



shapeways[★]

About Shapeways

Shapeways is a creative community of makers, designers, and entrepreneurs using digital manufacturing (3D printing) to bring their ideas to the physical world. Designers can use Shapeways to manufacture products with complex designs in over 58 different high-quality materials and finishes—enabling people to expand their limits as designers and makers.

The Shapeways Marketplace allows our creative community to explore entrepreneurship and inspire others to do the same. It's also a treasure trove for discerning shoppers that value supporting independent designers. Come explore the whole new world of creativity enabled by the digital manufacturing era. Shaping the future in infinite ways. Or as we like to say around here, Shapeways.

Shapeways was founded in 2007. Headquartered in New York, Shapeways also has factories and offices in Eindhoven, NL; Queens, NY; and Seattle, WA.

How It Works for Designers

1. Upload your 3D design to Shapeways.com.
2. Select the material in which you'd like to 3D print – Shapeways offers 40 materials and finishes, including ceramic, plastics, and metals such as 14 carat gold, sterling silver, steel and bronze.
3. The designs are reviewed by our 3D print engineering team to ensure that they are viable for 3D printing. Once confirmed, the design is sent to a 3D printer.
4. 3D printers build products one layer at a time, slowly building up to the final product.
5. This process can take anywhere from hours to days depending on the size and complexity of the design. The industrial machines we use can build thousands of parts at the same time, enabling scale.
6. Once complete, products are removed from the printer and cleaned.
7. Printed products may be polished or dyed depending on the material and order.
8. The finished product is packaged by Shapeways and shipped directly to the creator or shopper!

How It Works for Shoppers

1. Find a product you love.
2. Select your favorite material for the product.
3. Complete your purchase. You'll be supporting an individual designer.
4. Shapeways 3D prints the product just for you.
5. Receive and enjoy your new 3D printed product!





Key Stats and Figures

40,000+

shops on the marketplace

1,000,000+

Shapeways community members

190,000+

unique designs are uploaded every month

185,000+

products are 3D printed and shipped every month

60+ materials

and finishes offered, including 14k gold, sterling silver, brass and stainless steel, ceramic and plastic

140 countries

represent Shapeways global customers

250 employees

in New York City, Eindhoven, and Seattle

10 employees

are involved in 3D printing and manufacturing each product.