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3D Printing And CNC Fabrication With SketchUp



Synopsis

Model and print your own 3D creations using SketchUp! Get up and running fast in the consumer design and fabrication world using the hands-on information in this guide. 3D Printing and CNC Fabrication with SketchUp features step-by-step tutorials of fun and easy DIY projects. Learn how to create your own 3D models, edit downloaded models, make them printable, and bring them to physical life either on your own printer or through an online service bureau. Download and install SketchUp on your Mac or PC. Navigate the interface and SketchUp's native design tools. Download design and analysis tools from the Extension Warehouse. Edit models downloaded from the 3D Warehouse and Thingiverse. Import and export STL files. Analyze your projects for 3D printability. Set up, use, and maintain a home 3D printer. Work with AutoCAD, 123D Make, 123D Meshmixer, and Vetric Cut2D. Generate files for CNC cutters.

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Customer Reviews

If you have a 3D printer, but still aren't printing your own designs--because you haven't tried SketchUp or have looked at it and found it confusing--then 3D PRINTING AND CNC FABRICATION WITH SKETCHUP may be exactly the right book for you. Aimed at SketchUp beginners (like myself), it presents an excellent step-by-step "course" in designing printable 3D models with the downloadable SketchUp software. (SketchUp Make is free; SketchUp Pro is a pay version with more capabilities. Both versions are covered.) What I really like about this book, is that it begins by explaining how the SketchUp Make interface and tools work (with navigational screen shots and

clear 3D drawings of what to expect from the tools), and then provides simple step-by-step "workbook" projects (e.g., a virtual name stand, a virtual travel mug) that teach you how to actually use the tools for designing in three dimensions. (See Chapter 2, Getting Started: The Interface; and Chapter 3, Projects Using SketchUp Make's Native Tools.) The book then moves on to more "workbook" projects for SketchUp Pro. These projects teach the use of downloaded models as components, and the use of extensions (plug-ins, or scripts). (See Chapter 4, Projects Using Sketchup Pro and Extensions.) Of special interest is Chapter 5, Making the Model 3D-Printable, which discusses the elements that you must satisfy to be able to actually print a physical model from your design. A printable design (1) has thickness; (2) has appropriate thickness; (3) considers plastic shrinkage; (4) leaves enough clearance between moving or component parts; and (5) has rounded, not pointed, features.

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