

Lesson 2

Install cura and print your part



Step 1: Google for 'Cura', click "Installation of Cura 2".

A screenshot of a Google search interface. The search bar contains the word 'Cura'. Below the search bar, the 'All' tab is selected. The search results show 'About 207,000,000 results (0.65 seconds)'. The first result is 'Cura 3D Printing Slicing Software - Ultimaker' with a green URL 'https://ultimaker.com/en/products/cura-software'. Below this, there is a description of Cura and a note about the user's previous visits. A yellow arrow points from the text 'Click This' to the link 'Installation of Cura 2' within the first search result. To the right of the main result, there is a section titled 'Versions' with a brief description.

Google Cura

All Images Videos Maps News More Settings Tools

About 207,000,000 results (0.65 seconds)

Cura 3D Printing Slicing Software - Ultimaker
<https://ultimaker.com/en/products/cura-software> ▼
Cura is free to download and engineered to make the very most of the Ultimaker 3D Printers, it creates a stable, reliable and seamless 3D printing experience.
You've visited this page many times. Last visit: 3/25/17

Installation of Cura 2
To start the installation of Cura, ...
OpenGL 2 compatible ...
[More results from ultimaker.com »](#)

Versions
Created through open-source collaboration, Ultimaker's ...

Click This

Step 2: Click “download”.

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Manuals: 3D printers Materials Software Add-ons

Installation

To start the installation of Cura, [download](#) it first. After downloading, open the installer and run the installation wizard to complete the installation. To make sure Cura can run on your computer, we recommend checking the system requirements described below.

Click This



Step 3: Click “Download for free”.

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Cura Software

Cura prepares your model for 3D printing. For novices, it makes it easy to get great results. For experts, there are over 200 settings to adjust to your needs. As it's open source, our community helps enrich it even more.

 macOS

Cura 2.5

[Download for free](#)

[Download Cura 2.6 \(beta\)](#)

[View the Cura manual](#)

[View all versions](#)

[Release notes](#)

Click This




rero

Step 4: Choose “Educational Use”.

You're about to download Cura 2.5 For macOS

Before you download Cura please fill in these details.
This will help to improve our products. Thank you!

* Required Fields

* I'll be using Cura for: 

Download

Click This



Step 5: Fill in your profile then click “Download”.

You're about to download Cura 2.5 For macOS

Before you download Cura please fill in these details. This will help to improve our products.
Thank you!

* Required Fields

* Educational Use ▼	
* Institution name	
* Type of instit... ▼	* Role ▼
* Select your main 3D printer ▼	
* Application ▼	
Could you share some details about your project?	
* Country ▼	
First Name	Last Name

Step 6: Once download is completed, double-click the dmg file or exe file to begin installation.



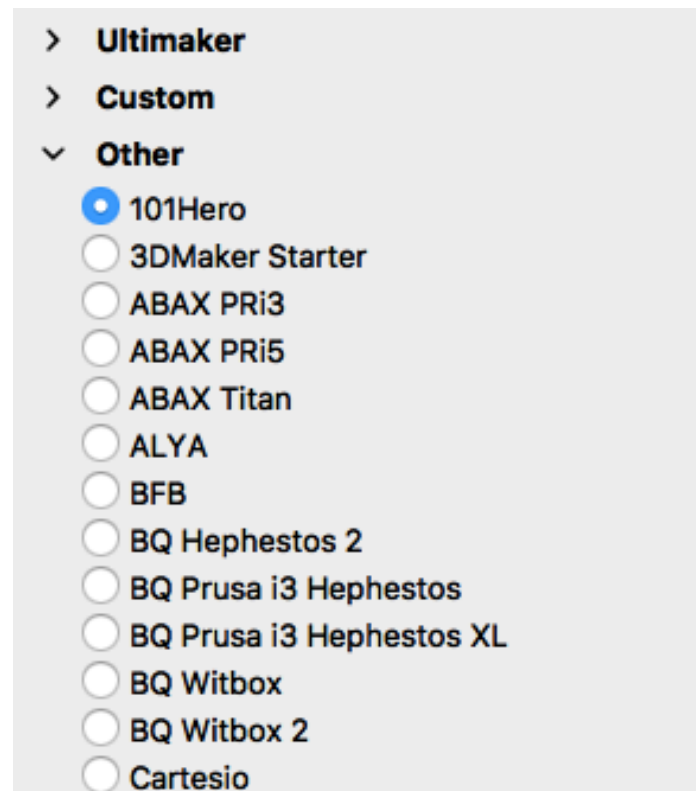
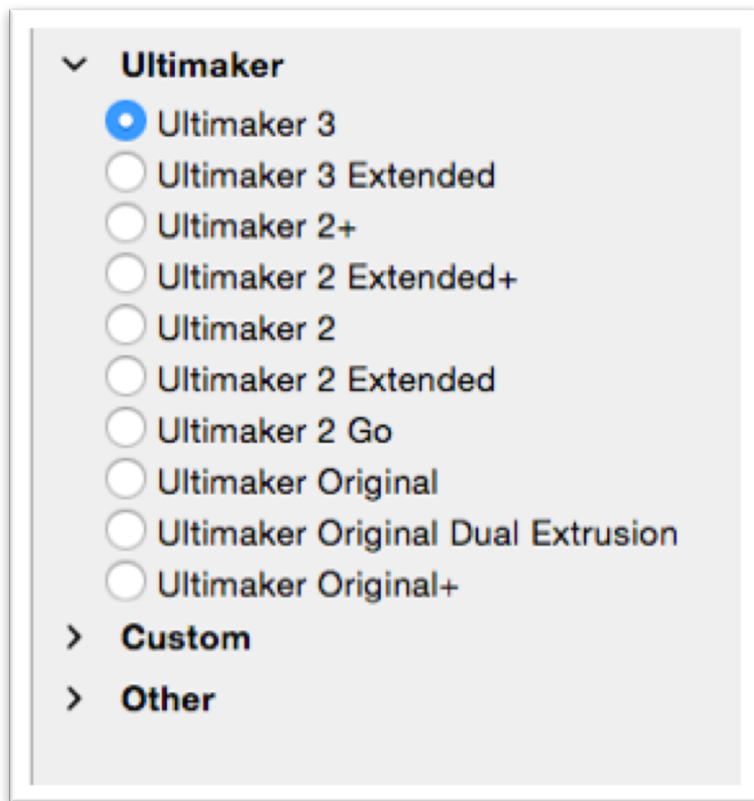
Step 7: Launch Cura by clicking on the Cura icon.



