



Thank you for choosing the LulzBot® Mini desktop 3D printer and welcome to the LulzBot community. This Quick Start Guide will familiarize you with the proper use and operation of your LulzBot Mini. By the time you finish, you will have your very own 3D printed rocktopus, the mascot of the LulzBot Mini.

Every LulzBot Mini is covered by a one-year warranty and customer support. If you have questions along the way, please contact us by emailing [support@LulzBot.com](mailto:support@LulzBot.com) or calling **+1-970-377-1111**. Learn more at [LulzBot.com/support](http://LulzBot.com/support). Extended warranties of one, two, and three years may also be purchased to further protect your investment. Email [sales@LulzBot.com](mailto:sales@LulzBot.com) for more information.

Now let's get you 3D printing!



*Read the included User Safety Sheet completely before beginning the Quick Start Guide. We also recommend reading the full User Manual for your LulzBot Mini after completing the Quick Start.*

STEP  
**1**

## Unpack Your LulzBot Mini Desktop 3D Printer

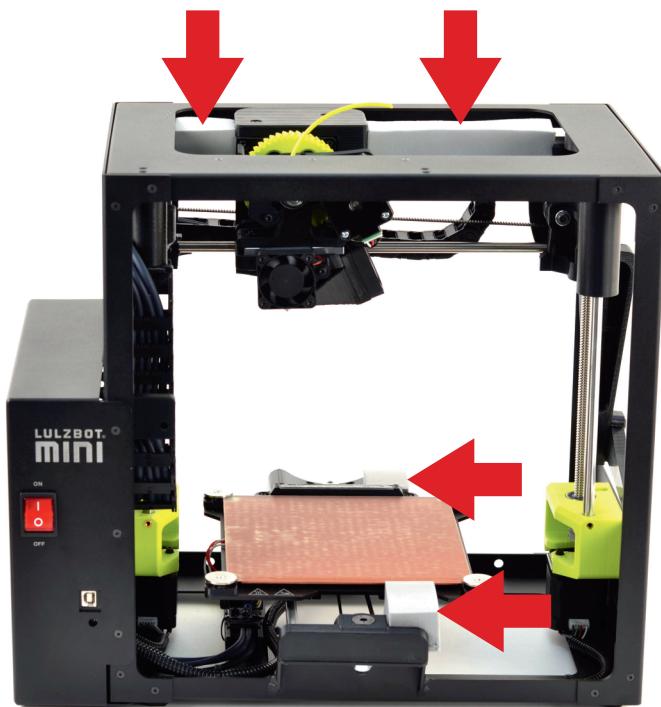
**1A** Carefully remove the top piece of protective foam and other included materials. Then place your LulzBot Mini in a well ventilated area on a flat and level surface with 30 centimeters (12 inches) of clearance in every direction.

*i*

*Your LulzBot Mini comes with an octopus that was made by your 3D printer during the final stage of quality assurance. Several tools for maintaining your LulzBot Mini are also included. Learn more about how to use them in the maintenance section at the end of this Quick Start Guide.*



**1B** Remove all packaging foam and confirm everything on the Packing List is included in the box. Save all of the provided packaging materials in case you need to transport your 3D printer or ship for warranty service in the future.



**STEP  
2**

## Download and Install the Software for Your LulzBot Mini

Visit [LulzBot.com/Cura](http://LulzBot.com/Cura) to find download and installation instructions for Cura LulzBot Edition, the software that will control your 3D printer. Even if you already have Cura installed on your computer, visit [LulzBot.com/Cura](http://LulzBot.com/Cura) anyway to get the latest version of Cura LulzBot Edition.



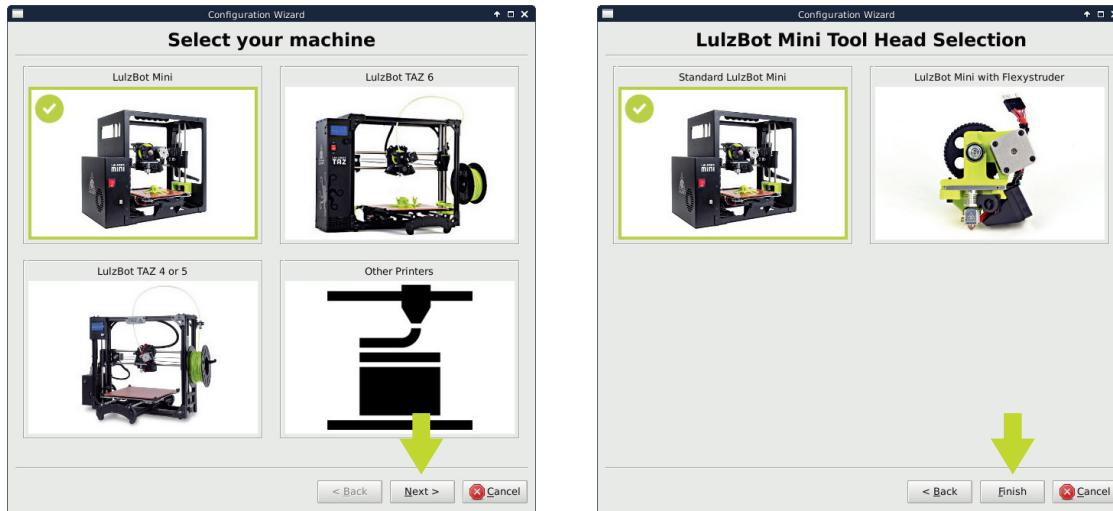
*No Internet access? You can also find installation packages on the included USB thumb drive that comes with your LulzBot Mini.*



**STEP  
3**

## Configure Cura LulzBot Edition for Your LulzBot Mini

**3A** Launch Cura LulzBot Edition. Begin the Configuration Wizard and select LulzBot Mini and click **Next**. In the Tool Head Selection window select **Standard LulzBot Mini** and click **Next**.

