

Best of the Blog 2010 - 3D Printing

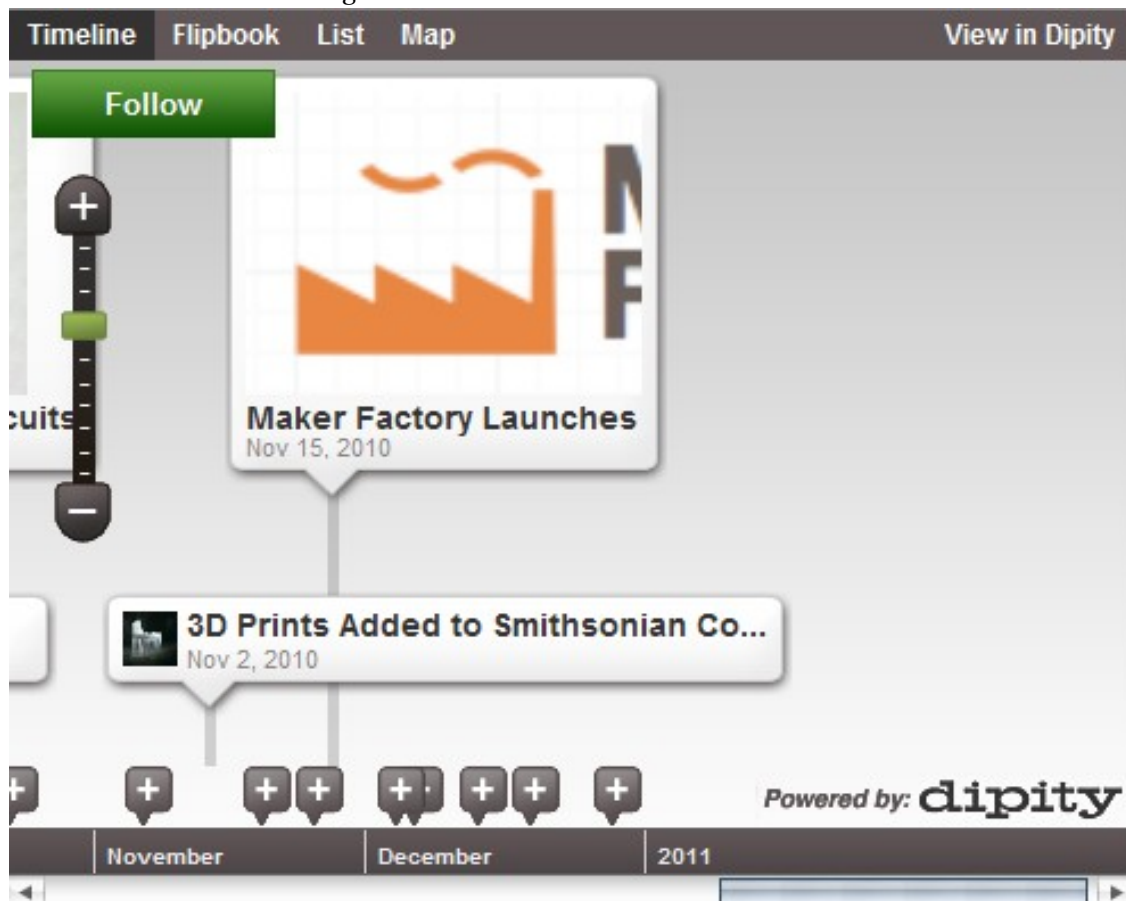


In spite of the fact that [3D printing](#) was invented in the 1980s ([really](#)), only recently has it become accessible for anyone besides huge corporations. Since it has become available for just about anyone to use, it has exploded in popularity. It seems like prices go down, quality goes up, and more materials are available every day. It's a good time to be a maker.

Keep reading for the best posts from the blog on 3D printing!

[#10 3D Printing in the Year 2010](#)

If you need to do a little catch-up on recent 3D printing news, this time-line is a good place to start. It covers most of the significant news from 2010.