Cura

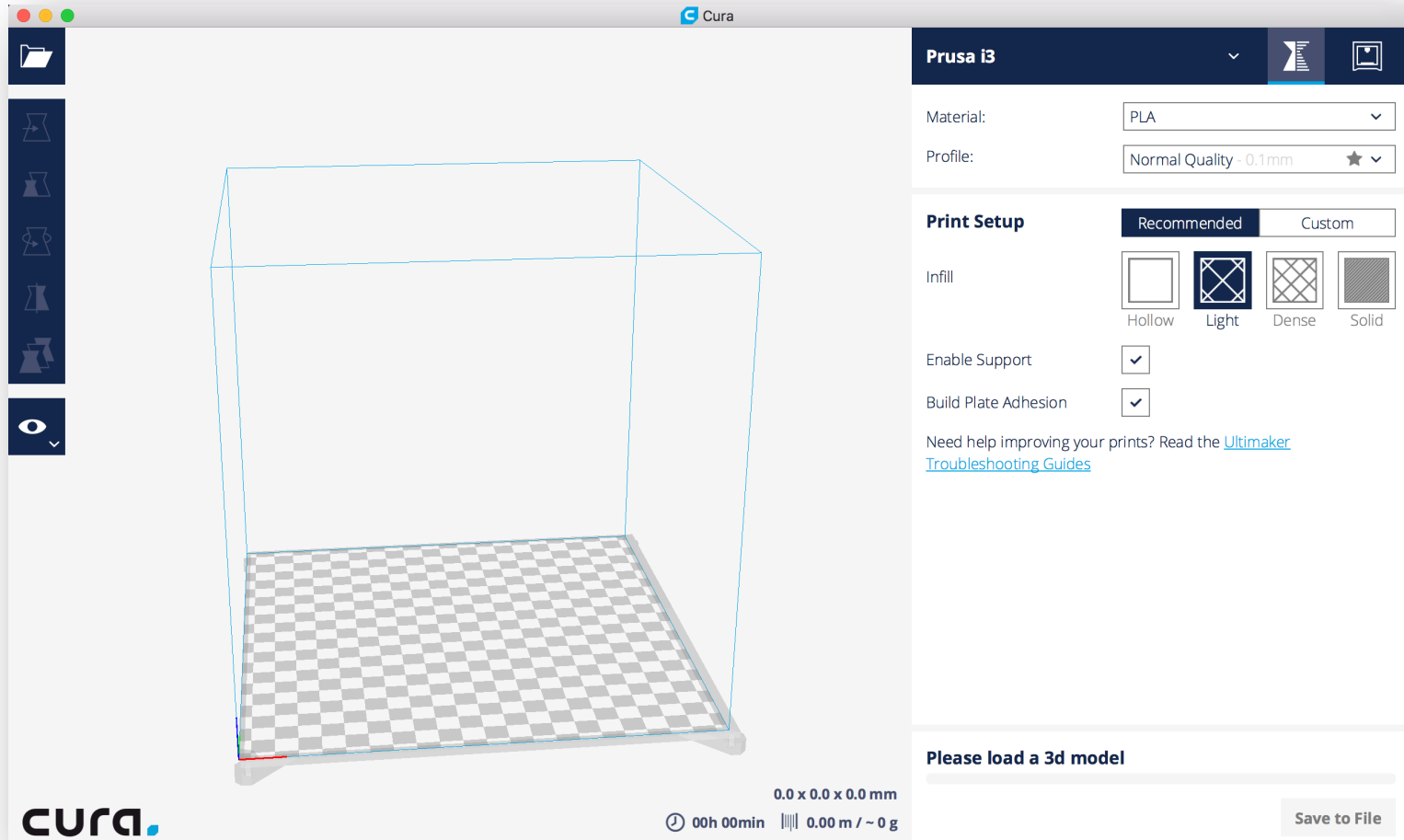


Step 8: Tell Cura the printer that you are using.

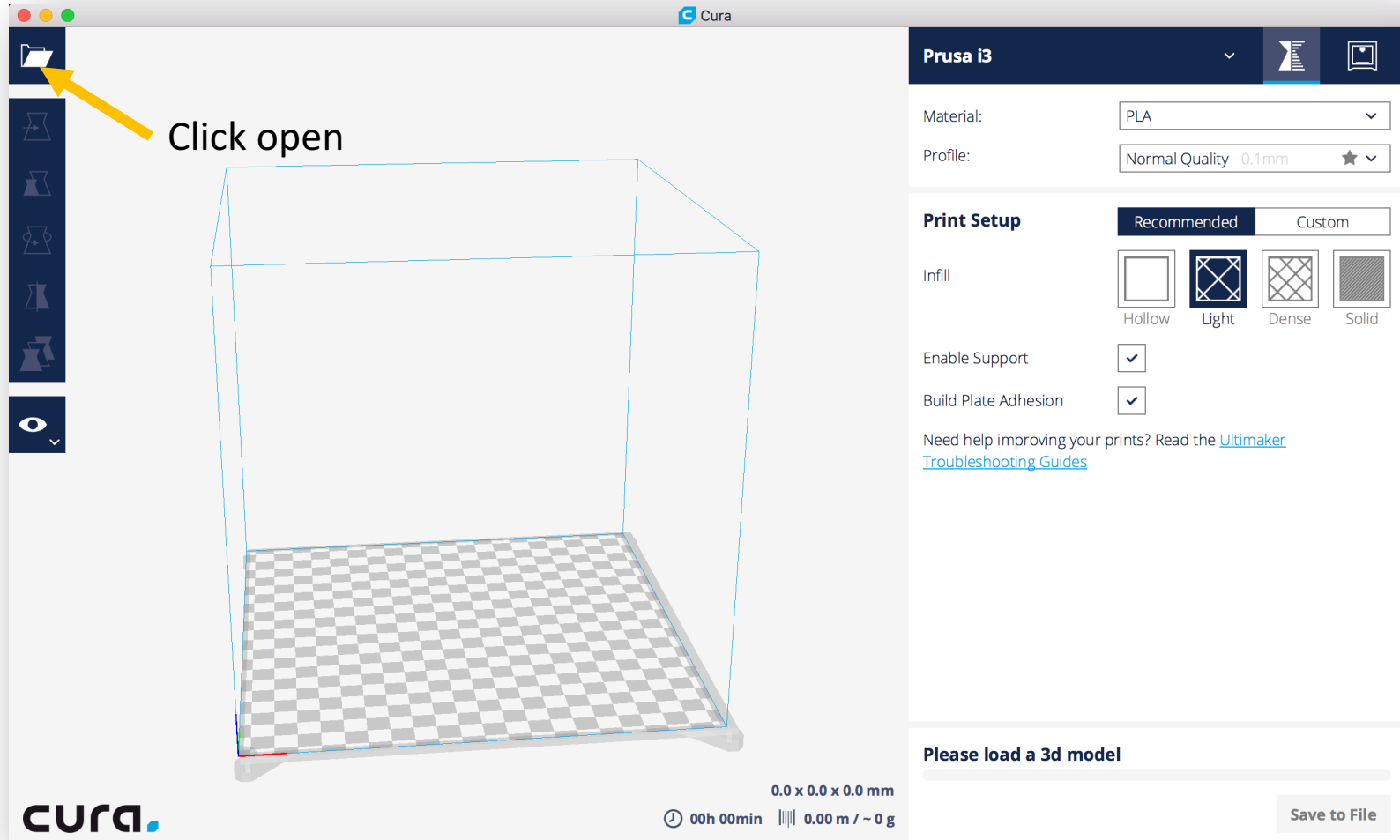


Note: If you can't find your printer from the list, then you need to go to 'custom' and key in the printer's parameters manually.

