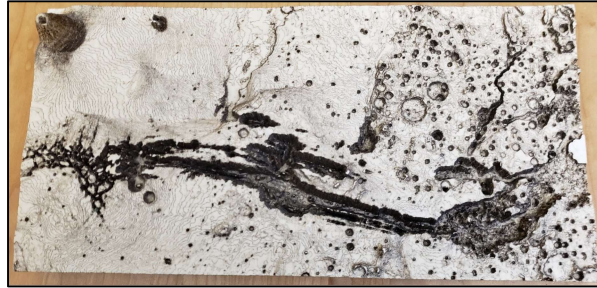
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Most Any *Data* Can be Turned into a 3D-Printable Model

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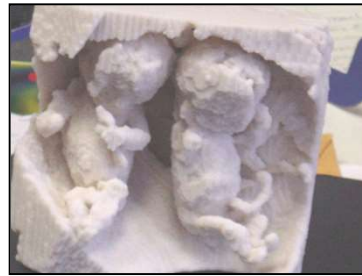
Mars



Mars

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3D Ultrasound



3D Ultrasound



Molecular Modeling

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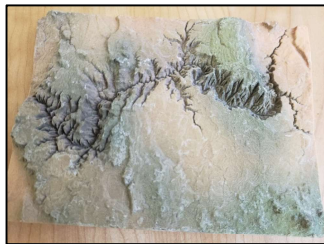
35

Most Any *Data* Can be Turned into a 3D-Printable Model

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Oregon



Grand Canyon



Dinosaur Egg

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MRI Scan



Earth

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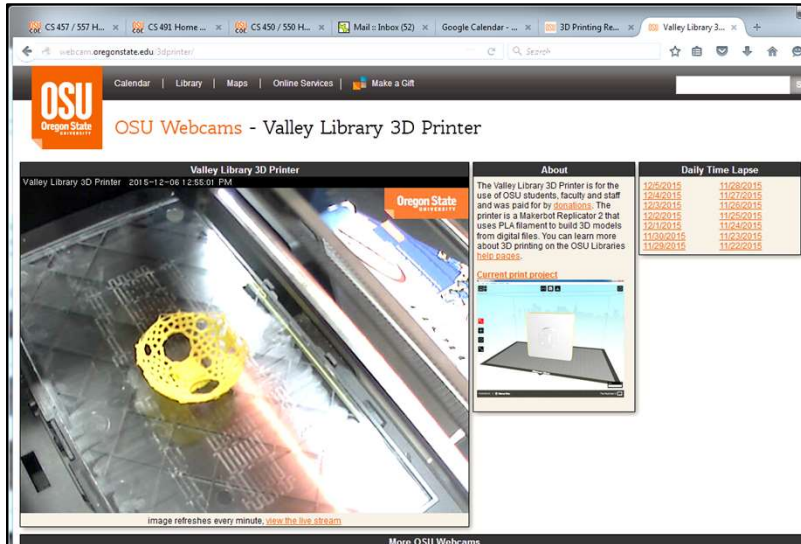
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The OSU Library Has Four 3D Printers for Student Use

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To watch the OSU Library's 3D Printers, go to:

<http://webcam.oregonstate.edu/3dprinter/>



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The OSU Library Has Four 3D Printers for Student Use

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To send an STL model to the OSU Library's 3D Printers, go to:

<http://guides.library.oregonstate.edu/3Dprinting/3Dprintform>

The screenshot shows the OSU Library's 3D Printing Submission Form page. The page includes a sidebar with navigation links and a main section for the 3D Printing Submission Form.

3D PRINTING SUBMISSION FORM

As of 7/10, we are mailing all finished prints. This means production time will be longer than usual and will probably take at least a week, most likely closer to two weeks. Feel free to email us at valley3dprinting@oregonstate.edu if you want to check on the status of your submission. As always, projects for class and research get priority.

3D Print Request

First Name *

Last Name *

ONID Username *

OSU ID Number *

Email *

Address for Delivery *

Status *

Maximum Print Dimensions:
Maximum height: 200mm



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