

INDEPENDENT HOTEL MAINTENANCE RESEARCH

The Complete Hospitality 3D Printing & Equipment Guide

A practical guide for independent hotel, motel, and lodging owners looking to drastically lower maintenance expenses and eliminate hardware store run-time.

Table of Contents

1

How to Print Parts

No tech experience needed — app and desktop methods.

p. 2

2

Printer Selection Guide

Matching a printer to your budget and materials.

p. 3

3

Nozzles & Filament Drying

Getting clean, durable prints every time.

p. 4

4

Motel Digital Catalog

Ready-to-print parts and what they actually cost.

p. 5

5

Research & Citations

The data behind the savings.

p. 7

6

About the Founder

Why this project started at one family's motel.

p. 8

GETTING STARTED

01

How to Print Parts

Modern 3D printing does not require manual coding or engineering degrees. If you can use a smartphone app, you can operate a modern Bambu Lab 3D printer.

Method A · Smartphone "1-Click" Printing (Bambu Handy)

Best for owners who want zero software hassle.

1. **Download the Free App:** Install Bambu Handy on your iPhone or Android and log in.
2. **Connect Your Printer:** Scan the QR code displayed on your printer's screen to bind it to your account.
3. **Browse or Search:** Tap the Models tab (powered by MakerWorld) and search for items like "Toilet Handle," "Soap Dish," or "Wall Hook."
4. **Print:** Tap "Prepare to Print," select your loaded spool color, and press "Print Now." The cloud handles all processing automatically.

Method B · Desktop Computer Printing (Bambu Studio)

Best for customizing room numbers, resizing parts, or setting up bulk prints.

1. **Install Bambu Studio:** Download free software from Bambu Lab and select your printer model.
2. **Import Model:** Download an .STL or .3MF file (from MakerWorld) and drag it onto the virtual print bed.
3. **Slice & Send:** Click "Slice" in the top right corner to generate print paths, then click "Send" to transmit the file over Wi-Fi directly to the machine.

Video Tutorial — For a step-by-step walkthrough on how to scale, rotate, orient, and arrange parts inside Bambu Studio, watch the Bambu Studio Video Tutorial Series.

02

EQUIPMENT

Printer Selection Guide

Choosing the right printer comes down to what materials you need to print and how much budget you want to allocate.

1. Entry-Level: Bambu Lab A1

The best choice for budget-conscious buyers printing standard room hardware and indoor fixtures.

Standalone

~\$299

With AMS Lite Combo

~\$399

Materials Supported: PLA, PLA+, PETG, and TPU flexible rubber.

Key Strengths: Quiet, reliable, fast, and auto-calibrating out of the box. Excellent for basic hotel/motel items like toilet handles, soap dishes, towel hooks, and indoor room signs.

Limitations: Open-frame design cannot hold heat for high-temperature engineering plastics like ABS, ASA, or Nylon.

2. Weatherproof: Bambu Lab P1S

The best choice if you need to print high-strength, UV-resistant outdoor hardware or high-impact functional parts.

Standalone

~\$549

With AMS Combo

~\$749–\$799

Materials Supported: Everything the A1 prints, plus high-temperature plastics: ABS, ASA, Nylon (PA), Polycarbonate (PC), and Carbon Fiber composites.

Key Strengths: Fully enclosed chamber keeps heat stable for warp-prone plastics, built-in air filtration, and hardened steel components for abrasive filaments. Perfect for outdoor directional signs, high-temp pipe fittings, and heavy-duty structural brackets.

3. Do You Need the AMS?

Feature	Standalone Printer	Printer + AMS Combo
Color Support	Single color per job.	Up to 4 colors, automatically.
Signage & Logos	Requires manual layer pauses.	Sharp multi-color text and logos.
Spool Management	One spool at a time.	Holds up to 4 spools.
Spool Rollover	Pauses when filament runs out.	Auto-switches to a matching spool.
Upfront Cost	Saves \$100–\$250.	Higher initial setup cost.

MATERIALS

03

Nozzles & Filament Drying

1. Nozzle Quick Reference

Nozzle Type	Recommended Use	Key Advantage
Stainless Steel (0.4mm)	Standard PLA, PETG, TPU	Default entry-level nozzle.
Hardened Steel (0.4/0.6mm)	All materials + Carbon Fiber, Wood/Metal fills	Resists internal abrasion.
0.2mm Nozzle	Fine text, key tags, logos	Maximum detail, slower prints.
0.8mm Nozzle	Structural brackets, utility hooks	Maximum strength, fastest prints.

2. Filament Drying Logic

3D printing filaments absorb moisture from air like a sponge. Wet filament results in weak prints, stringy surfaces, and popping or sizzling during printing.

Warning — Never exceed 55°C when drying standard PLA spools to avoid fusing the plastic layers together.

3. External Dryer Recommendations

If using an open-frame printer (A1) or a setup without built-in active drying:

Dryer	Price	Features
Creality Space Pi (Single-Spool)	~\$47–\$59	Up to 70°C, PTC surround heating, touchscreen timer. Handles PLA, PETG, TPU, ABS, ASA, and Nylon.
Creality Space Pi Plus (Dual-Spool)	~\$82–\$95	Holds 2 spools simultaneously up to 70°C. Ideal for multi-material setups.

