

# 38-9154 Finder2.0 User Manual



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# Preface

Note: Each device must be tested before leaving factory. If there are some residues in extruder or some tiny scratches on the build tape, it is normal and won't affect the printing quality.

On the completion of this User Guide, thanks all Flashforge engineers and the Flashforge 3D printer users for their unremitting efforts and sincere assistance.

The Flashforge Finder2.0 User Guide is designed for the Finder2.0 users to start their printing journey with Flashforge Finder2.0. Even if you are familiar with earlier Flashforge machines or 3D printing technology, we still recommend that please read this guide, as there is lots of important information about the Finder2.0 for you to get a better 3D experience.

For a better and more successful printing experience, you can refer to the following materials:

## **(1) Quick Start Guide**

Users will find the Quick Start Guide together with the printer accessories. The Quick Start Guide will help you start your print journey as soon as possible.

## **(2) Official Flashforge Website: <http://www.flashforge.com>**

The official Flashforge website contains the up-to-date information concerning Flashforge software, firmware, device maintenance and so on. Users are also able to get the contact information from there.

# Introduction

## Notes:

- Please read *Flashforge Finder2.0 3D Printer User Guide* carefully before use.
- The User Guide is written based on Windows 7 OS.
- The version of the Flashprint is latest.

The *Flashforge Finder2.0 3D Printer User Guide* contains the information needed for you to set up and use this device.

This User Guide including the following parts: Preface, Introduction and after-sale service.

The Preface section includes resource acquisition channel, the overall framework of the manual, and the problems that should be paid attention to while printing.

The introduction section contains the overview of 3D printing technology, equipment introduction, unpacking and installation of equipment, software installation and use.

After-sale section contains the user how to get the support and help.

# Notice

## Safety Notice

**! Notices:** Read all the instructions in the manual and familiarize yourself with the Flashforge Finder2.0 User Guide before setting-up and using. Failure to comply with the warning and instructions may result in individual injury, fire, equipment damage or property damage.

PLEASE STRICTLY FOLLOW ALL THE SAFETY WARNINGS AND NOTICE BELOW ALL THE TIME.

### • Work Environment Safety

- ① Keep your work place tidy.
- ② Do not operate Finder2.0 in the presence of flammable liquids, gases or dust.
- ③ Keep Finder2.0 out of children and untrained people' reach.

### • Electrical Safety

- ① Always use the Finder2.0 with a properly grounded outlet. Do not refit Finder2.0 plug.
- ② Do not use Finder2.0 in damp or wet locations. Do not expose Finder2.0 to burning sun.
- ③ Do not abuse the cord.
- ④ Avoid using the device during an thunderstorm.
- ⑤ In case of uncertain accident, please unplug the device if you do not use it for long.

### • Personal Safety

- ① Do not touch the nozzle and build plate during printing.
- ② Do not touch the nozzle after finishing printing.
- ③ Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep your hair, clothing and

gloves away from moving parts.

④ Do not operate the device while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication.

#### • **Cautions**

- ① Do not leave the device unattended for long.
- ② Do not make any modifications to the device.
- ③ To lower the build plate before loading/unloading filament. (The distance between the nozzle and build plate should be kept for at least 50mm)
- ④ Operate the device in a well-ventilated environment.
- ⑤ Never use the device for illegal activities.
- ⑥ Never use the device to make any food storage vessels.
- ⑦ Never use the device to make any electrical appliance.
- ⑧ Never put the model into your mouth.
- ⑨ Do not remove the models with force.

#### • **Environment Requirements**

Temperature: RT 15-30°C

Moisture: 20%-70%

#### • **Filament Requirements**

Do not abuse the filament. Please make sure you use the Flashforge filament or the filament from the brands accepted by Flashforge.

#### • **Filament Storage**

All polymers degrade with time. Do not unpack until filament is needed. Filament should be stored at clean and dry conditions.