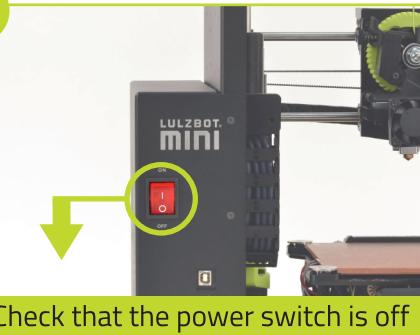


**3B** Click **Finish** to complete the Configuration Wizard. Cura LulzBot Edition is now installed and ready for use.

**STEP  
4**

## Connect and Power On Your LulzBot Mini

**4A**



Check that the power switch is off

**4B**



Connect the USB cable

**4C**



Connect the power cord

**4D**



Power on

**STEP  
5**

## Prepare the Model for Your First 3D Print

**5A** A 3D model named *rocktopus* will automatically load onto Cura LulzBot Edition's virtual print bed the first time you run the software. The rocktopus is the first object you will 3D print on your LulzBot Mini.



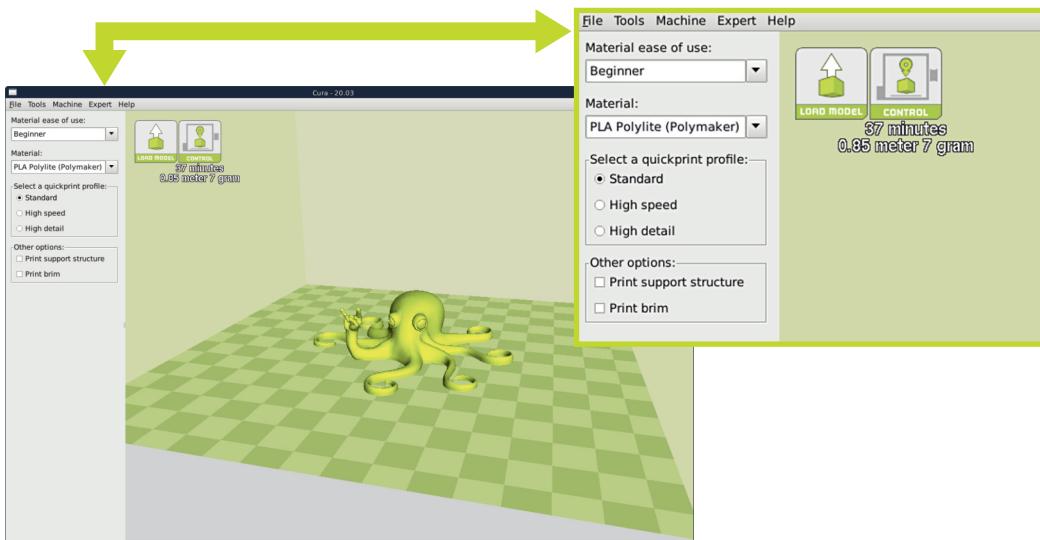
*If the rocktopus model is not present on the virtual print bed, you can download it from [LulzBot.com/rocktopus](http://LulzBot.com/rocktopus) or from the included USB thumb drive, then load it using the **Load Model** button in the main Cura interface.*

**5B** Locate the included green coil of PLA sample filament. We strongly recommend using the included PLA sample filament for your first rocktopus 3D print.



*Filament is the name for the materials your LulzBot Mini uses to 3D print objects. The included sample filament, PLA, is made from natural renewable resources. PLA and other types of filament can be purchased at [LulzBot.com/filament](http://LulzBot.com/filament).*

**5C** On the left side of the screen under "Material," select **PLA Polylite (Polymaker)**. Then under "Select a quickprint profile," select **Standard**.



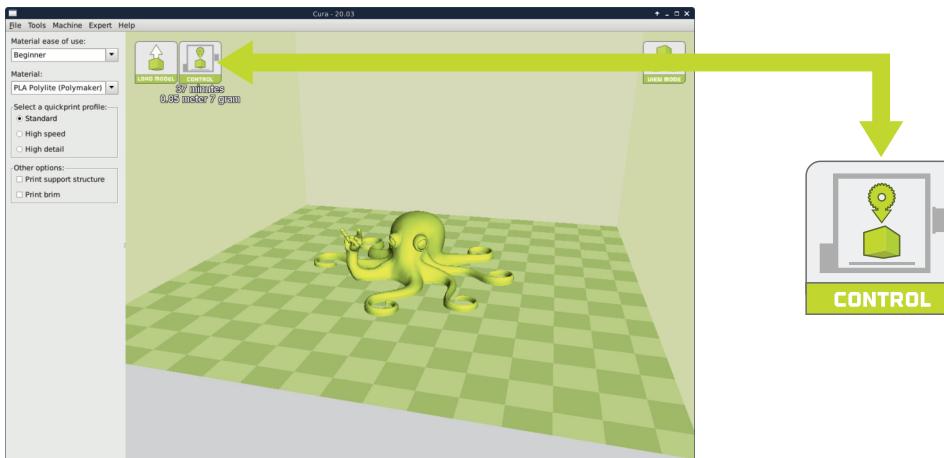
**STEP  
6**

## Control Your LulzBot Mini and Set the Temperature

- 6A** Using your computer, click the **Control** button on the main Cura interface. A new window called the Printer Interface will open.