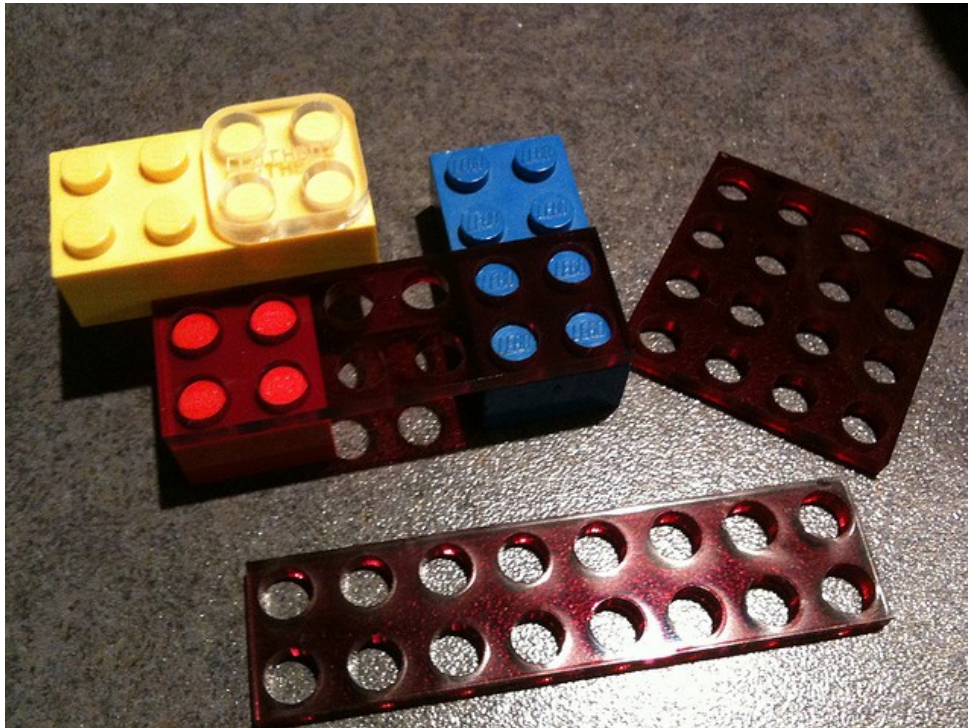
[#9 3D Printing Keys \(that work\) from a Photograph](#)

3D printing and the easy, custom manufacturing that it brings has begun to have unexpected legal implications. This key was made from a photograph of a police officer's belt in the Netherlands. Yes, it does open handcuffs . . .



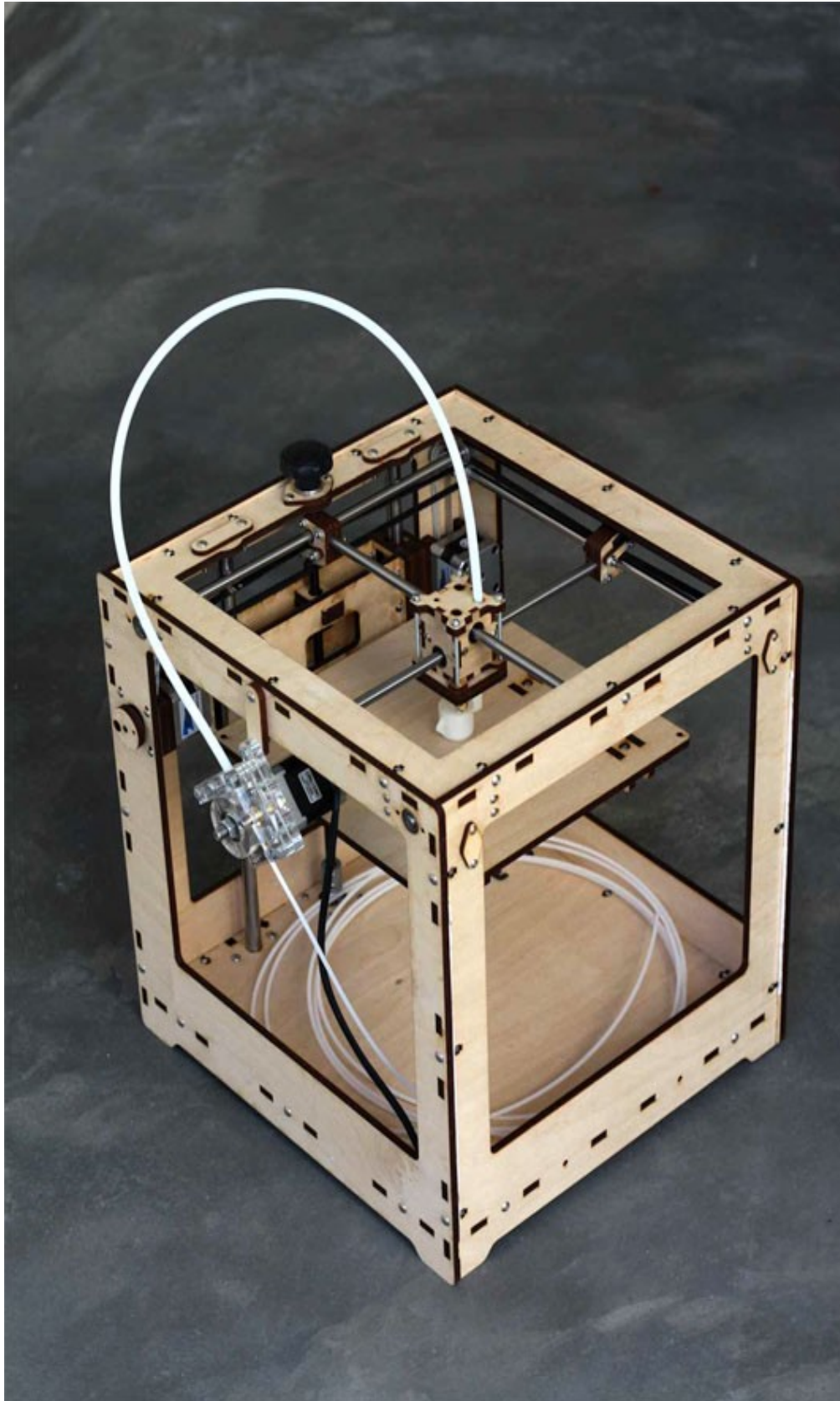
#8 Custom LEGOs with Laser Cutting and 3D Printing