## Legal Notice

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### FCC Notice

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

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# Chapter 1: 3D Printing Technology

3D printing refers to transforming three-dimensional models into physical objects that you can hold and touch. It is also called additive manufacturing because the 3D model is created by “adding” layers upon layers of material until the object is fully formed.

Fused Filament Fabrication(FFF) is the most common method of 3D printing. It is also the method that the Finder2.0 uses. It works by melting plastic material called filament onto a print surface in high temperature. The filament solidifies after it cools down, which happens instantaneously after it is extruded from the nozzle. 3D objects are formed with the filament laying down multiple layers.

## 1.1 Process

3D printing involves three steps:

- 1.) Make or download a 3D model
- 2.) Slice and export the 3D model
- 3.) Build the 3D model

### 1.1.1 Make a 3D Model:

Currently, there are three ways to creating a 3D model.

·**Designing From Scratch** You can use free CAD (computer-aided design) software such as 3DTADA, AutoCAD, SolidWorks, Pro-E, and our own software Happy 3D to design your own 3D model.

·**3D Scanners** An alternative method to creating a 3D model is to scan an object. 3D scanners work by digitizing a physical object, collecting its geometric data, and saving it to a file on your PC. There are also apps that can turn a mobile device into a 3D scanner.



·**From the Cloud** The most popular way of obtaining a 3D model is to download it from websites that allow users to upload 3D models that they designed.

E.g. : [www.thingiverse.com](http://www.thingiverse.com)

### **1.1.2 Slice and Export the 3D Model:**

Slice software is the software that prepares 3D models for printing and turns them into instructions for the 3D printers. FlashPrint is the slicing software used for the FlashForge Finder2.0.

Using FlashPrint, you can turn stl. files into g. or gx. files for printing. Then the files can be transferred to your Finder2.0 via USB cable, USB stick or Wi-Fi.

