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Subject: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [bartv](#) on Fri, 17 May 2013 14:45:54 GMT  
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(Image: Lego Ring by MulderandSkully)

I was browsing the list of Lego-compatible add-ons on Shapeways earlier this week and couldn't believe my eyes - the list DOESN'T END! Check out cool examples like Triangle Lego, the Lego Barrette Clip, the little Electric Guitar or this Lego Arduino Brick.

It really got my ideas going, and I'm wondering if it will for you, too. What can you think up that will connect with your Lego?

To get started, grab a Lego Brick .STL file from Thingiverse, or download the Å¼ber-awesome Free Universal Construction kit.

How to Enter

Design anything that will fit on a Lego brick or character. Post your work here on the forum, and add a picture! Deadline is Monday evening, midnight.

What's the prize?

\$25 to use towards your creation, or any other Shapeways purchase.

That's all?

Certainly. Have fun! I'm off to play with my Lego now.

#### File Attachments

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1) [674x501\\_733360\\_770322\\_1358892913.jpg](#), downloaded 719 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Dotsan](#) on Fri, 17 May 2013 15:38:15 GMT  
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Here's my entry, you know this makes sense, it's the most revolutionary thing to happen since sliced Lego bread ;P

There are two designs both have the opening turning in. One design is the same dimensions as the existing hands but turned and the other has closed hands with a 0.25mm gap. Because they are printed in white and black flexible you can put anything in with a thickness of 0.25 to 1.50mm as you can see in the picture with the penny, Ipad and sign.

Customized mini-figure hands by Dot San, on Flickr

Customized 3D printed hands for Minifigures by Dot San, on Flickr

Available here <http://shpws.me/nwn3>

<http://www.shapeways.com/shops/dotsan>

Fingers crossed or as close as they can get in this case?

Cheers.  
Vijay

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Anjas\\_3D](#) on Sat, 18 May 2013 11:24:32 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi!

Some days ago my little son asked me about a lego calbe car - so, here it is!

Doors, wheels and suspension part are movable.  
It is designed for Frosted Detail Plastic.

I suppose i will have to do a valley and mountain station, too

Anja

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[Anjas\\_3D@web.de](mailto:Anjas_3D@web.de)

File Attachments

1) [alle\\_drei.jpg](#), downloaded 664 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [GADesign](#) on Sat, 18 May 2013 14:29:04 GMT  
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WoW that lego calbe car could be a lot of fun

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [GreenJello](#) on Sat, 18 May 2013 19:25:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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A Lego keyring will make you look super-stylish, and jingle less.

#### File Attachments

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1) [lego\\_ring.png](#), downloaded 605 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [ppo](#) on Sun, 19 May 2013 05:41:38 GMT  
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I made these cufflinks not too long ago, even got a recent order for them.

#### File Attachments

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1) [leg0-cufflink.png](#), downloaded 570 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [woody64](#) on Sun, 19 May 2013 10:04:34 GMT  
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I have updated my Russian series for custom Lego compatible hats recently:

So what can be quickly added for this weekend?

A Cosack shako is missing (rough prototype since it normally costs 2 passes) ...

... resulting now in this:

Woody64

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [wedge](#) on Sun, 19 May 2013 22:37:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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As I read this I Loved this Weekend Contest!

So I take this as a cause to create some new stuff for the Minifig Divers section in my Shop.

Here's my entry: A Set of Professional Dive Equipment:

Used by "Technical divers", like Cave or Wrack divers.

A wing type buoyancy control device with double tanks, a Dive Scooter and special Fins.

I still thing about how to add regulators, or leave them away.

#### File Attachments

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1) [Tec-dive-equipment.jpg](#), downloaded 513 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Youknowwho4eva](#) on Mon, 20 May 2013 12:21:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Anjas\_3D wrote on Sat, 18 May 2013 11:24Hi!

Some days ago my little son asked me about a lego calbe car - so, here it is!

Doors, wheels and suspension part are movable.  
It is designed for Frosted Detail Plastic.

I suppose i will have to do a valley and mountain station, too

Anja

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Anjas\_3D@web.de

This reminds me of our old friend Opresco

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Anigroove](#) on Mon, 20 May 2013 20:19:40 GMT  
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My Combat-Vehicle.

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#### File Attachments

1) [02.jpg](#), downloaded 460 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [stop4stuff](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 08:12:33 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Shame I missed this one

Anyhow, Bart, your first linked model is in breach of the LEGO Play Fair guidelines - no policing or anything, but for a product to be called LEGO it must be made by or endorsed by The Lego Group.

