Sustainable 3D Printing

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Evaluate your library before selecting a 3D printer

- What do I plan on doing with it?
  - Programs * Services * Displays
  - Which materials?
- Will the printer travel?
- What is my budget?
- How tech savvy is my staff?
- What is my library’s mission statement?
www.3dhubs.com/best-3d-printer-guide

This guide is based on

10,154 reviews
6,353 years of experience

1,126 hours of writing
1,482,614 3D prints made on reviewed printers
Tips for training staff

- Division of labor
- Everyone doesn’t need to know everything
- Develop a limited number of “printer whisperers”
- Take advantage of online learning opportunities
Marketing your 3D printer

- Don’t hide your printer!
  - Consider a public display
  - Make it mobile
- Reach out to hobbyists
  - tabletop miniatures
  - Model railroad fans
- Time-lapse video
  - iPad + tripod + social media
Programs & Services

- Consider a broad range of ages
- Include classes in design
  - Tablets can improve ease of use
- Not just “printing”
  - 3D Scanning
  - Assembly
  - Lectures & Demonstrations
- Art shows
- Public Printing Service
Communicating Value

- Library 3D print services can be a cost-saver!
  - Compare to commercial sites (e.g. Sculpteo)
- Educational applications
  - Introducing a 21st century manufacturing process
- Entrepreneurship
  - Prototyping
  - Engage with the business community
Contact

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