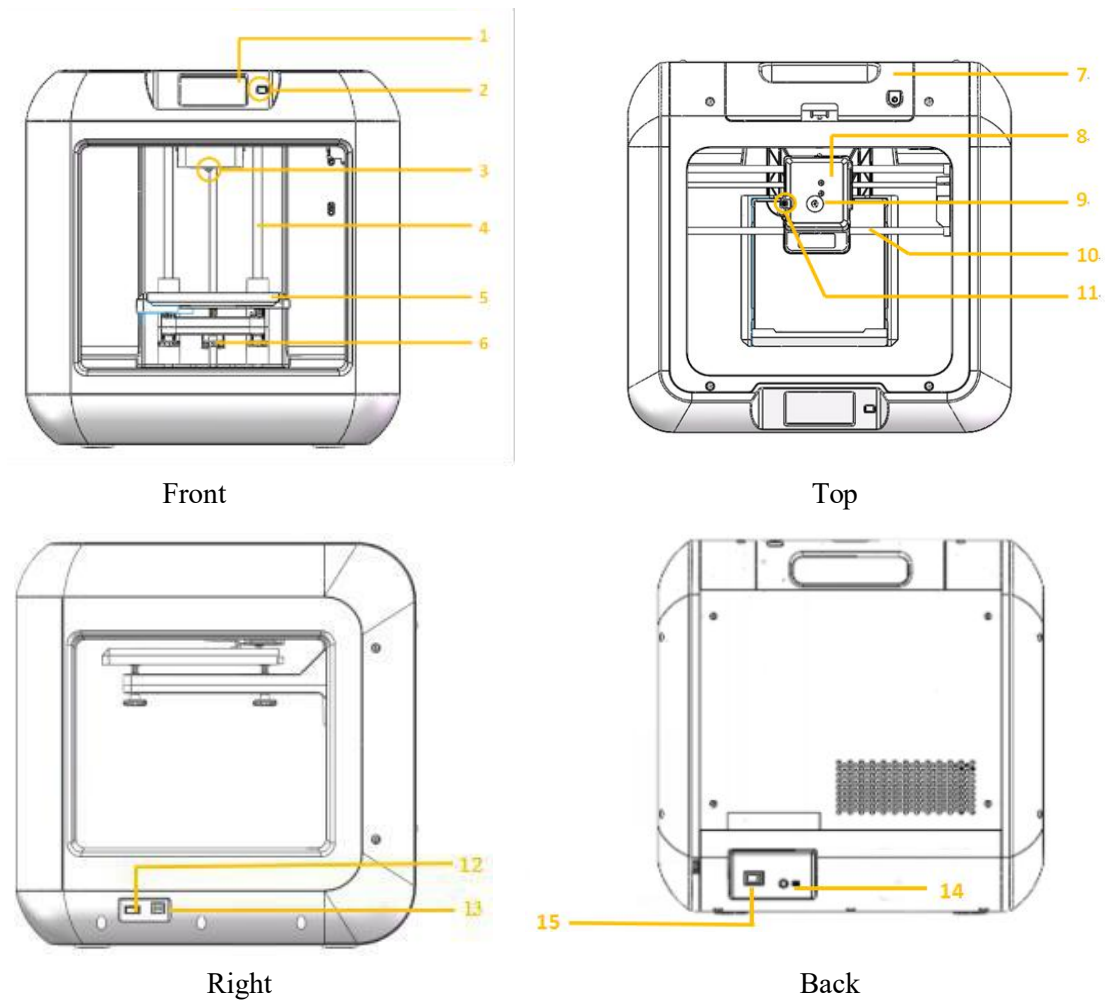
### **1.1.3 Build the 3D Model:**

Once the output file has been transferred to your Finder2.0, it will start to turn the 3D model into a physical object by laying down layers of filament.

# Chapter 2: About Finder2.0

## 2.1 About Your Finder2.0

### 2.1.1 Views



- |                     |                       |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Touch screen     | 6. Leveling knob      | 11. Spring presser  |
| 2. Display on/off   | 7. Filament cartridge | 12. USB stick input |
| 3. Nozzle           | 8. Extruder           | 13. USB cable input |
| 4. Z-axis guide rod | 9. Filament intake    | 14. Power input     |
| 5. Build plate      | 10. X-axis guide rod  | 15. Power switch    |

### 2.1.2 Terms



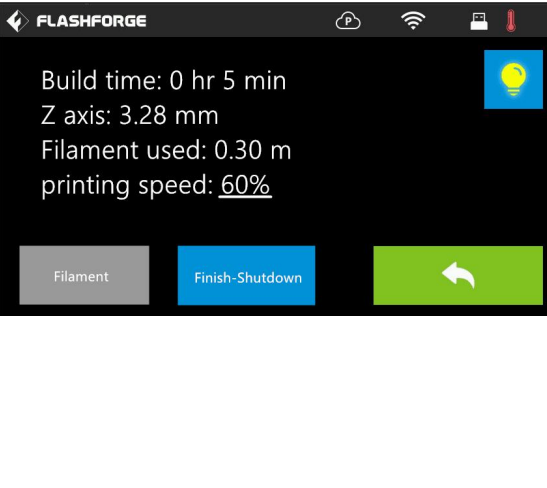

Build Plate	The surface on which the Finder2.0 builds an object.
Build Tape	The blue tape that covers Finder2.0's build plate so that the object can stick to the build plate well.
Build Volume	The three dimensional amount of space that an object will use once it is completed. The largest build volume of Finder2.0 is 140*140*140mm.
Leveling Knobs	Knobs under the build platform that are used for adjusting the distance between the nozzle and build plate.
Extruder	The device that draws the filament from the spool, melts it and pushes it through a nozzle into the build plate.
Nozzle	Also called "print head", which located at the bottom of the extruder where heated filament is squeezed out.
Extruder Fan	To cool the outer assembly of the extruder and gear motor
Filament Intake	An opening located at the top of the extruder .
Filament Guide Tube	A black plastic piece that guides the filament from the filament box to the filament intake
Filament Cartridge	A specific box for placing Flashforge filament
PVP Glue Stick	A solid adhesive used for making the model stick to the build plate firmly
Unclog Tool	A tool that used for cleaning the extruder
Display on/off	After device is turned on, by tapping the black button once, the printer will be in black screen status(printing not affected), then if you want to resume to normal status, tap the black button again.