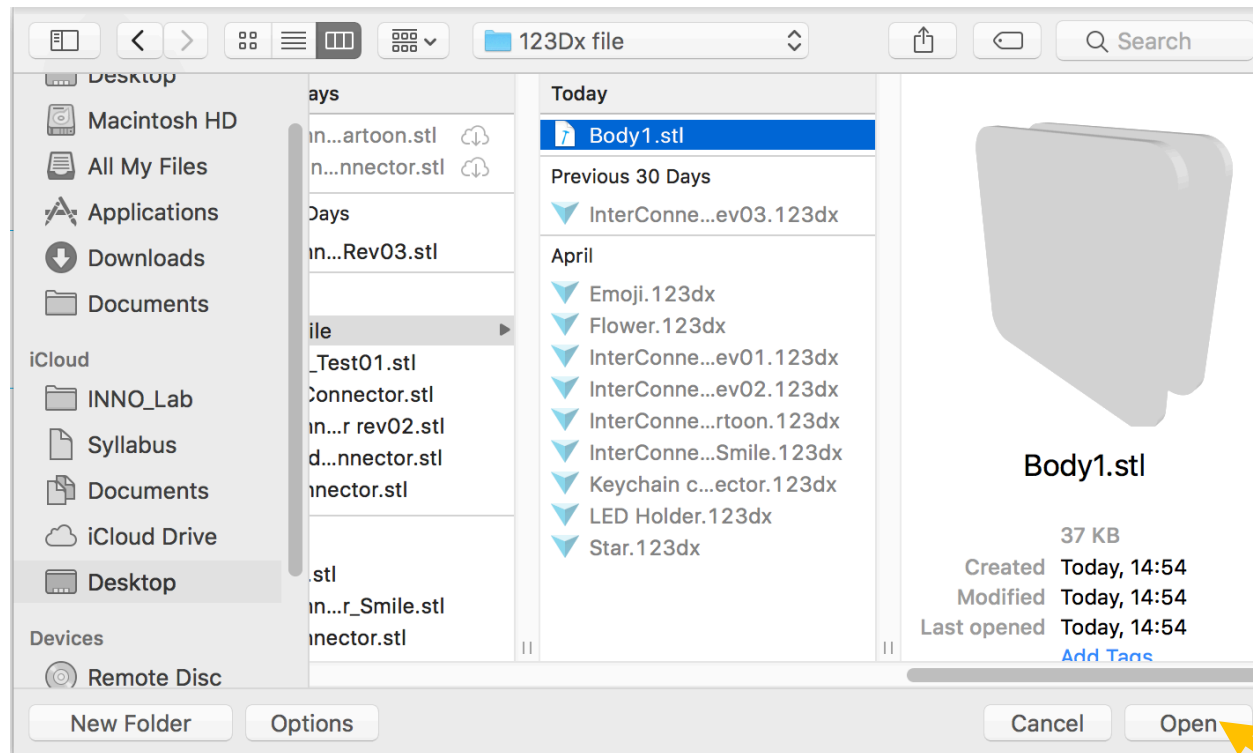
Step 9: This is Cura's User Interface.



Step 10: Click the “open” icon to import the STL file you have drawn in Lesson 1.

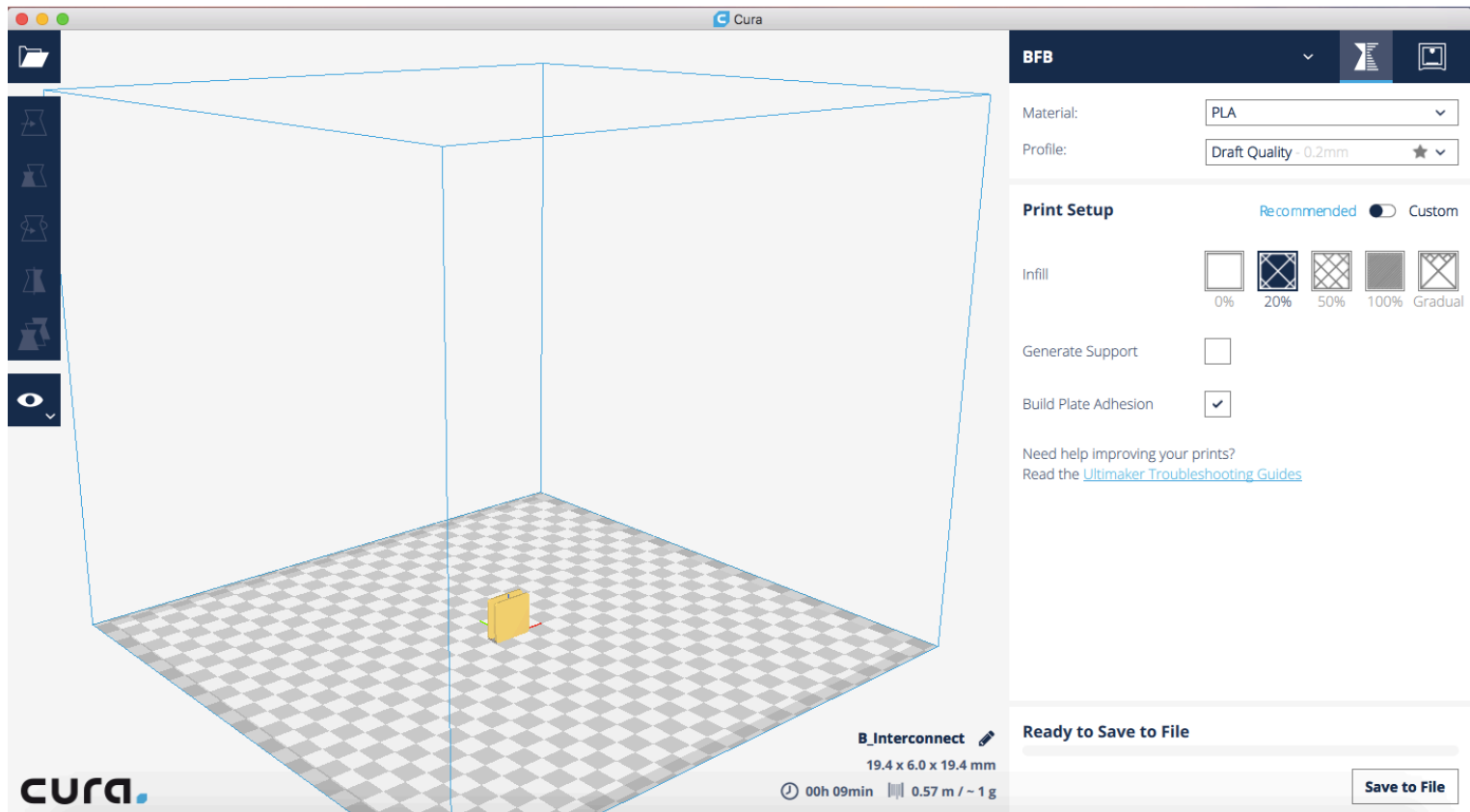


Step 11: Select the STL file then click “Open”

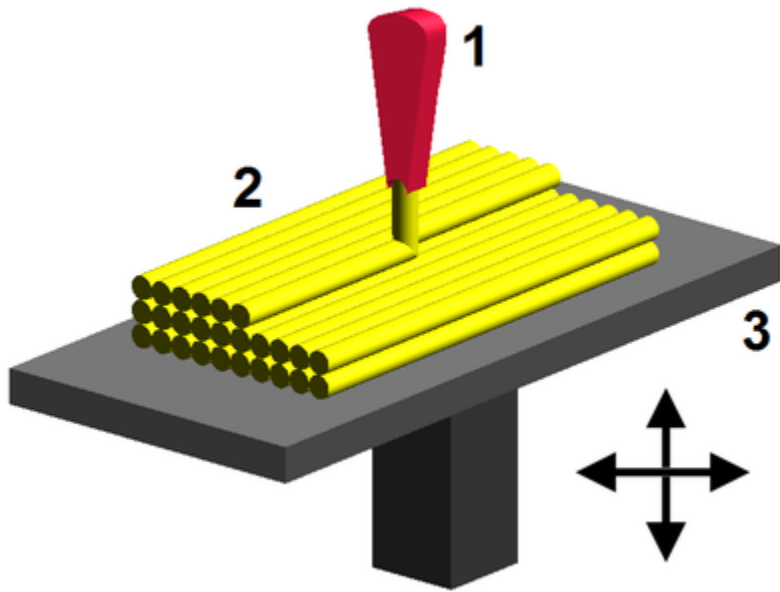


Click Open

Step 12: Your part is now loaded into the Cura software.

