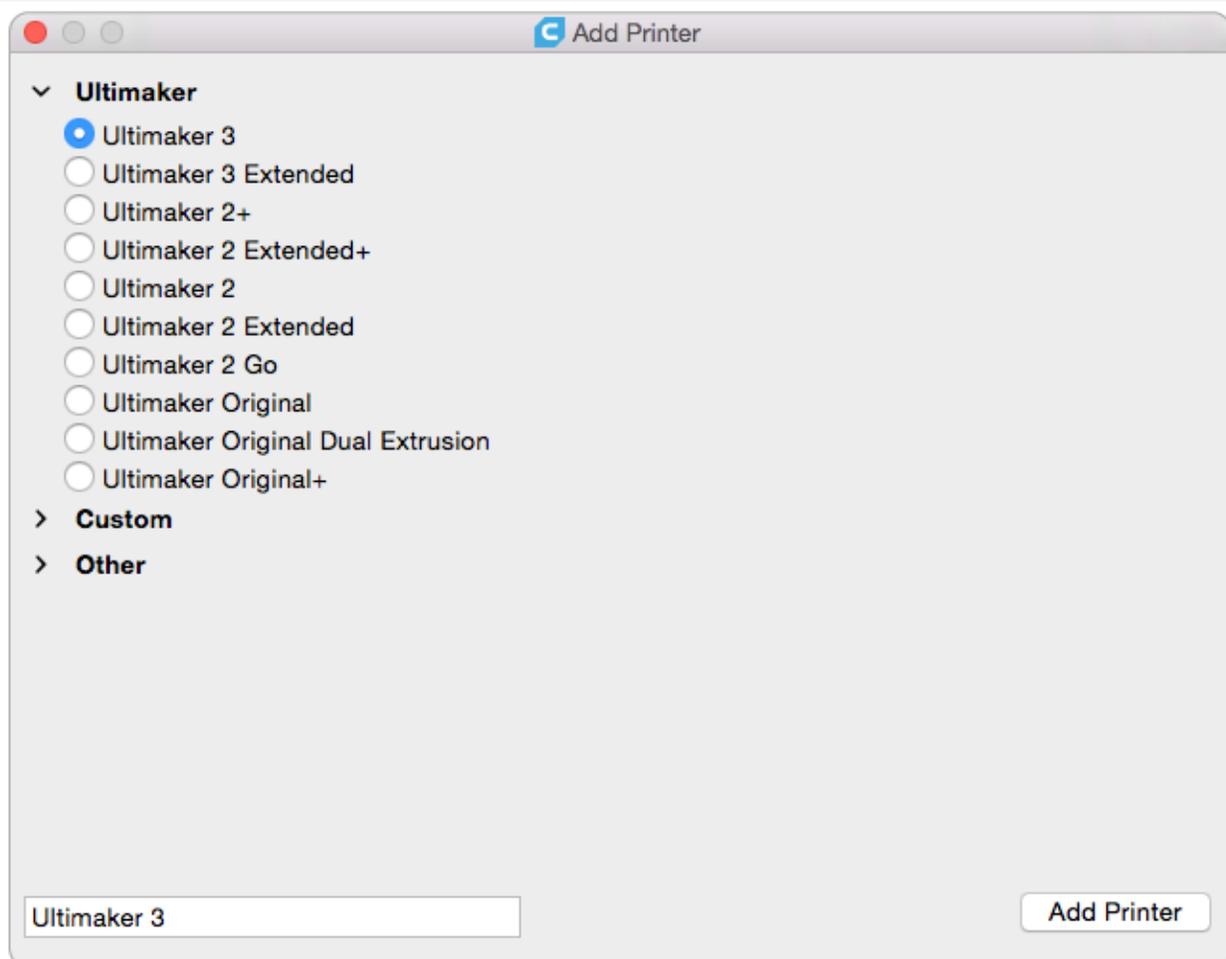# Using Ultimaker Cura

Starting Ultimaker Cura for the first time

After installation you can open Ultimaker Cura for the first time. Simply open Ultimaker Cura from your applications or programs folder.
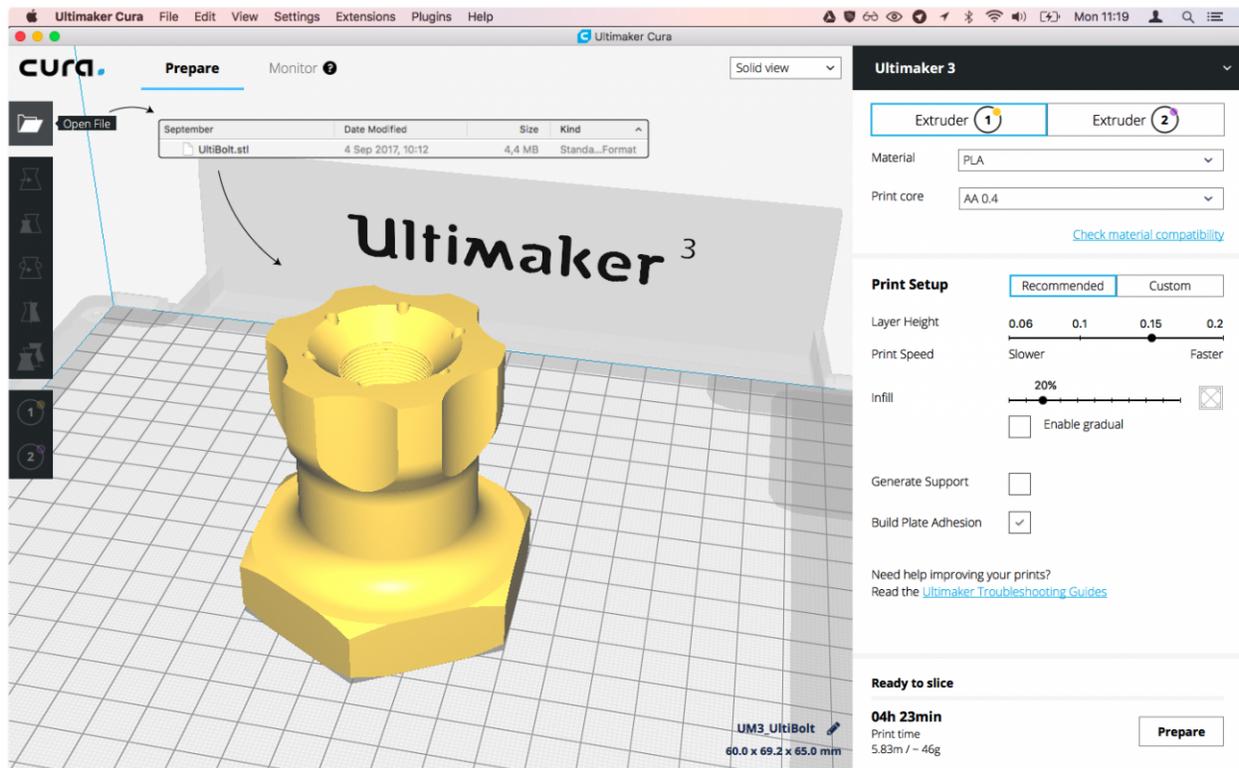
Select printer