### 2.1.3 Reference

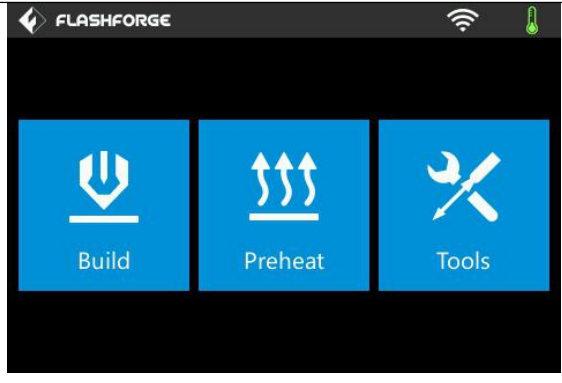


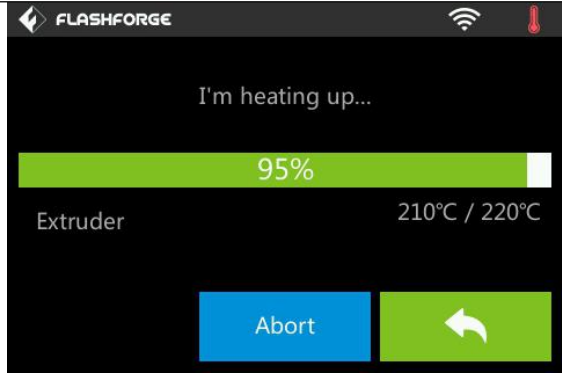
Name	Finder2.0
Number of Extruder	Single
Print Technology	Fused Filament Fabrication(FFF)
Screen Size	3.5'' color IPS Touch Screen
Build Volume	140×140×140mm
Layer Resolution	0.05 - 0.4mm
Build Accuracy	±0.2mm
Positioning Accuracy	Z axis 0.0025mm; XY axis 0.011mm
Filament Diameter	1.75mm (±0.1)
Nozzle Diameter	0.4mm
Build Speed	30-150 mm/s
Software	FlashPrint、Support Simplify3D
Support Formats	Input:3MF/ STL/OBJ/FPP/BMP/PNG/JPG/JPEG Output:GX/G
OS	Win xp/Vista/7/8/10、Mac OS、Linux
Product Dimensions	420*420*420mm
Net Weight	9Kg
Input	DC24V 2.71A 65W
Connectivity	USB cable, USB stick, WiFi, FlashForge Cloud, Polar Cloud