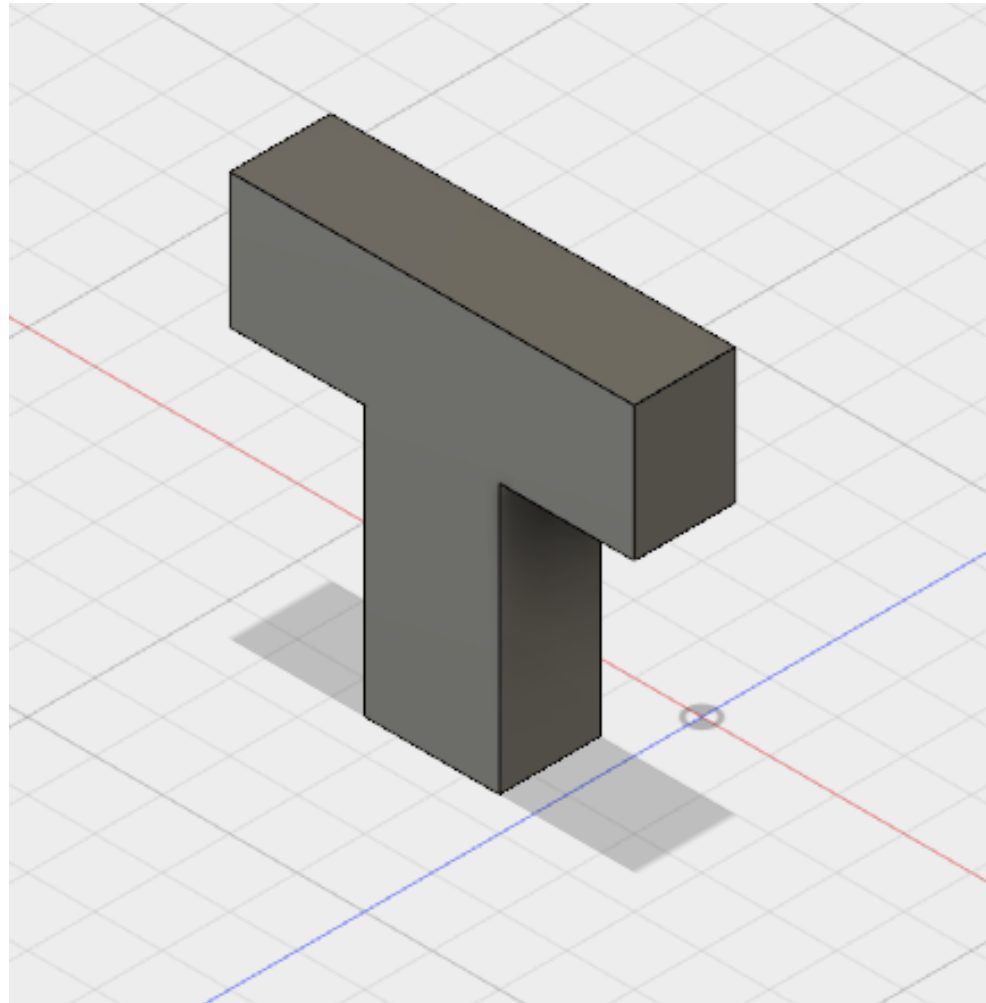


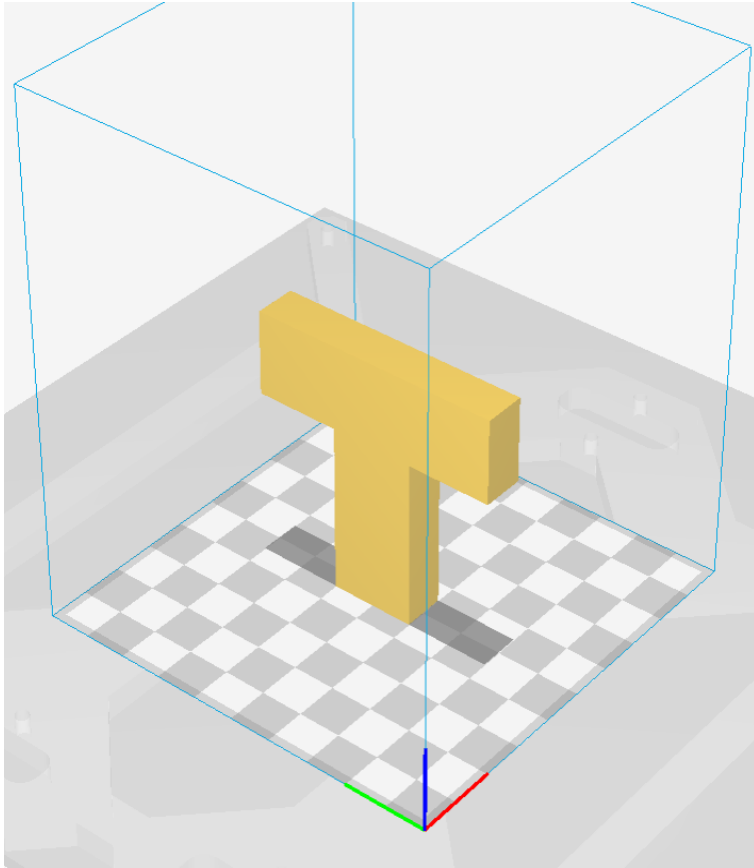
Note: Before we start printing, we need to have some knowledge on how 3D printing works. Most 3D printers use the *Fused Filament Fabrication* method (FFF).



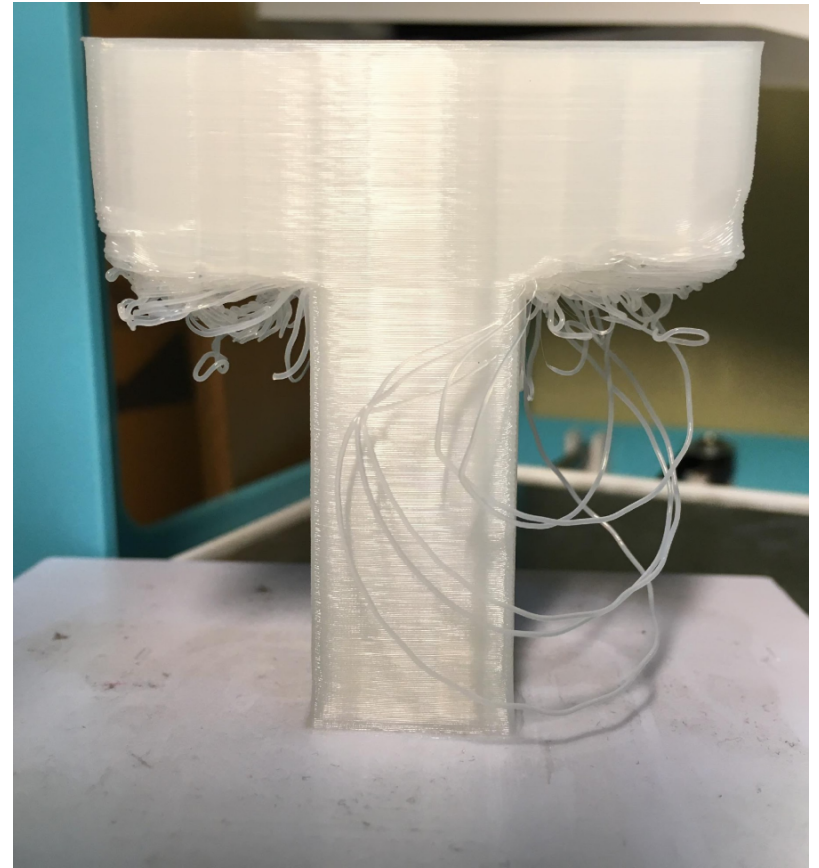
The 3D object is fabricated layer by layer with melted plastic.