*If the **Control** button does not appear, verify that your USB cable is fully inserted at both ends. If you still do not see the **Control** button, review the software installation instructions for your operating system at [LulzBot.com/Cura](http://LulzBot.com/Cura).*

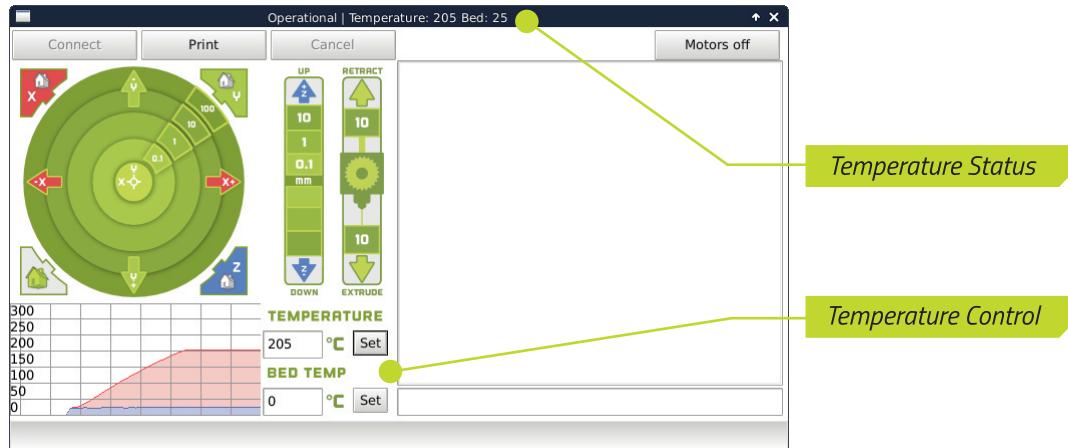


**STEP 6** *Continued...*



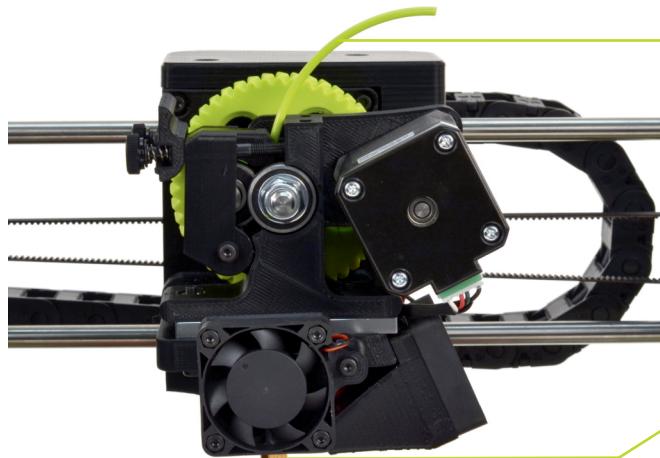
Your LulzBot Mini is tested for quality assurance before being packaged. You will need to remove the remaining filament left in the tool head from this process before loading new filament for your next print. 205°C is the required hot end temperature to remove PLA from the tool head. See Step 14 for the required temperature for other materials.

- 6B** Using the Printer Interface window, raise the hot end temperature up to 205°C by typing 205 under “Temperature,” then clicking **Set** in the Printer Interface window. Monitor the current printer temperature using the status bar at the top of the Printer Interface window.





*The hot end is now heating up to 205°C (401°F) and can burn your skin.*



*PLA Filament*

*Hot End*

**! Very hot!  
Do not touch!**

**STEP  
7**

## Lower the Hinged Idler and Remove Loaded Filament

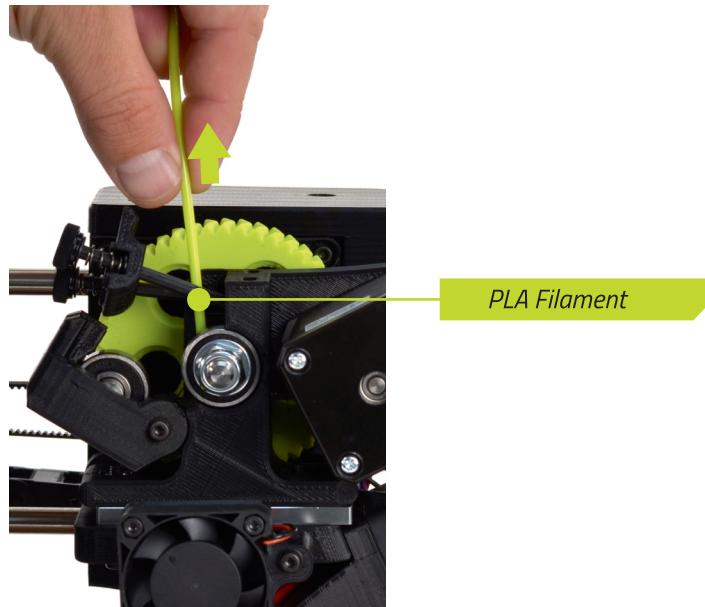
**7A** Locate the tool head of your LulzBot Mini. Using the idler retainer, compress the springs and slide up, allowing the hinged idler to move freely. Then lower the hinged idler counter-clockwise.



