DIYELECTRONICS PRESENTS:

POPULAR 3D PRINTER BUILD SURFACES

We at DIYElectronics are eager to share our knowledge. We hope these guides will allow you to get the most out of your 3D Printers and electronics.

GLASS

A popular build surface for a variety of 3D Printers. A variety of glass is used such as; picture frame, mirror, tempered, carborundum, and borosilicate glass. Another popular type of glass bed is called Ultrabase which is a piece of glass that has a special coating to help with adhesion. Glass has been used by Makers for many years and can produce some really amazing results however if you have not used glass before then it will take some trial and error to get it right.

Advantages:
- Flat
- Smooth surface
- Affordable
- Easy to clean

Disadvantages:
- Often requires adhesion aids
- Risk of chip or cracks

BUILDTAK

One of the popular build surfaces for newer printers is Buildtak. This is an affordable textured build surface that works with a wide range of filament types. Buildtak is usually available in large sheets that can be cut to size for your printer for convenience. The more affordable price makes this a great option for budget conscious Makers.

Advantages:
- Affordable
- Textured surface
- Durable
- High compatibility
- Can be cut to correct size

Disadvantages:
- Bottom of print is textured
- Prints are sometimes hard to remove

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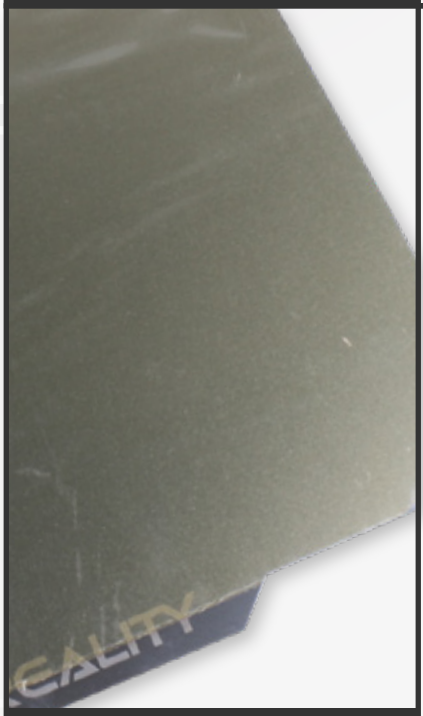
MAGNETIC FLEXPLATE

These are a common build surface on many entry level printers. They are a flexible piece of Buildtak that is combined with a magnet. A second magnet is then adhered to the build platform so the flexplate can be securely connected. This magnet allows you to easily swap out the build surface and easily remove prints due to the flexibility.

Advantages:
- Flexible
- Removable
- Texture surface
- Easy print removal

Disadvantages:
- Magnet has a temperature limit
- Can be misaligned



PEI

A great upgrade for your 3D Printer. These polyetherimide sheets can be bought as sheets with stickers or as a pre-assembled flexible systems. You can also get PEI powder coated spring steel sheets which are flexible build surfaces but have a textured PEI coating instead of the smooth surface. Whichever option you go for you can be assured that PEI will provide a great surface for a variety of filaments.

Advantages:
- Highly durable
- Easy to install
- Smooth surface
- Easy print removal

Disadvantages:
- Pricier for larger build volumes