Let's see an example here. We want to print the "T" object shown below.



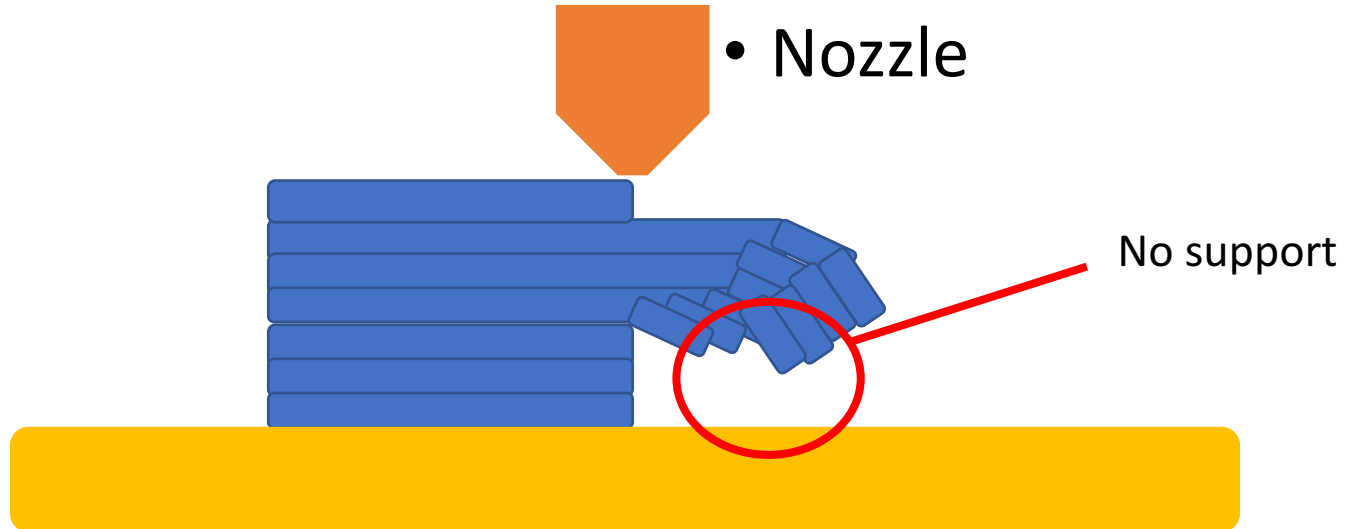


This is what we
planned



But, this is what
we will get

This is due to the FFF principle where the object is filled layer by layer. There is no support at the “hanging” part, so it will fall.

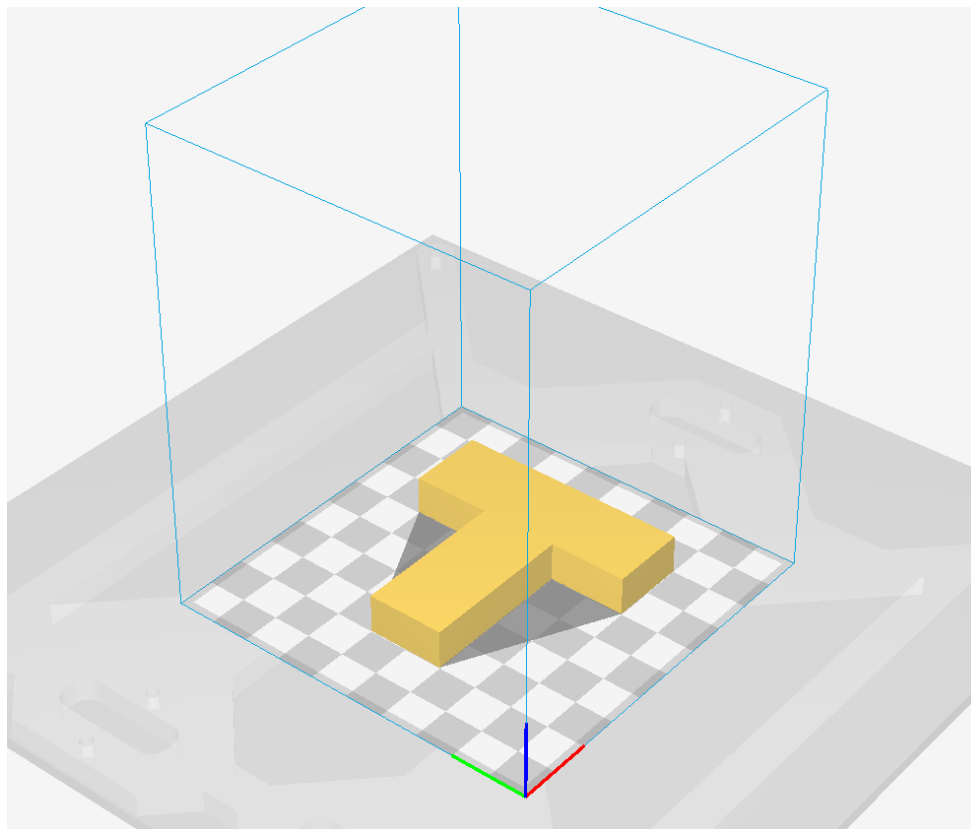




To solve this problem, we have 3 options:

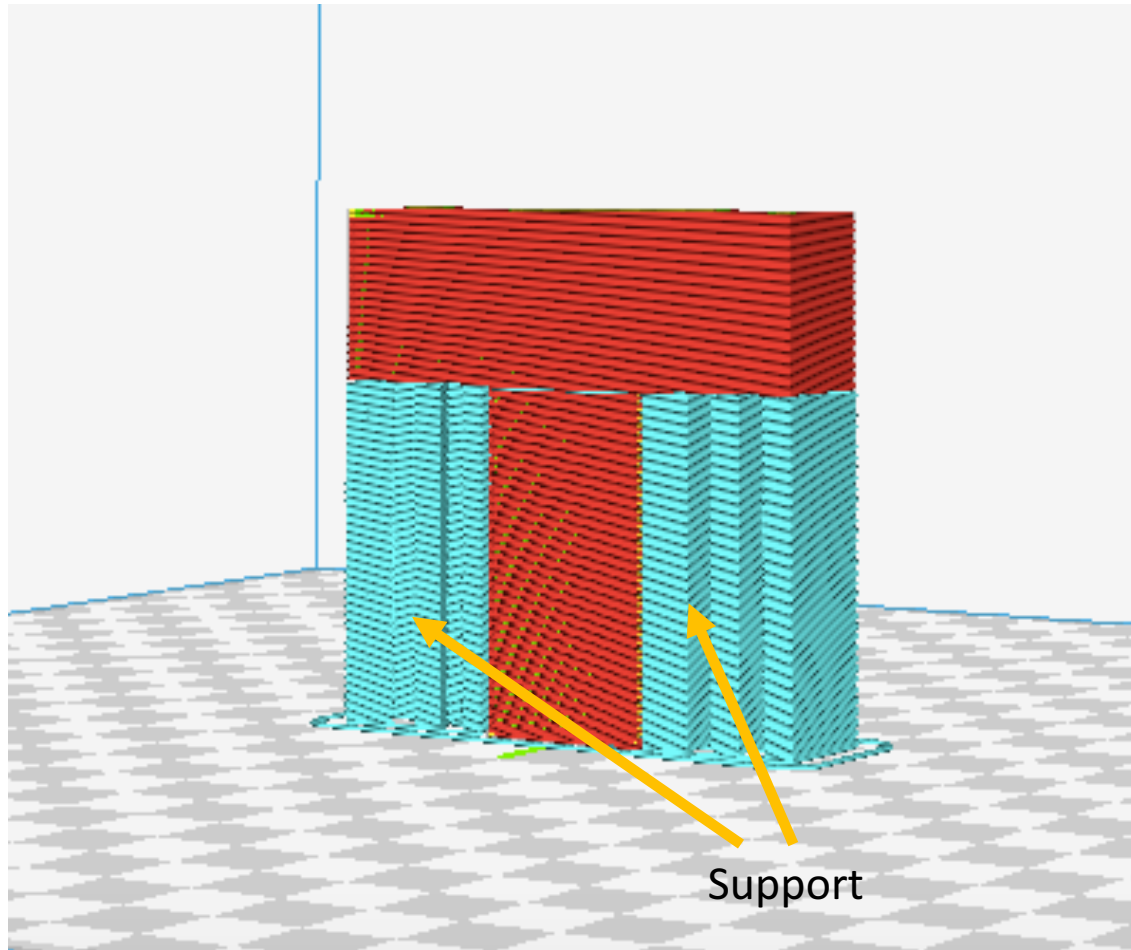
1. Change orientation
2. Add support
3. Change design

Option 1: Change Orientation



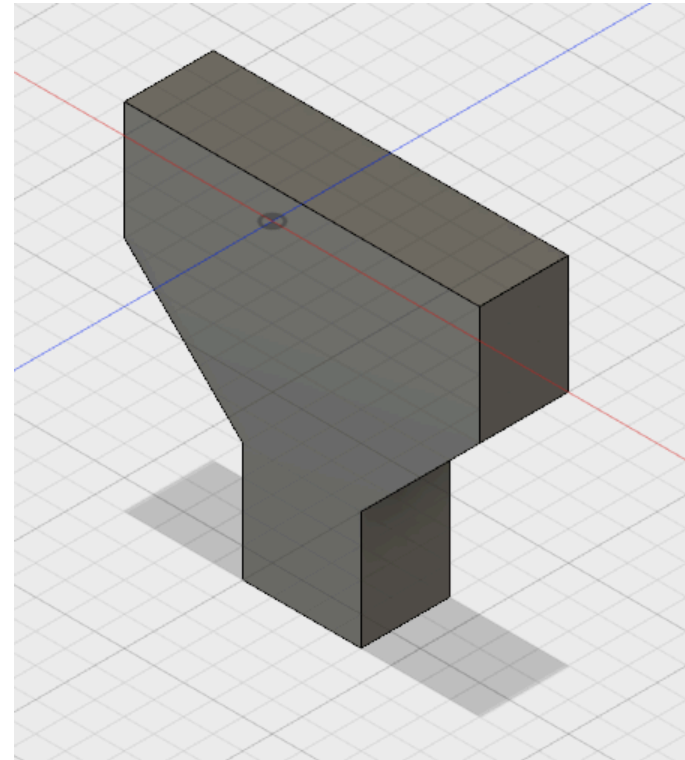
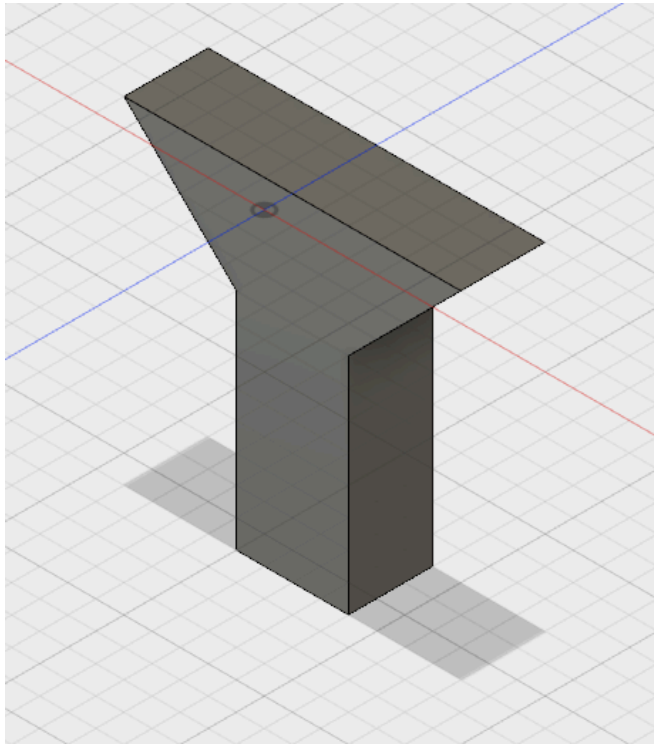
Note: This is the easiest and most common option. Use this as priority option.

Option 2: Add Support



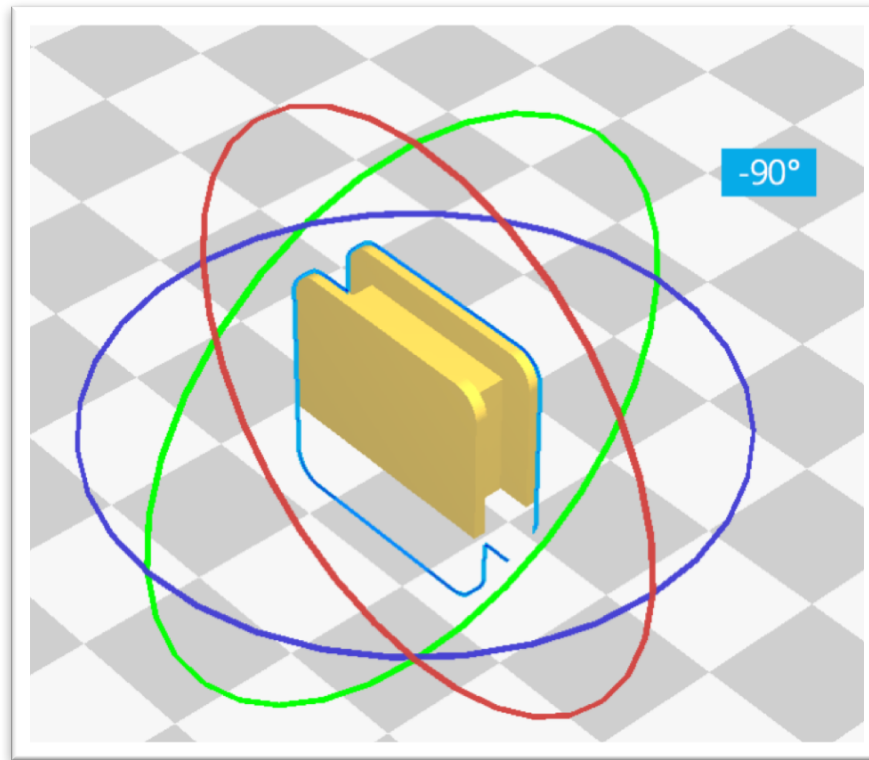
Note: This option is not recommended because it consumes a lot of material.