**7B** Wait until the status bar of the Printer Interface shows the Temperature has reached 205°C.



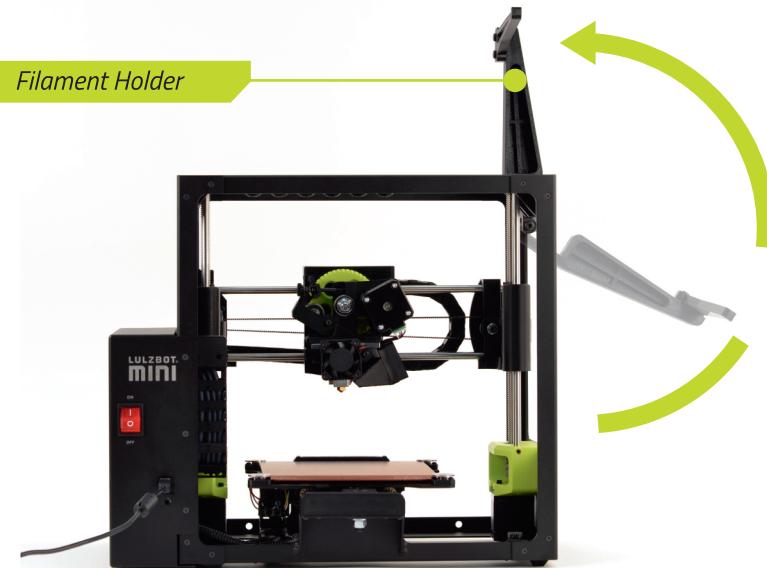
**7C** Once the Temperature has reached 205°C, pinch the PLA filament loaded in the tool head and remove it by pulling up.



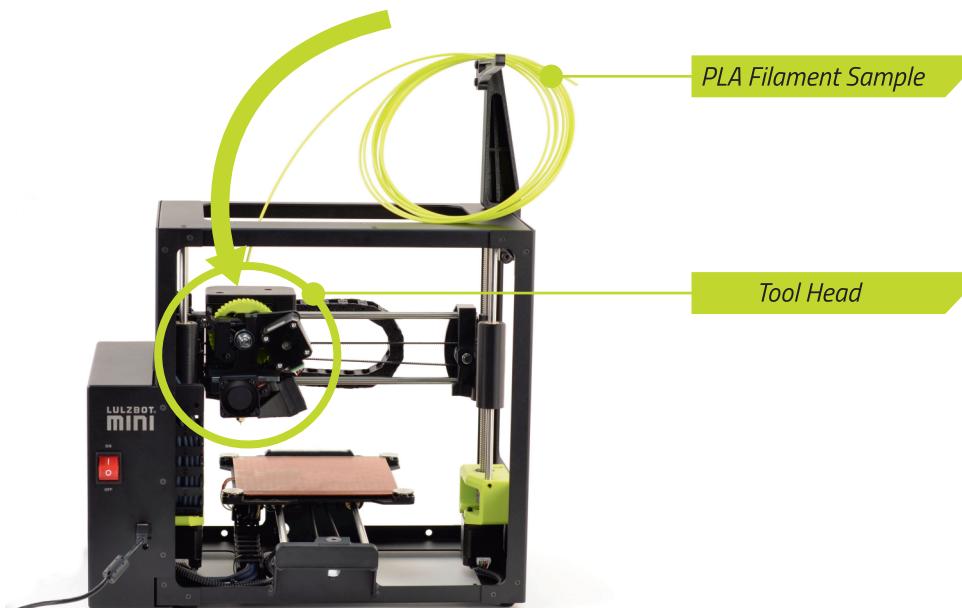
**STEP  
8**

## Prepare and Load Filament

**8A** Face the front of your LulzBot Mini. Find the filament holder, which is mounted to the top right corner of the printer frame. Rotate the filament holder counter-clockwise into an upright and locked position.



**8B** We strongly recommend using the included PLA filament sample for your first rocktopus print. Mount the PLA filament sample on the filament holder so the filament can feed down into the tool head.



STEP 8 *Continued...*

**8C** Locate the feed hole in the extruder body where you removed the loaded filament during Step 7. Filament feeds through this hole and down into the hot end for printing.



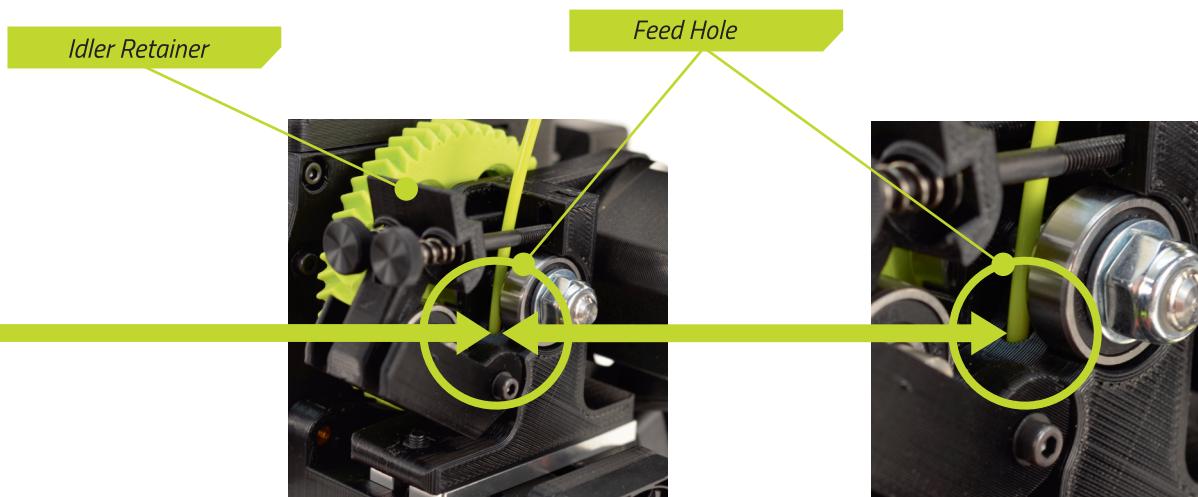
*The hot end is still heated to 205°C (401°F) and can burn your skin.*