And, for those interested in LEGO compatible items, go have a hunt for LDraw, a 3D modelling package tailored for building models from a library of LEGO parts. The parts come in a .dat

format, the .dat files can be converted to use in whatever software as needed, be warned though the parts are pretty basic construction and will have faceting similar to or worse than Anigroove's post.

Happy building

Paul

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Dotsan](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 09:45:23 GMT  
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Hi, it's a hot topic 'intellectual Property' and the Maker movement. <http://www.brickarms.com/> does very well with producing complimentary objects for mini figs. I think it would be a good idea for Shapeways to have a forum thread dedicated to the legal issues regards 3D printing, it may help companies to develop their IP polices?

Cheers  
Vijay

P.S Who's won?

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [woody64](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 11:03:13 GMT  
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There are several topics concerning jurisprudence and LEGO®.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mega\\_Brands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mega_Brands)  
Most of the Lego brick patents have expired.

All sides dealing with LEGO topics always place the disclaimer (take a look on the article below)  
<http://aboutus.lego.com/en-us/legal-notice/fair-play/>

There's a 3rd legal component which you always should have in mind: Several companies also have rights on their designs like Walt Disney, Lukas Films, ....  
In many cases there's a contract between Lego and these companies to promote a new LEGO line based on these film items. And they can also protect their designs forcing 3rd parties to not use them ....

The LDD library contains brick designs for making construction plans. The majority of these elements are not watertight.

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [bartv](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 13:26:12 GMT  
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Hey folks,

thanks for participating! There are some seriously cool entries here this week! After some intense debating with Mitchell, we have picked wedge's Diver set as the winner. Congrats The \$25 gift voucher is coming your way.

@woody64, dotsan, stop4stuff - thanks for your input! I'm going to discuss with Natalia, who is focusing on the legal side of 3D printing, and see how we can formalize this on Shapeways. It's important for everyone (including us) to know how to properly work with these brands, and this info is very useful. Thanks!

Bart

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Dotsan](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 13:32:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Whoo Hoo well done Wedge, spend it wisely.  
V

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [wedge](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 14:31:11 GMT  
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THX!

But I am also a fan of that calbe car and the hands

Quote:Whoo Hoo well done Wedge, spend it wisely.

will be spended in testprints for cool new Products .

I hope, I get some of the new stuff ready soon, so I can order this week .

So I can make it public in some weeks.  
Stay Tuned, ill show than in "It Arived"

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [AmLachDesigns](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 17:14:26 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

woody64 wrote on Tue, 21 May 2013 11:03  
Most of the Lego brick patents have expired.

Quite possibly, but I'm pretty sure that they still have the rights to their own name which appears once on each of the knock-off brick's studs, in a direct copy of the real thing.

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [stop4stuff](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 18:31:50 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

AmLachDesigns wrote on Tue, 21 May 2013 17:14  
woody64 wrote on Tue, 21 May 2013 11:03  
Most of the Lego brick patents have expired.

Quite possibly, but I'm pretty sure that they still have the rights to their own name which appears once on each of the knock-off brick's studs, in a direct copy of the real thing.

It doesn't matter about patents, TLG realised themselves a very long time ago that patenting every single element would be a surefire way to financial suicide (iirc the current element catalogue runs to over 30,000 different designs, a lot of which are still in production).

The information about LEGO IP rights is already linked to in this thread - no 'quite possibly' about it.

@wedge I liked the cable car too, but after seeing your previous vignette, you have a theme going, stick with it & congrats!

@Bart, Ana was good at understanding and acting on these things, I don't care so much these days because action is slow or never happens, but a simple dictionary of known tradenames that



is checked against a model title is all that's needed. Hiding behind the DMCA is no excuse

Paul

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [Anigroove](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 19:20:02 GMT  
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@Wedge, congrats! :)

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [natalia](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 20:06:47 GMT  
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Hi guys,

First off, AWESOME entries this week! I think this is my favorite contest so far.

To address some IP issues

We have posted quite a lot about it over the years, here's a quick helpful summary for those of you new, or interested, here's a few explanatory blog posts:

<http://www.shapeways.com/blog/archives/639-It-Will-Be-Awesome-if-They-Dont-Screw-it-Up-3D-Printing,-Intellectual-Property,-and-the-Fight-Over-the-Next-Great-Disruptive-Technology.html>

and the great, recent, follow up:

<http://www.shapeways.com/blog/archives/1897-Public-Knowledge>  
<http://www.shapeways.com/blog/archives/1897-Public-Knowledge-s-New-White-Paper-So,-What-is-the-Deal-with-Copyright-and-3D-Printing.html>

and a good discussion about creative commons and how we can self-organize

<http://www.shapeways.com/blog/archives/1202-for-some-designers-protection-may-be-better-achieved-through-instant-prototyping-and-continuous-product-change-rather-than-intellectual-property-law.html>

There have also been a few forum threads about it, the most recent and more informative is this one:

[http://www.shapeways.com/forum/index.php?t=msg&goto=61463&&srch=copyright#msg\\_61463](http://www.shapeways.com/forum/index.php?t=msg&goto=61463&&srch=copyright#msg_61463)

More specifically, the LEGO issue is a good one, and the ring that Bart linked to should indeed be labelled differently, perhaps to say "Ring shaped like lego brick" to comply with LEGO's proper use terms, as defined on their site (thanks for the link Paul!)