### 2.1.4.1 Interface Menus

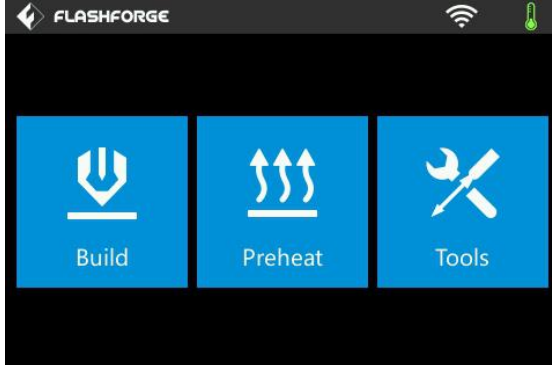

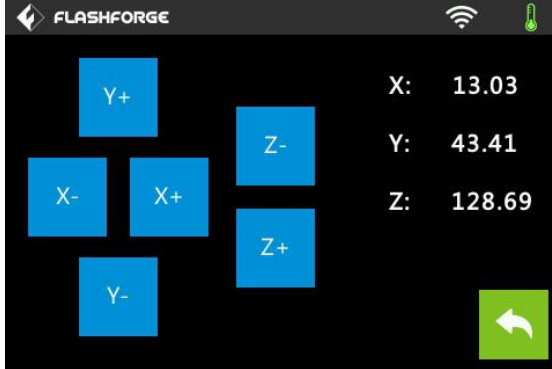
 <p>The interface shows three blue buttons: 'Build' with a downward arrow icon, 'Preheat' with three upward arrows icon, and 'Tools' with a wrench and screwdriver icon.</p>	<p><b>Build</b></p>
 <p>The interface shows three options for reading print files: a local memory card icon with '36MB' and '6835MB', a USB stick icon with '3050MB' and '7799MB', and a 'Polar Cloud' icon with a 'P' in a cloud. A green back arrow is at the bottom right.</p>	<p>Read the print file from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The local memory card</li> <li>• The USB stick</li> <li>• The Polar Cloud printing</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul>
 <p>The interface shows a list of files: 'bracket_pl_wire.gx', 'zzhou-shangbu-guding.gx', '20mm_Boxs.dwfesdwe.sdfw..gx', and '贵族运动 - 副本.gx'. Each file has a checkmark and a delete icon on the right. A green back arrow is at the bottom right.</p>	<p>Choose Batch files</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tap and hold to select the file</li> <li>2. Select the file you want to delete</li> <li>3. The selected file has a tag (on the right)</li> <li>4. Tap the delete icon at the top right to delete all the selected files</li> </ol>
 <p>The interface shows a 3D model of a box labeled '20mm_Box' with 'Total: 0 hr 9 min'. Below the model are four buttons: 'Build' (blue), 'Copy' (grey), 'Delete' (blue), and a green back arrow.</p>	<p>Select the target print file among the list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build: To begin printing</li> <li>• Copy: To copy the files to the local memory card from the USB stick.(The button is not available while printing from local memory card )</li> <li>• Delete: To delete the print file</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul>

	<p>Print interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abort: To abort the print job.</li> <li>• Pause/Resume: To suspend or resume the print job.</li> <li>✍ Tools: To check status or modify settings during printing: build time, Z axis, filament used, printing speed, light status, change filament, finish-shutdown.</li> <li>✍ Extruder temperature: Can be changed during printing.</li> </ul>
	<p>To set extruder temperature during printing: After extruder temperature has reached target temperature, temperature figure will be underlined in print interface, Tap the temperature figure to adjust; Tap <b>[Yes]</b> to save the setting while tap <b>[No]</b> to cancel the setting.</p>
	<p>Tools in print interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✍ Printing speed: To change printing speed during printing by tapping the underlined speed figure.</li> <li>✍ Light bulb: To turn on/off the light.</li> <li>✍ Filament: To change filament during printing. (Note: You need to suspend the printing operation first)</li> <li>✍ Finish-Shutdown: To start auto shutdown after print job finished.</li> <li>✍ Cancel: To end the tool orders and return to the print interface.</li> </ul>
	<p>To set the printing speed during printing Tap the speed figure to adjust; Tap <b>[Yes]</b> to save the setting while tap <b>[No]</b> to cancel the setting.</p>

