
Subject: Can't see what I'm getting

Posted by [Leothedog](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 11:28:10 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I've been working on architectural models using Sketchup. Sometimes when I upload, I can see that a detail has been missed in the process and I try to fix the model to eliminate the error. However, recently I have encountered Shapeways illustrating 3D in a different way in "My Models". Originally, a "Java" logo would appear, followed by the 3D image which could be rotated using navigation tools AND could be enlarged by using the mouse wheel. Increasingly though, I am finding a different method being applied where I get a small blue screen-in-screen bearing the "Shapeways" name and a 3D image that rotates rather too quickly for me to make out any detail at all and CANNOT be enlarged as far as I can see.

For large-ish models this is a real pain because I really can't see whether what has been uploaded is true to my original model. It also appears to be random, in that some uploads still appear in the original "Java" presentation style while some (increasingly) appear in the new way. For me this has been a backward move by Shapeways.

Has anyone else encountered this as a problem?

Mike

Subject: Re: Can't see what I'm getting

Posted by [GWMT](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 18:20:23 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Mike;

The new 3D view feature is kinda like an animated GIF so zooming in isn't possible. It's covered here:

<http://www.shapeways.com/forum/index.php?t=msg&th=6878&start=0&>

You could try using Solidwork's free eDrawings viewer:

<http://www.edrawingsviewer.com/>

It'll open STL files and let you zoom and rotate them around.

Scott

Subject: Re: Can't see what I'm getting
Posted by [Leothedog](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 20:40:49 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Scott

Thanks for the advice.

I've done that and can view, rotate etc my model.

Can I safely assume that I'm seeing exactly what I should be seeing in the Shapeways 3D viewer. If something has vanished in the upload process to Shapeways, it will also be missing in the edrawings viewer? i.e. the STL file is what you see in the Shapeways 3D image?

Mike

Subject: Re: Can't see what I'm getting
Posted by [Youknowwho4eva](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 20:43:23 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

It's suggested to use either meshlab or netfab basic to get a good vision of what shapeways is seeing with your model

Subject: Re: Can't see what I'm getting
Posted by [GWMT](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 20:57:39 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Mike;

I think that if it looks correct in eDrawings it will print correctly at Shapeways; I checked a friend's first 3D part in eDrawings and it had some faces reversed which were clearly visible as being wrong.

Youknowwho4eva is right; download Meshlab or Netfabb Basic (it's free). It will show you exactly what and where a part's wrong and has tools to allow you to fix it.

Scott

Subject: Re: Can't see what I'm getting
Posted by [Leothedog](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2011 21:03:48 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Thanks guys.

I do use Meshlab and Netfab but am not particularly familiar with their tools etc yet. I've done little more than make the conversion to STL. When I attempt to repair, I tend to get into a lot of trouble! But thanks for the advice anyway - I just wish that Shapeways hadn't tinkered with the way it displays in 3d!

Mike