I doubt that we'll be able to 3D print LEGOs more cheaply than they can be bought any time soon, if ever, but custom LEGOs could be handy.



#7 Ultimaker – the new 3d printer on the block

There are several low cost 3D printers on the market now that come as a kit. The Ultimaker is one of the newer ones.



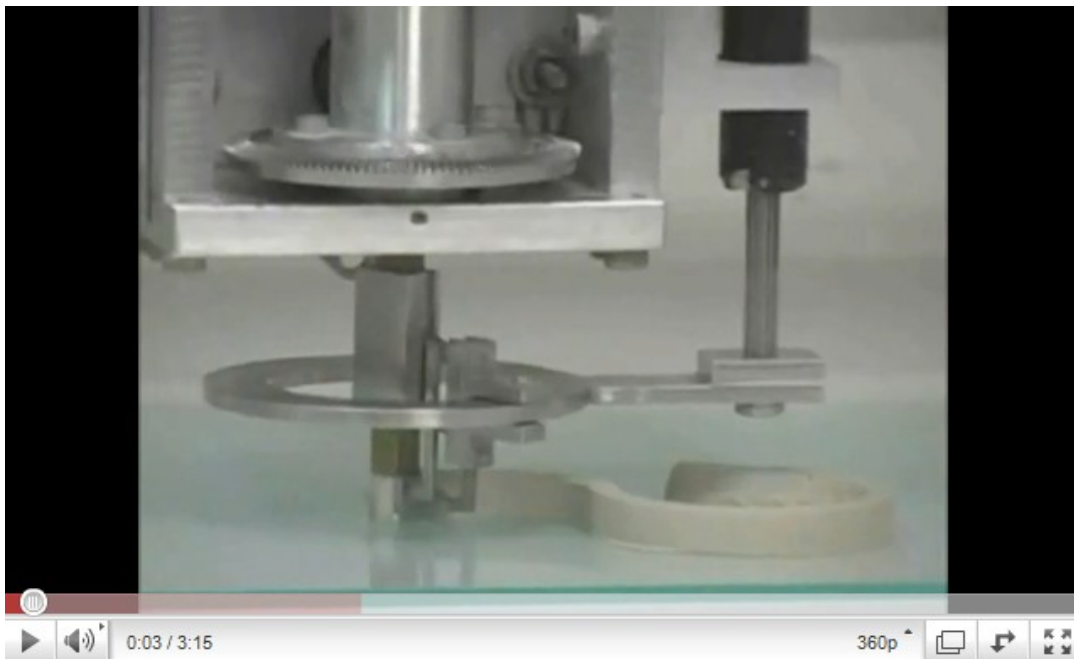
#6 Freeform Construction: Concrete Printing

One of the most exciting applications of 3D printing still in development is extremely large scale printing. If an entire building could be printed, the range of options for architecture would expand dramatically, especially with organic forms.