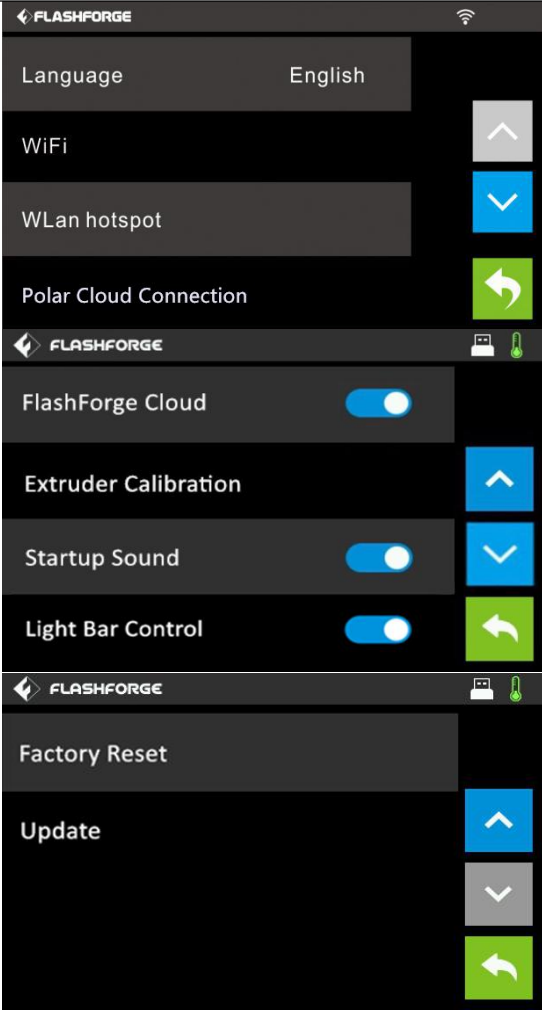
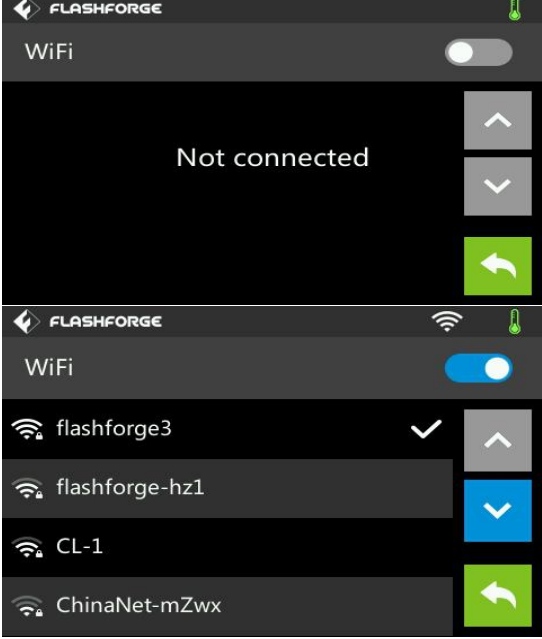
## 2.1.4.2 Preheat Menus

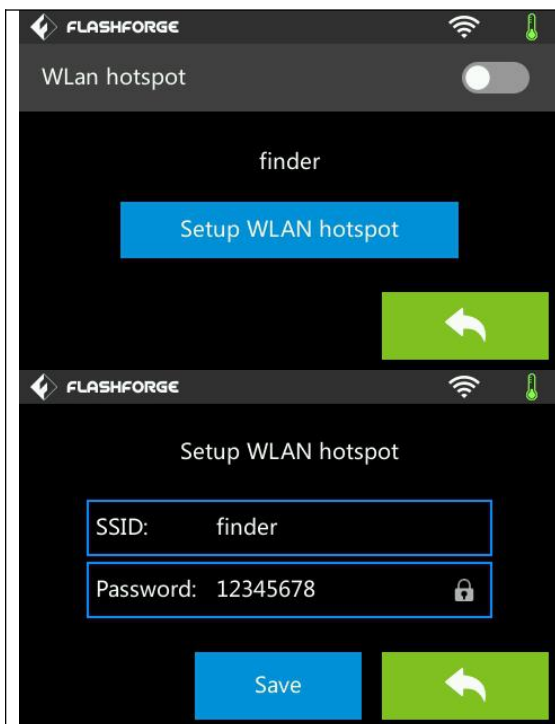
	<p><b>Preheat</b></p>
	<p>Tap the <b>[Preheat]</b> to enter the preheat interface. Tap the <b>[Start]</b> to heat up to the setting temperature. The default temperature is 220°C. Tap the temperature display bar to set the temperature.</p>
	<p>To set the preheat temperature. Tap <b>[Yes]</b> to save the setting , <b>[No]</b> to cancel the setting.</p>
	<p>The picture displays the preheat interface. It shows the real-time temperature and the target temperature. Tap the <b>[Abort]</b> button to abort the preheat job. Tap <b>[Back]</b> to back to the previous interface but not abort the preheat job.</p>