**8D** Make sure the idler retainer is touching the springs so it is out of the way. Then push the PLA filament down into the feed hole in the extruder body and through the hot end until a small amount of filament comes out of the tip of the nozzle.



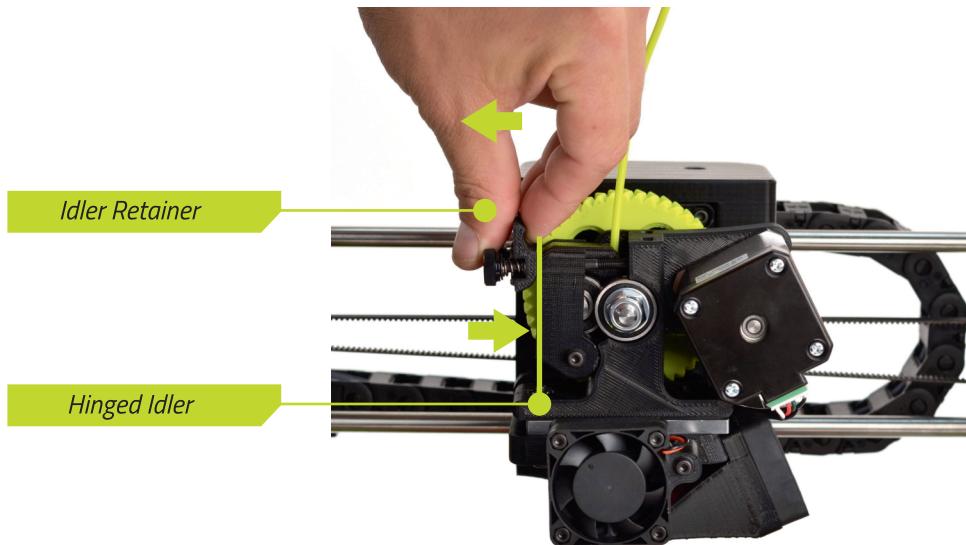
*The PLA filament sample should travel approximately 100 millimeters (4 inches) down through the extruder body and into the hot end.*



STEP  
**9**

## Raise the Hinged Idler

Compress the springs with the idler retainer and rotate the hinged idler clockwise into an upright position. Lock the hinged idler into place by sliding the idler retainer back down.



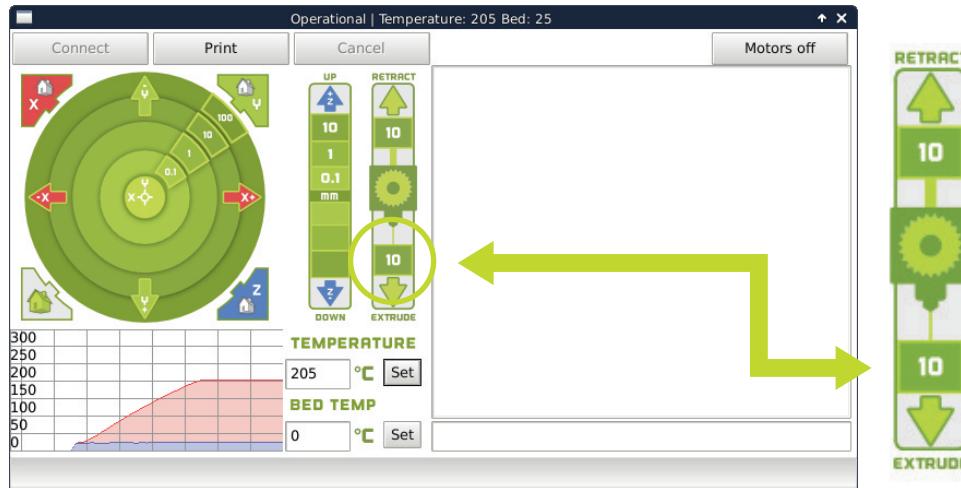
**STEP  
10**

## Verify Print Extrusion

**10A** Make sure your LulzBot Mini is ready for printing by verifying the printer's ability to extrude filament. Using your computer, click the **Extrude 10** button in the Printer Interface and look for filament to feed through the nozzle.