When you open Ultimaker Cura for the first time, you will be asked to select the 3D printer that you have. Select the **Ultimaker 2+**
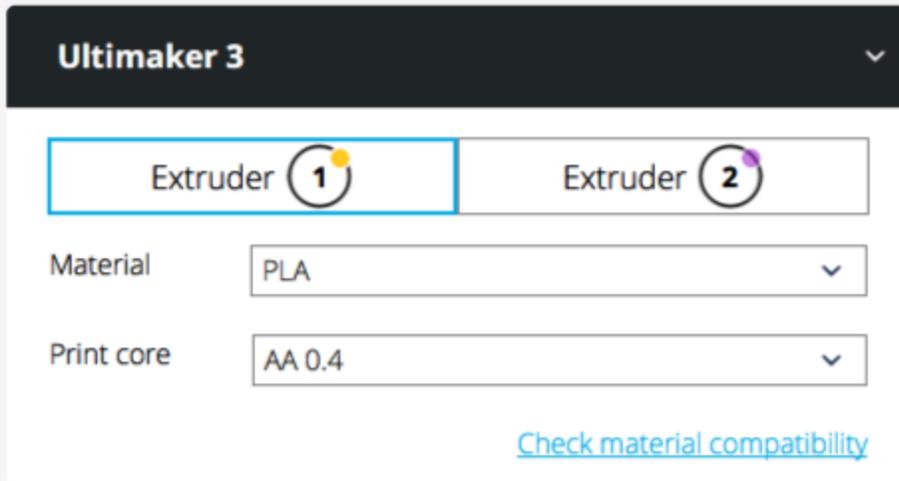
Open 3D files

Click on the 'Open File' button in the top left corner of the screen. Select the model you want to prepare for printing and open it. The model will now be loaded and shown on the 3D viewer.

Printer, print core and material configuration

You can find your selected printer in the top right corner of the screen. Directly below it, you will find the available configuration options. The Ultimaker 2+ has multiple available print cores and materials.

Print setup

By default, Cura opens in the recommended mode. This mode is ideal if you want to do a quick print with optimized printing profiles. **Please check with your teacher or shop staff before adjusting settings.** There are a few parameters you can set:

1. Layer height: Choose the layer height quality. The options available depend on your print core and material configuration
2. Print speed: The print speed is affected by the layer height chosen
3. Infill: Choose an infill percentage by dragging the slider
4. Enable gradual infill: Reduces the amount of infill in your print by gradually increasing density
5. Generate support: This will generate a support structure below overhanging parts of a model to prevent the model from sagging or printing mid-air
6. Build plate adhesion: Adds a brim or raft around the base of the model to ensure the print doesn't detach from the build plate

Print Setup | Recommended | Custom |

1 —— Layer Height   0.06   0.1   0.15   0.2

2 —— Print Speed   Slower   Faster

20%

3 —— Infill

4 ——————————— ☐ Enable gradual

5 —— Generate Support   ☐

6 —— Build Plate Adhesion   ✓

Need help improving your prints?
Read the Ultimaker Troubleshooting Guides

Preview

To preview the slicing result, click on the 'Solid view' button in the top right corner of the 3D viewer and change it to 'Layer view'. This view is ideal for seeing what the inside of your print will look like and how it will be printed. Use the slider to check important parts of your 3D slice. Change the printing strategy until you are satisfied.

Save the file

When Cura finishes slicing your model, it's ready for printing.
You can then save the file to your computer. You will also need to save the file to a SD card to be able to print.

Ready to Save to File

04h 23min
Print time
5.84m / ~ 46g / ~ € 1.66

Save to File

In the bottom right corner of the screen, you will also find print information. Cura provides a time and material estimation of the print.

Printing

You are now ready to print. Be sure to fill out a 3D printing worksheet which can be found in the 3D Shop or on the 3D Shop intranet page. You will also need to make an appointment with the Ultimaker 3D printer of your choice. **Check in with 3D Shop Staff before starting your print.**