### 2.1.4.3 Tool Menus

	<h2>Tools</h2>
	<p>Tap <b>[Tools]</b> to enter tool options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Filament: To load/unload the filament.</li> <li>• Level: To adjust the build plate.</li> <li>• Home: To make the X, Y and Z axes back to the zero point.</li> <li>• Manual: To manually adjust the positions of X, Y and Z axes.</li> <li>• Setting: To implement relevant function setups.</li> <li>• Status: To check the real-time status of the printer.</li> <li>• About: Information about the printer.</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul>
	<p>Manual adjustment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y+: The extruder moves to the zero point, that is, the back of the machine</li> <li>• Y-: The extruder moves to the direction opposite to the Y+.</li> <li>• X+: The extruder moves to the zero points, that is, to the right direction</li> <li>• X-: The extruder moves to the direction opposite to the X+.</li> <li>• Z+: The build plate elevates.</li> <li>• Z-: The build plate descends.</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul>

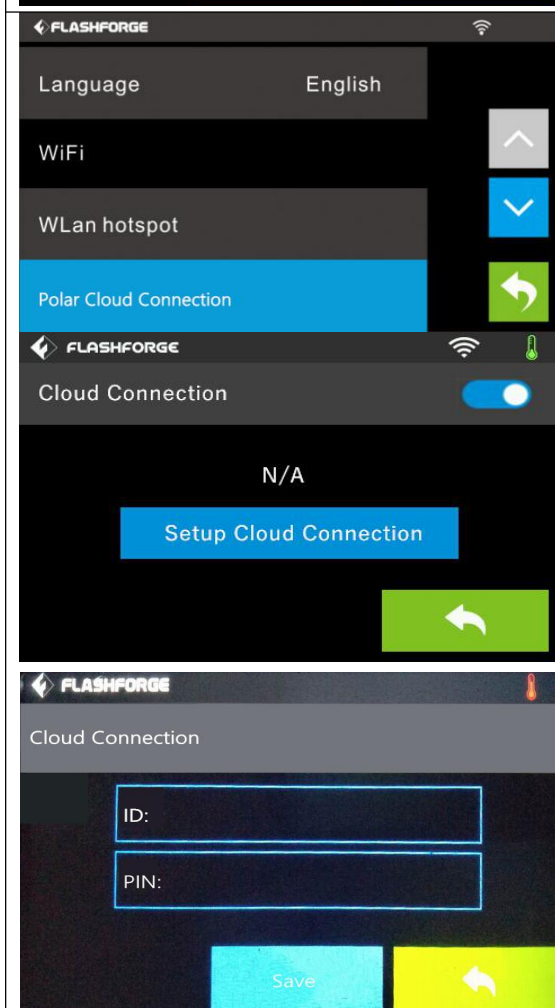


	<p>Tap <b>[Setting]</b> to enter the setting interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Language:</b> To set the display language</li> <li>• <b>WiFi:</b> To turn on/off the WiFi.</li> <li>• <b>Wlan hotspot:</b> To turn on/off the Wlan hotspot.