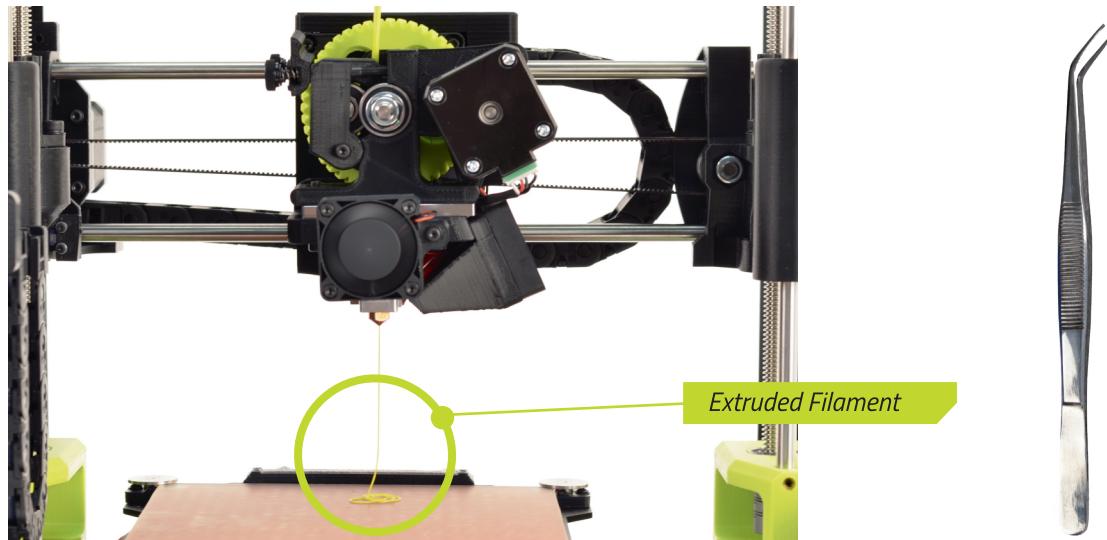


*Extrusion is the term for when filament feeds through the tool head and out the nozzle.*



**STEP 10** Continued...

**10B** If you do not see filament coming through the nozzle and the drive gear stops moving, click the **Extrude 10** button once more and wait. Repeat as needed until you see consistent and repeatable extrusion.



**10C** Wait ten seconds for the filament to cool, then remove the extruded filament with the included tweezers.

**STEP  
11**

## Start Your First Print



*Wait! Are you sure you are ready to print? The hot end is still hot, use caution:*

- *Check one final time to make sure you removed all the packaging foam from your LulzBot Mini during Step 1.*
- *Verify that the 3D printer is in a well-ventilated area and is on a flat and level surface with 30 centimeters (12 inches) clearance in all directions.*



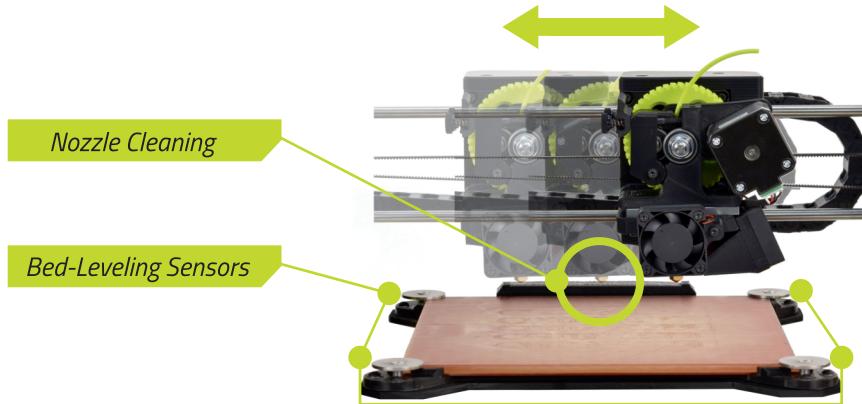
*Did you make changes to your object on the virtual print bed after opening the Printer Interface window? If so, you will need to close the Printer Interface window and click **Control** again to incorporate these new changes.*

**11A** Click **Print** in the Printer Interface window to start your first 3D print, then watch your LulzBot Mini automatically prepare itself for 3D printing.



**11B** Your LulzBot Mini will first move its tool head to the top left corner and allow the hot end to cool down prior to starting its cleaning process. Depending on ambient air temperature, this can take two to five minutes.

**11C** The tool head will then move to the back of the bed to clean off the nozzle. After cleaning, your LulzBot Mini will conduct an automated self-leveling sequence, heat up to final temperature, and start printing. This process can take approximately four minutes.



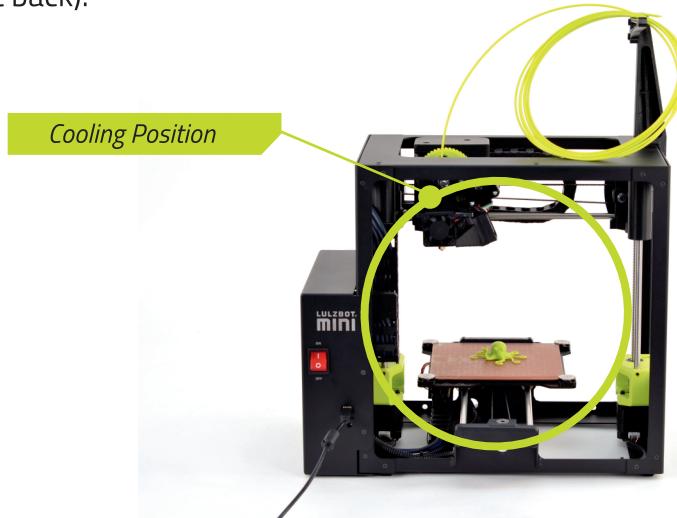
*If probing fails to detect one of the bed corners, the printer will attempt self-cleaning again, then repeat probing. If this fails more than three times, the printer requires manual nozzle cleaning. Refer to the Maintenance section of the Full Manual for details on nozzle cleaning.*

**11D** Watch as your very own rocktopus is made before your eyes! The total print time can take approximately 45 minutes. This is a great time to read the full manual.

