



policy

Name: 3D Printer Policy

Approved: February 20, 2017 by Franklin Public Library Board of Trustees; reaffirmed June 27, 2022; revised March 24, 2025

Policy:

Franklin Public Library strives to offer users access to new and emerging technologies to inspire creation and collaboration. 3D printing is one such technology. Also called additive manufacturing, 3D printing makes plastic objects layer by layer according to a 3D design file.

There is no patron age restriction for use of the library's 3D printers, but printers may only be used with staff assistance. Timing of printing may be regulated according to demand.

The library's 3D printer(s) may be used only for lawful purposes. They may not be used to create

1. Weapons; or
2. Materials that:
 - Are prohibited by local, state, or federal law;
 - Are unsafe, harmful, dangerous, or which pose an immediate threat to the well-being of others;
 - Are inappropriate for the library environment; or
 - Violate another person's property rights, e.g., the printer(s) will not be used to reproduce objects or materials subject to copyright, patent, or trademark protection.

Library staff will review every object file before it is printed, and the library reserves the right to refuse any 3D print request.

Franklin Public Library is not liable for functional failure of or injuries or property damage caused by objects or materials made through the use of 3D printers. The library strongly recommends that 3D printers not be used to make things that could prove harmful, or that would result in significant cost to the user if they fail.

The library is not responsible for failed 3D prints, although we will do our best to assist in completing successful 3D prints.

3D prints are charged on the basis of material used. Print charges must be paid for before prints will be released to the patron.