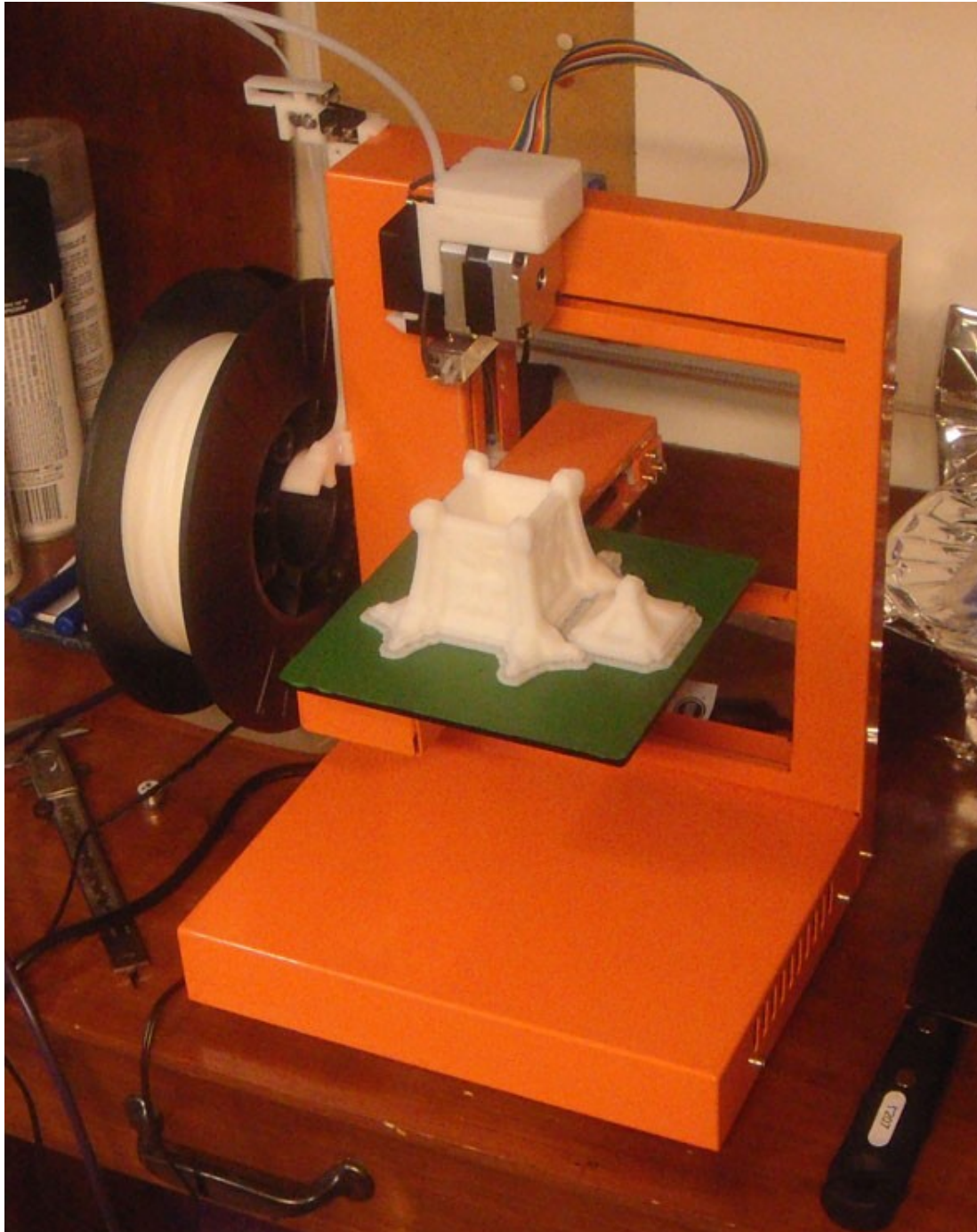
#5 3D Print a Building

This is another project working on super large scale 3D printing, but this project is focusing more on printing cheaply and quickly than exploring new forms. Custom housing for the masses.



#4 Review of the UP! 3D Printer

Unlike most 3D printers on the low end of the price range, the UP! is not a kit. It works right out of the box with almost no tinkering or adjusting. It also boasts impressive quality and resolution, if a somewhat higher price tag than the kits.



[#3 Wonderful Short Animation on the Past, Present, and Future of Manufacturing](#)

It's more a of a concept video than a look at the nitty-gritty technical details, but it's still cool.



[#2 Three 3D Printers Now Available on Ponoko](#)

The more digital fabrication the better, as far as we're concerned. Why not laser cut a 3D printer? Two wonderful technologies combined. You can even customize the parts before you have them cut.



[#1 The World is Not Flat – Ponoko Introduces 3D Printing with Personal Factory 4](#)

I know we've mentioned this a couple times already, but we're just that excited about it. As amazing as laser cutting is, there are some things you just can't make from a cut out flat sheet. Now you can make products combining laser cut and 3D printed parts, all right here at Ponoko. You can even get any electronic components you need.

Introducing the new
Personal Factory 4

*Buy, sell & make custom products
– with or without design skills.*

Now with 3D printing and a 365-day
free replacement policy.

Pricing from \$0 »

[How it works »](#)

Laser cut

3D print

Electronics