**STEP  
12**

## Remove Your 3D Printed Object

**12A** After your LulzBot Mini is finished 3D printing, the tool head and print bed will automatically move into the cooling position (with the tool head in the top left and print bed set back).

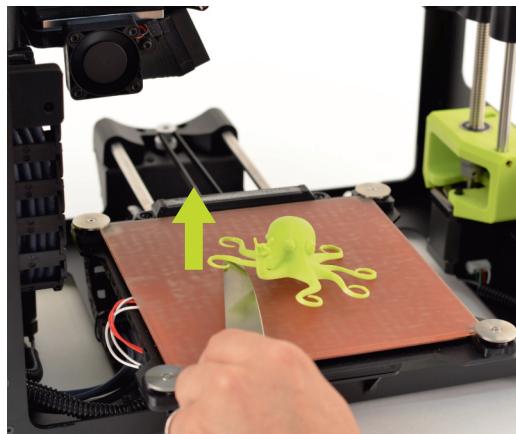
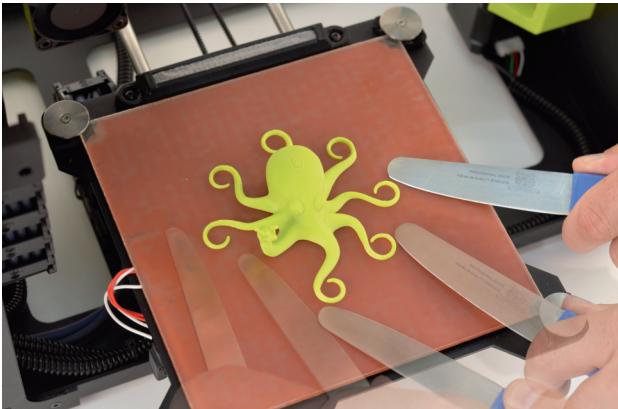


*Your printer is now actively cooling. Do not attempt to remove your 3D printed object before the print bed moves forward. Attempting to do so could either burn your skin on the hot end or print bed, damage your printer, or damage your 3D printed object.*

**12B** Once finished cooling, the tool head will move to the top right and the print bed will move forward. After the print bed moves forward, remove the thin outer print layer. Then remove your rocktopus by lifting gently underneath it with the included blue-handled knife. Carefully pry under each tentacle, then slide the blade under the center until it separates from the bed.



*The blade of the blue-handled knife is very sharp, so exercise caution when using it. The blade should be nearly parallel with the print bed. Carefully pry away from the bed, with the sharp edge between the object and print bed.*



STEP  
**13**

## Rock On

Congratulations! Now that your LulzBot Mini desktop 3D printer is up and running, share your 3D printing skills using **#rocktopus** on your social media platform of choice. Don't forget to tag us in your post and follow us for the latest news.



Next, join us on the LulzBot Forum at ***Forum.LulzBot.com!***

Need ideas for what to print next? Get inspired by projects, case studies, and news available at ***LulzBot.com/next***.

**STEP  
14**

## Your Next Print

**14A** There is a small length of the PLA filament sample remaining in the hot end after your first rocktopus print. You can remove this remaining filament by following Step 6 and Step 7.



*After removing filament (as outlined above), a small residual amount remains in the hot end that needs to be cleared out through a process called purging.*

**14B** If you plan to use a filament other than PLA for your next print there may be a difference in the temperature required for purging the residual filament in the hot end, and then 3D printing with the new filament.

Using the Printer Interface window, set the hot end to a temperature that splits the difference between the two purging temperatures. (For example, if the recommended temperature for one filament is 240°C and the other is 200°C, set the hot end temperature to 220°C.) Load the new filament following the procedures in Step 7. The chart on the next page lists purging temperatures for most common filaments.

## Purging, Part Removal, and Bed Preparation Guide

Filament	Purging Temperature (°C)	Safe Print Bed Temperature for Part Removal (°C)	Print Bed Preparation (See maintenance section for more information)
ABS, HIPS	240	50	Isopropyl alcohol wipe
PLA	205	45	Isopropyl alcohol wipe
Magnetic Iron and Stainless Steel PLA	230	50	Isopropyl alcohol wipe
nGen	230	50	PVA glue stick
Laybrick, Laywoo-D3	190	50	PVA glue stick
INOVA-1800, t-glase	240	50	PVA glue stick
Bridge, PCTPE, 910	240	60	PVA glue stick

Your LulzBot Mini desktop 3D printer is capable of printing in even more advanced and expert level filament materials including: Conductive PLA, PC-ABS, polycarbonate, PVA, 645 Nylon, and more. Plus, we add new materials to our catalog frequently.