Option 3: Change Design

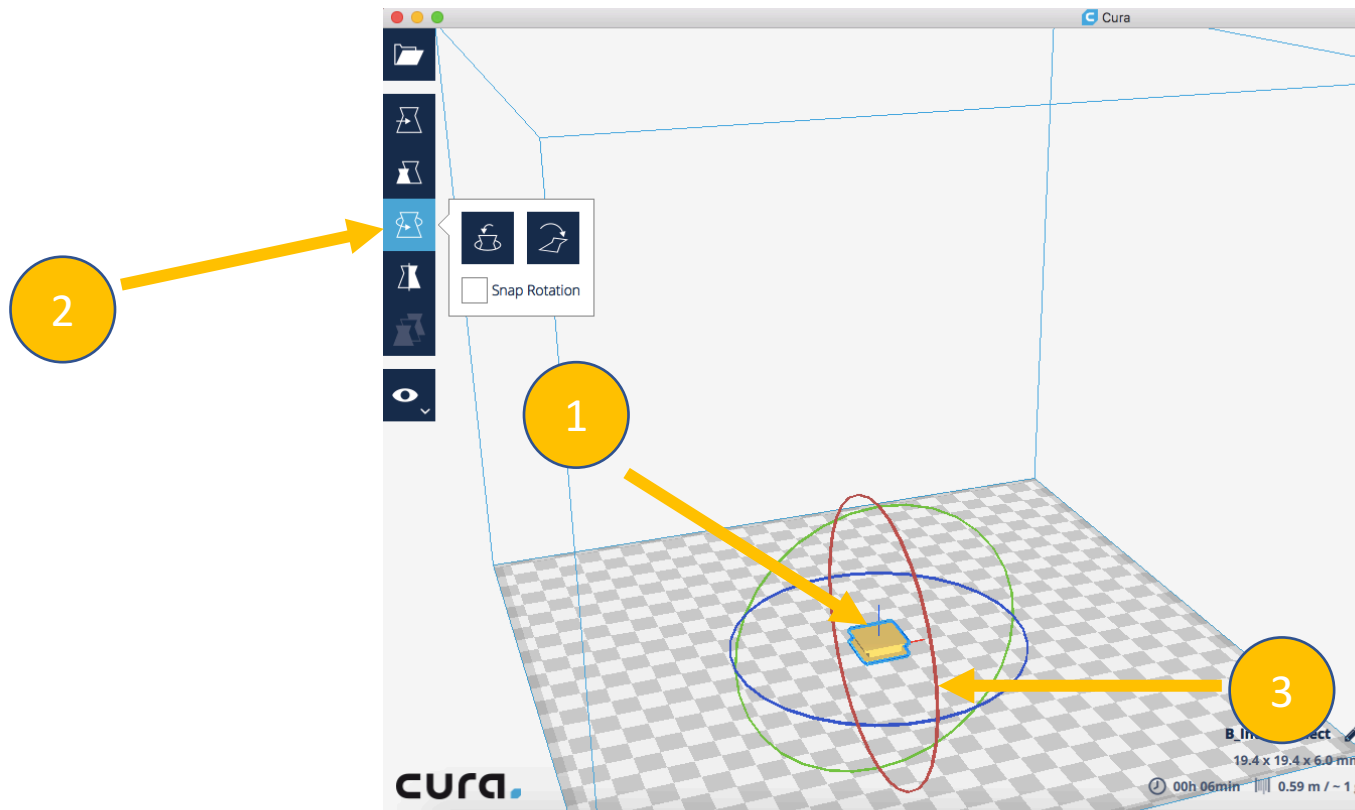


Note: You can consider changing the design if it does not affect its primary function.


Step 13: For this part, you need to ensure it is standing upright as shown below.




Note: If your part is loaded in flat position, you will need to click on the part, choose “Rotate”, then drag the red circle to rotate the part to 90 degrees.





Step 14: Follow the printing setup as shown below.

Prusa i3 

Material:

PLA 

Profile:

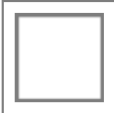
Normal Quality #2 - 0.2mm  

Print Setup


Recommended

Custom


Infill



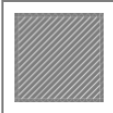
Hollow



Light



Dense



Solid

Enable Support

☐

Build Plate Adhesion

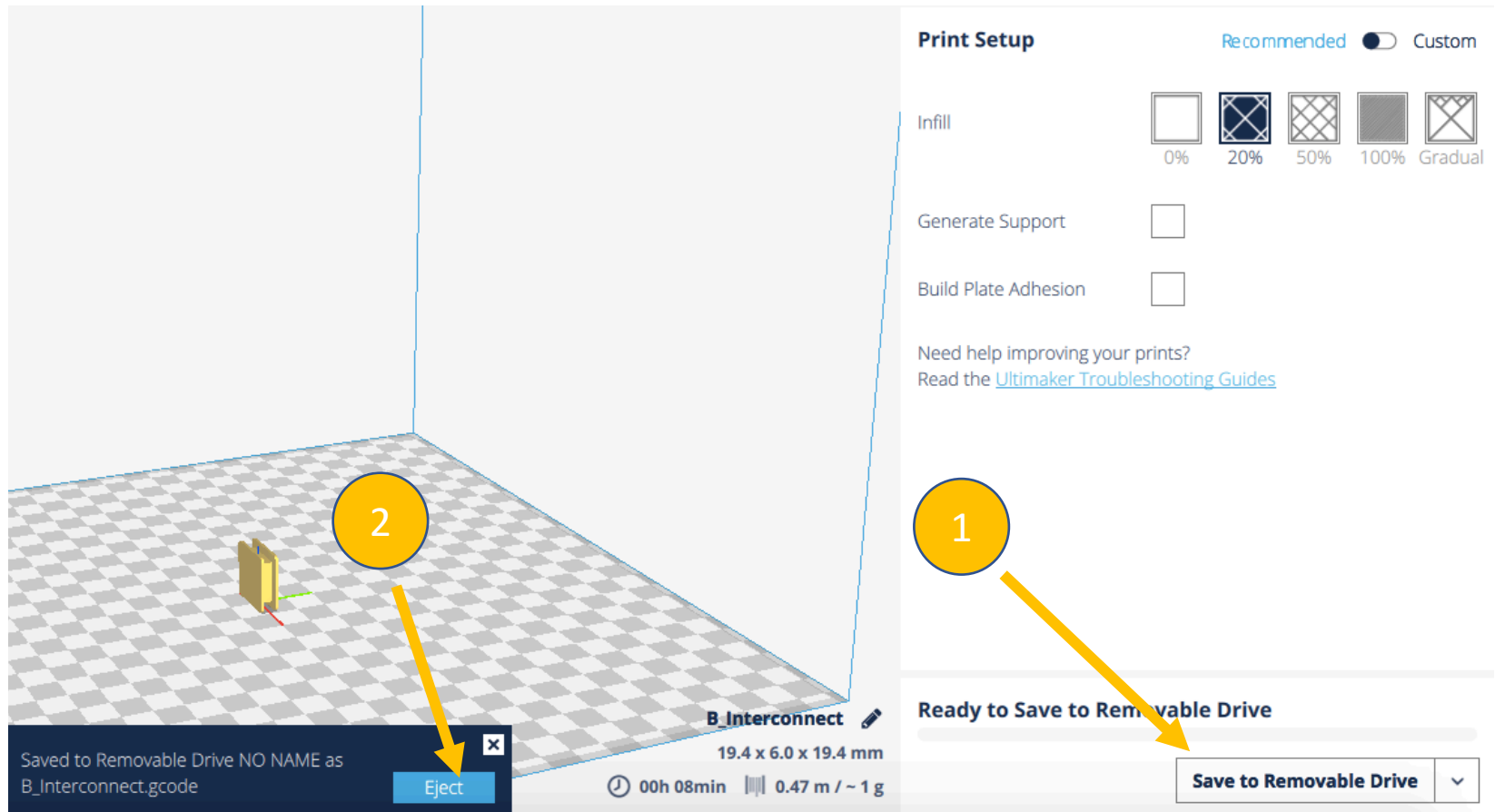
☐

Need help improving your prints? Read the [Ultimaker Troubleshooting Guides](#)

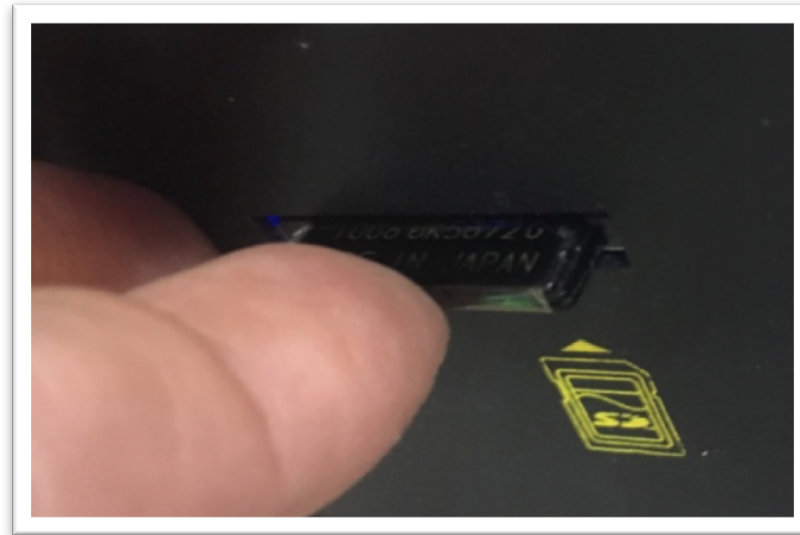
Step 15: Insert your SD card into your computer.



Step 16: Next, click “Save to Removable Drive”, then click “Eject”. Then remove your SD card from your computer.



Step 17: Next, insert your SD card into your 3D printer.



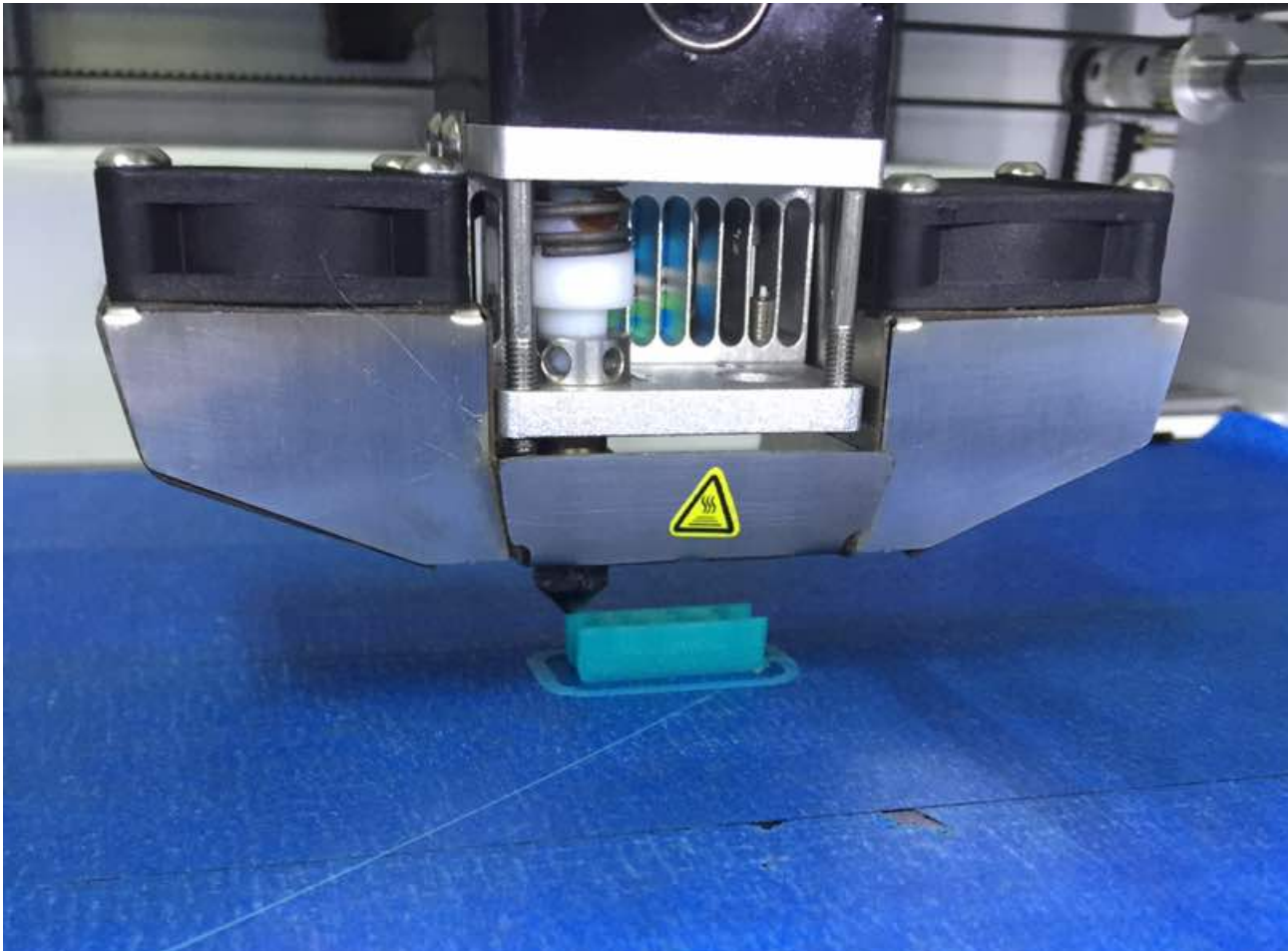
Step 18: Rotate the knob to select your printable file.



Step 19: Once the correct file is selected, the printer will take several minutes to heat up before it starts printing.



Step 20: Printing in progress.



Congratulations! You have your first 3D part ready!

