Subject: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Sun, 28 Oct 2012 13:49:24 GMT
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Halo seniors & masters there, i a newbie.

As title shown. i use Google SketchUp, it save as .skp. any free solution to convert it to the format that Shapeways support?

many thx.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by denali3ddesign on Sun, 28 Oct 2012 15:27:17 GMT
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You can export Collada (DAE) directly from Sketchup (File -> Export 3D Model...) -- Shapeways accepts Collada files.

You can also export to STL with this free plugin: https://github.com/SketchUp/sketchup-stl

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Tue, 30 Oct 2012 02:18:44 GMT
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maybe i use SketchUp 7, so i didnt find the option in file export.

i will try the plugin, see if it s work, thx ur help

Simon c.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Thu, 08 Nov 2012 14:44:35 GMT
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thx a lot. i ve tried & success some time ago, but late reply due to the forum was down.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by Fredd on Thu, 08 Nov 2012 16:13:22 GMT
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Glad to see you had success. .dae is not that bad a format though. Holds scene data besides several other types. Main thing though if you create a object, for example a box that is cm 11.1 x 5 x 13.8 Shapeways will print it exactly that, no fiddling with upload measurements.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Fri, 09 Nov 2012 09:34:13 GMT
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but another problem pops out. since i had several parts in a file, but i found it appear only one model when i finally upload to Shapeways.
i thought that was becoz they need to stick together, but the fact is not. on the other hand, i ve seen many people 's model re printed separately.

is that the limitation of (.dae)? however, i check the file in preview & found no problem, so weird.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by denali3ddesign on Fri, 09 Nov 2012 13:43:31 GMT
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Shapeways does accept multiple parts in a DAE file. Its hard to say what your problem is without the file, but it's likely a problem in the geometry. Does Sketchup tell you its "Solid" before you export? If so, you shouldn't have any trouble.

Another way to find problems is to export to STL and use Netfabb to check out the file.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by denali3ddesign on Fri, 09 Nov 2012 14:03:09 GMT
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I don't usually use DAE files, so I just ran some tests and found that you cannot have different groups or components in the DAE file or it will not work. Either the model needs to be completely exploded to loose geometry, or everything in the print needs to be in the same group with no nested groups.

Could that be the problem?

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Sat, 10 Nov 2012 03:11:23 GMT
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this makes sense then. My another model appear to be the similar situation, but some parts appear well & some missed (i mean they re both in group status).

So, It s fine now when i export them after i explode pieces. Thx for ur help man, u re the master.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by denali3ddesign on Sat, 10 Nov 2012 06:50:11 GMT
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Cheers, glad its sorted

Thanks for letting me know it worked!

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by Fredd on Sun, 11 Nov 2012 01:02:06 GMT
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Marcus, another good topic for a tutorial.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?

Posted by denali3ddesign on Sun, 11 Nov 2012 06:31:44 GMT
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Yes indeed - duly noted.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by maxwinters90 on Mon, 19 Nov 2012 01:26:55 GMT
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I figured I'd post it here instead of starting a new topic. I'm 100% new to Shapeways and to 3D printing. If I have a Sketchup model, I can export it as a Collada. But Sketchup works in planes, so do I need to do anything else to make sure that it will be printed as a solid?

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by cnomis on Mon, 19 Nov 2012 02:16:49 GMT
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hi there, as my few experience, i could tell u there s no problem.

All closed geometry should be print in solid. On the other hand, shapeways will check the model u upload b4 they print it. Therefore, they will reply u as error if any ir-printable things.

Or, u could do some check b4 u upload (if u re using Mac, coz i ven't try this on PC). After u export the Collada file, u got a preview (on the side bar when u select the file, or cmd+Y). Here, u see wht u exactly print. if u see nothing or lines that means something wrong. if u see parts missing, collapse component or group & export it again.

hope would help.

Subject: Re: I use SketchUp 3D, how can i convert it to Shapeways support formats?
Posted by Fredd on Mon, 19 Nov 2012 02:34:16 GMT
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Whatever dimension measurements you set in SU, Shapeways will print the same dimensions as you set in SU for the .dae export.. Be sure not to have components or groups when you export. If

you have them, explode ALL entity's. Then export as a dae. If you are careful when modelling, should not have any flipped normals or holes to cause non manifold issues. Now there is a stl export plugin for SU, where the model needs to be an component.(Solid)