Subject: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by voltctrl on Mon, 05 Nov 2012 20:31:54 GMT
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Read about there being a "handling cost" for the models. Is it therefore cheaper to make just one model, containing several identical parts, and then cut them apart by hand? This opposed to ordering several copies of the part. If anyone is familiar with Warhammer or model planes, I'm pretty sure you understand what I mean.

Subject: Re: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by Youknowwho4eva on Mon, 05 Nov 2012 21:22:01 GMT
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You are correct. If you look through the materials page you will see the startup costs for our materials (see the italic +$ amount. For some of the materials, you don't even need to have them connected depending on their size. Let us know the material in work in progress, and an idea of the item, and those with the most experience will be able to help you out.

Subject: Re: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by voltctrl on Mon, 05 Nov 2012 21:53:14 GMT
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Youknowwho4eva wrote on Mon, 05 November 2012 21:22You are correct. If you look through the materials page you will see the startup costs for our materials (see the italic +$ amount. For some of the materials, you don't even need to have them connected depending on their size. Let us know the material in work in progress, and an idea of the item, and those with the most experience will be able to help you out.

Ah. I have a hard time noticing things like that, but I got the right impression none the less. The part I had in mind was this:
http://www.shapeways.com/model/762577/

And I'm probably going for the strong and flexible plastic.

So, just duplicate the part and upload it as one model? No connections of anything? Sweet. I have a feeling I'll be using this service a lot in the future.

Subject: Re: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by stonysmith on Tue, 06 Nov 2012 01:35:03 GMT
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The main thing you need to consider.. SMALL parts will be very problematic if you don't sprue them together.

There are several forum threads about this, but you should 'be kind' to the Shapeways operators.. if you have many many small parts, they're going to get lost during cleaning.

Remember.. For WSF they clean the powder off with an airhose.
Take a look at these: http://shpws.me/lnvb The whole set is less than 1/2 inch wide and 1/4 inch tall!

If those were individual peices.. they'd never survive cleaning.

You should consider a "rule of thumb" (pun intended) that any group of parts should be easily picked up by at least your thumb and forefinger.. not tweezers.

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Subject: Re: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by voltctrl on Tue, 06 Nov 2012 10:38:11 GMT
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I'll remember that rule of thumb, lol. Also, thank you for telling me what those are called.

WSF: Water Soluble Film? Is that right?

I guess, since the parts (buttons) I have in mind are have a bounding box of 0.6 w x 0.6 d x 0.2 h in, it should probably be fine, right? That's larger than the whole set of those fire hydrants you modeled.

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Subject: Re: Most cost effective option- same model several times, or include duplicates in one model?
Posted by Youknowwho4eva on Tue, 06 Nov 2012 13:53:11 GMT
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WSF = White Strong and Flexible. Which is what Shapeways calls it's Nylon material.

A good rule of thumb is, if the individual item is smaller than the minimum bounding box listed for the material, connect them together. That size is to prevent pieces from getting lost in the depowdering, and cleaning.

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