Shop our full range of filaments by visiting [LulzBot.com/filament](http://LulzBot.com/filament)



*Splitting the difference in temperature between the two filaments is important, otherwise you may lower the quality of your next print or even clog the nozzle.*

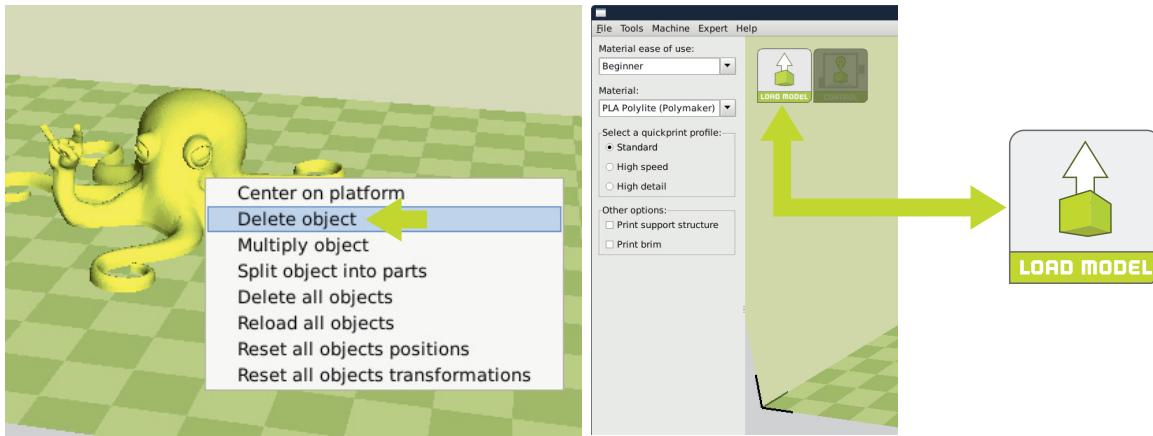
**14C** Purge the residual filament in the hot end using the **Extrude 10** button, as shown in Step 10. Wait until the drive gear stops moving and repeat as needed until you see consistent and repeatable extrusion of the new filament.

**14D** Turn off the hot end by setting temperature to 0°C , then close the Printer Interface window.



*You must close the Printer Interface window before proceeding so that the file information for your next print in Step 14E is captured.*

**14E** Clear the virtual print bed by right clicking (or holding control and clicking) the rocktopus model and selecting **Delete Object**. Then upload the new model that you want to print next by clicking **Load Model** in the main Cura Interface.



**14F** With your new object set, double check that your material and print profile selections match the filament you are using, and the quality that you want. When your file is ready for printing, press **Control**, and then in the Printer Interface window click **Print**.

**14G** When your print is complete and the bed has moved forward, follow the object removal instructions outlined in Step 12.

# Maintaining Your LulzBot Mini Desktop 3D Printer

## Warranty and Support

Your machine comes with a comprehensive one-year warranty and customer support period. For more information please visit us at [LulzBot.com/support](http://LulzBot.com/support).

## Source Files

This product is licensed as Open Source Hardware and runs with Free Software because we respect your freedom to see how it works, make modifications, and share your modifications with others. Find the source files online at [Download.LulzBot.com](http://Download.LulzBot.com), and see what's next by following our research and development online at [Devel.LulzBot.com](http://Devel.LulzBot.com).

## Filament Materials

Your LulzBot Mini utilizes an open format filament system. We strongly recommend you purchase your 3D printing filament materials from LulzBot.com, where every filament has been thoroughly tested to work on your printer and comes with optimized Quickprint settings for easier printing.

If you choose to purchase elsewhere, avoid low quality filaments that can lead to failed prints and even damage your LulzBot Mini. Low quality filament can contain foreign objects, unlisted materials blends, voids and density variations, and varying filament diameter. Purchasing consistent and reliable filament is key, and well worth it to protect your investment in a LulzBot desktop 3D printer.

## Nozzle Wiping Pad

Over time your nozzle wiping pad will need to be replaced. If in observing the nozzle wiping sequence the cleaning appears to be less effective, and is leaving more filament residue on the nozzle, be proactive in replacing the nozzle wiping pad. This process is vital to the continued functioning of your LulzBot Mini. A clean metal surface on the nozzle is critical for the automated bed leveling process to be successful.

*Continued...*

Replacement time for the nozzle wiping pad will vary depending on the types of materials you are 3D printing with. Several spares are included with your LulzBot Mini, and additional nozzle wiping pads are available for purchase online at [LulzBot.com](http://LulzBot.com).

### **Print Bed**

Make sure that the hot end and print bed are completely cooled and at room temperature before beginning any cleaning or maintenance of the print bed.

Your LulzBot Mini's PEI print surface is the key to well-balanced part adhesion and release. Oil on your skin can negatively affect print adhesion. For optimal performance, lightly wipe the print bed with a dry paper towel between prints. To deep clean the PEI print surface, wipe with watered-down Isopropyl Alcohol (10:1 IPA to water ratio) and a clean cloth. If you still encounter prints lifting from the PEI surface, a light sanding with fine grit sandpaper (2000-2500 grit) can refresh the surface.

For some filaments a polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) glue stick, such as Elmer's® brand glue stick is necessary for bed adhesion.

Treated appropriately, PEI is highly durable, but note that even well-treated PEI will not last forever. It will need to be replaced periodically and is considered a consumable item. For more details on PEI maintenance, see the Full Manual.

### **Tool Head Cleaning**

Make sure that the hot end and print bed are completely cooled and at room temperature before beginning any cleaning or maintenance of the tool head.

A dental pick is included with your printer for cleaning the hobbed bolt component of the tool head. (The hobbed bolt is the small grooved metal part of the tool head that feeds filament into the feed hole.)

Over time you may also experience an accumulation of filament on the nozzle and heater block. To clean up this accumulated filament, heat the hot end up to 180°C (356°F) and then carefully wipe affected areas using a clean dry cotton cloth.