CATALOG

04

Ready-to-Print Motel Parts

Below are free, battle-tested universal 3D models available for immediate download or 1-click app printing:

Bathroom Fixtures

- Universal Toilet Handle & Arm Replacement
- Modular Wall Soap Bar Holder
- Self-Draining Sink Soap Dish
- Auto-Locking Gravity Towel Bar / Hook
- Wall-Mounted Hair Dryer Mount
- Heavy-Duty Shower Curtain Rings
- Vanity Bathroom Organizer Tray
- Wall-Mounted Shampoo & Conditioner Tray
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste Vanity Cup

Guest Room Decor & Amenities

- Shatterproof Floral Table Vase
- Minimalist Tissue Box Shell Cover
- Nightstand Ring & Jewelry Tray
- Mini Decorative Succulent / Cactus Pots
- Desk Pen & Pencil Organizer

Property Signage & Accessories

- Universal Heavy-Duty Wall Coat Hook
- Bedside Phone & Tablet Stand
- Standard "No Smoking" Prohibition Sign
- Universal TV Remote Control Wall Pocket
- Wall-Mounted Keycard Pocket Holder

What It Actually Costs to Print vs. Buy

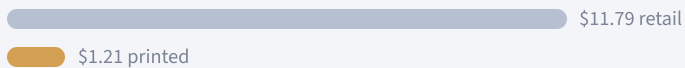
Part	Retail Price	3D Printed Cost
Toilet Handle	\$11.79+ retail	\$1.21 to print
Soap Holder	\$17.49+ retail	\$1.30 to print
Mirror Clamp	\$2–\$5 retail	\$0.16 to print
Room Sign	~\$25 average	\$1.25 to print

Add It Up — Replace all four of these parts once and you spend roughly \$57 in retail purchases versus under \$4 in filament. Multiply that across a full property and the case for a printer pays for itself fast.

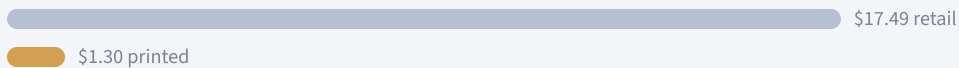
Savings at a Glance

■ Retail Price ■ 3D Printed Cost

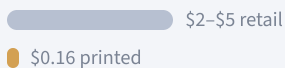
Toilet Handle



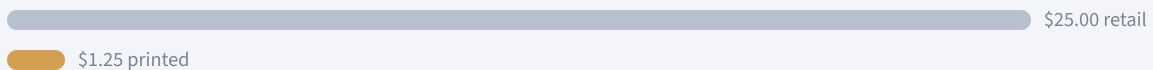
Soap Holder



Mirror Clamp



Room Sign



Replace all four once and you spend roughly \$57 in retail purchases versus under \$4 in filament.

Research & Citations

For academic reports, grant applications, or business plans, use these peer-reviewed studies to back up your operational strategy. Each finding below is drawn from published research on hospitality maintenance and distributed manufacturing.

On In-House Maintenance Costs — Maintenance and Maintenance Management Systems in Accommodation (ResearchGate)

Validates that broken minor room fixtures are the leading cause of early guest dissatisfaction and lower service review scores.

On Distributed Manufacturing Savings — Life-Cycle Economic Analysis of Distributed Manufacturing with Open-Source 3-D Printers

Proves that localized desktop 3D printing saves users over \$60 million annually in offset retail purchases, achieving 80%+ cost reductions over commercial retail options.

On Environmental Impact — Environmental Life Cycle Analysis of Distributed 3D Printing (ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering)

Localized 3D printing reduces cumulative manufacturing and shipping energy demand by 41% to 64% compared to traditional retail supply chains.

\$60M+

saved annually in offset retail purchases

80%+

cost reduction vs. commercial retail options

41–64%

less shipping & manufacturing energy demand

A note on sourcing: the figures above describe industry-wide research on distributed manufacturing and hospitality maintenance, not Innprint.net's own results. They're included here so independent owners can cite established research when building a business case for their own property.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER



Priyam

Founder, Innprint.net

My family operates a motel, and I have seen firsthand how often small fixtures need to be repaired or replaced. Because I already enjoyed 3D printing, I began experimenting with practical ways it could help our property.

At my family's motel, 3D printing has already helped us create and replace useful items like soap holders, mirror clamps, vases, and room signs. When the same item can be printed for a fraction of the retail price, the savings become hard to ignore.

What started as a simple idea became a larger research project about whether independent hotel owners could use the same technology to save money and solve everyday maintenance problems. This project combines hands-on motel experience, survey data from 21 hotel and motel owners, and outside research on distributed manufacturing, maintenance costs, and digital inventory.

"Could 3D printing help other independent hotel owners save money too?"

13/21

owners surveyed spend more than \$2,500 annually on maintenance parts

20/21

owners reported that most replacement parts they use are universal

49.6 mi

round-trip distance from Priyam's family motel to the nearest Home Depot

Learn more at **INNPRINT.NET**