#### Proper Use of the LEGO Trademark on a Web Site

If the LEGO trademark is used at all, it should always be used as an adjective, not as a noun. For example, say "MODELS BUILT OF LEGO BRICKS". Never say "MODELS BUILT OF LEGOs". Also, the trademark should appear in the same typeface as the surrounding text and should not be isolated or set apart from the surrounding text. In other words, the trademarks should not be emphasized or highlighted. Finally, the LEGO trademark should always appear with a ® symbol each time it is used.

All that said, it is up to individual users on Shapeways to do this, not Shapeways staff. It is not a matter of hiding behind the DMCA, as the DMCA does not cover trademarks, only copyright. Additionally, under the DMCA, to actively police our users is neither feasible nor expected of Shapeways, as defined here.

Hope that clears it up a bit!

Natalia

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [woody64](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 20:36:14 GMT  
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AmLachDesigns wrote on Tue, 21 May 2013 17:14

Quite possibly, but I'm pretty sure that they still have the rights to their own name which appears once on each of the knock-off brick's studs, in a direct copy of the real thing.

For sure using that would be product piracy ...

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [stop4stuff](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 21:59:13 GMT

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Natailia.

Yes things have been posted over time.

Has anything been acted upon, rather than just changing the text of the content policy without notification to members?

I've linked The LEGO Play Fair policy several times 'over the years', so no need to thank me... the info is out there for anyone to find should they care to find it, takes maybe less than 20 seconds on Google.

Now to go hunt through my emails and find the one that says about LEGO & DMCA

tfn

Paul

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [vandal968](#) on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 17:50:39 GMT  
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I don't know how I missed seeing this contest in time, but I designed a couple of mounts that let you connect Arduino boards to Lego bricks, they've been in my store for a couple of months. They work really well for robotics projects as well as just using them as stands so that your arduinos don't short out on the paperclips and junk on your desk. Here's a render of one:

There are two different styles, the one with the solid base offers a few more options for mounting, the one with the hole in the center (pictured) looks cool and is cheaper. You can see both in my store here:

<http://www.shapeways.com/shops/ohmbu>

cheers,

c

#### File Attachments

1) [Screenshot Render 1f.JPG](#), downloaded 205 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on

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Posted by [bartv](#) on Thu, 06 Jun 2013 08:12:08 GMT

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Cool! As a quick suggestion, products usually sell better on our website if you use actual photographs instead of renders. If you these models lying around, I'd recommend you add some pictures!

Bart

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on

Posted by [vandal968](#) on Thu, 06 Jun 2013 14:27:12 GMT

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Bart, thanks for the tip, I'll see if I can get some better pics and update my store. Here's a real picture.

cheers,

c

#### File Attachments

1) [IMG\\_1145s.JPG](#), downloaded 173 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on

Posted by [bartv](#) on Thu, 06 Jun 2013 18:04:09 GMT

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Sweet, thanks!

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on

Posted by [wedge](#) on Sun, 23 Jun 2013 14:51:21 GMT

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So testprints arrived.

Unfortunately there is a Problem with the Scooter and the Fins. So it I have to modify the the two parts. It is always good to testprint before selling ...

The BC System is good and in the Shop: <http://shpws.me/ohZT>

## File Attachments

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1) [allPartsWithFig.jpg](#), downloaded 132 times

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [bartv](#) on Mon, 24 Jun 2013 07:49:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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It looks great! What's the problem?

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Subject: Re: Weekend Contest #12: Create Your Own Lego-compatible Add-on  
Posted by [wedge](#) on Mon, 24 Jun 2013 13:59:43 GMT  
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The Fins are not holding and fall off very easy. Probably i used the wrong diameter for the Knob \*hmpf\*. This is easy to fix. But I have to check first.  
But i have already an Idea for a model that has the Jet chanals, like the real ones.

The Scooter has two problems:

The smaler Problem, I do not like the proportion.

The Bigger: The handle is connectet with a very thin part. So the handle is wobbling around and may be break up.

Back to the old drawing board.

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