

FINDING 3D PRINTS

FREE SITES

1 THINGIVERSE

- Oldest and largest site
- Sometimes frustrating
- Not well maintained

1

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2 PRINTABLES

- Maintained & Updated often
- Large community
- Ongoing Contests & more

3 INSTRUCTABLES

- Design walk-throughs
- Lots of 3D related projects
- Community driven

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4 YOUMAGINE

- Easy to navigate
- Not as many designs
- Not all for 3D printing

5 GRABCAD

- Focused on engineering
- Lots of 3D files
- Not all for 3D printing

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6 NASA

- Not a lot of files
- Only focused on space
- The Mars Rover!!!

PAID/FREE SITES

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7 CULTS3D

- Lots of files & creators
- Search by FREE or PAID
- Some files not for children

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8 PINSHAPE

- Like "Pinterest" for STL files
- Community & Education Areas
- Sort by FREE or PAID

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9 FREE3D

- Lots of Digital 3D & Print 3D
- Focus is more on Digital
- Search, then click 3D Printable

SEARCH SITES

10 THANGS

- Search & Database
- Lots of Community Features
- Collaborate, Sync & Backup

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11 YEGGI

- Focused on Search
- Utilitarian design
- Quick and easy

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12 STLFINDER

- Designed like Google Search
- Lots of search features
- Quick & nice results page

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SUBSCRIPTION/SALES SITES

13 PATREON

- Great way to support creators
- Better quality files (usually)
- May allow prints to be sold

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14 SUBSCRIPTIONS

- Usually lots of great files
- Monthly fees may be high
- Come and go - read reviews!

15 ETSY

- Lots and lots of files
- Price and quality varies
- Not all suitable for children

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16 KICKSTARTER

- Watch for new campaigns
- Levels of support/reward
- Usually highest quality around

SEARCH TIPS

A

A LOOK FOR PICTURES

- More than just a 3D render of the STL file
- Actual photographs of what it looks like after printing

B

B READ THE NOTES

- Look for settings and tips the designer gives for the best print
- Check printer they used and adjust your settings if necessary

C

C READ THE COMMENTS

- Look for comments about how the file printed
- Are there settings that need adjusting, parts resized?
- Look for posts about your printer and use their settings

D

D CHECK PRINTER TYPE: FDM vs SLA

- Verify the print was made for your type of printer
- Experiment with your settings if different
- Ask in comment section if anyone has tried it