</li> <li>• <b>Polar Cloud Connection:</b> To turn on/off the Polar Cloud Connection.</li> <li>• <b>FlashForge Cloud Connection:</b> To turn on/off the FlashForge Cloud Connection.</li> <li>• <b>Extruder Calibration:</b> To adjust the initial distance between the extruder and the build plate.</li> <li>• <b>Startup Sound:</b> To turn on/off the Startup Sound.</li> <li>• <b>Light Bar Control:</b> To turn on/off the light bar control.</li> <li>• <b>Factory Reset:</b> Return to factory setting.</li> <li>• <b>Update:</b> To update the firmware version.</li> <li>• <b>Back</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>WiFi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Turn on WiFi:</b> Turn on the WiFi, release the WiFi hotspot and set the WiFi on computer.</li> <li>• <b>Back</b></li> </ul>



#### Wlan hotspot

- OFF/On: To turn on/off the Wlan hotspot.
- Setup Wlan hotspot:To set the SSID and password.
- SSID:The name of hotspot.
- Password: The password of hotspot.
- Save: To save the setting.
- Back



#### Polar Cloud Connection:

☒Cloud Connection: To turn on/off the polar cloud connection.

☒Setup Cloud Connection: To set cloud connection ID and PIN which have already been registered on: <https://polar3d.com>

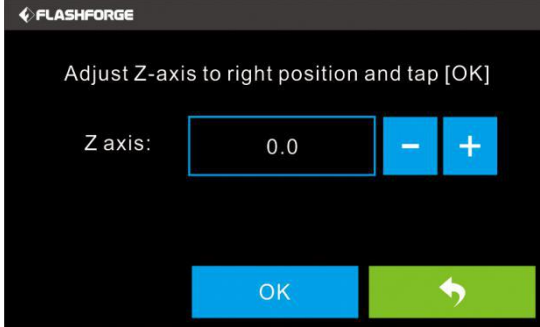
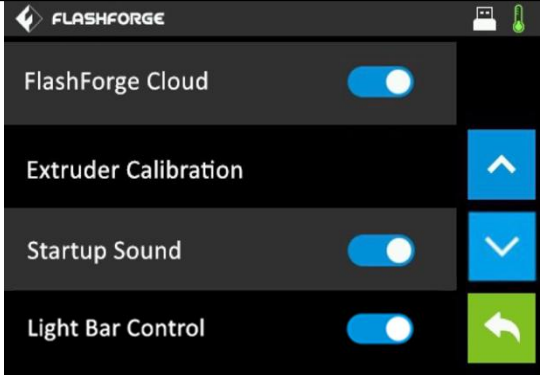
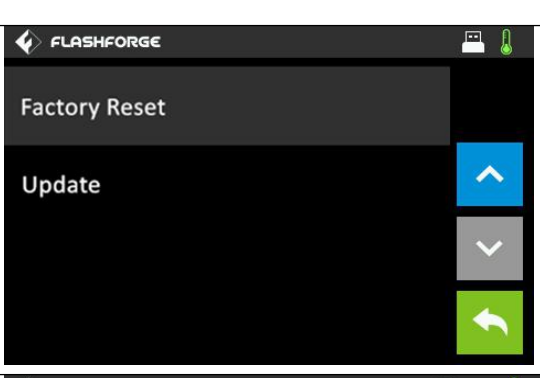
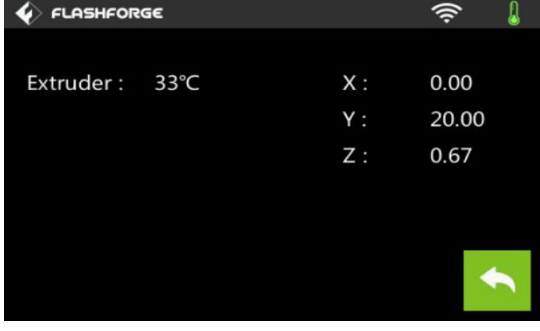
☒ID: The email address of your Cloud account.


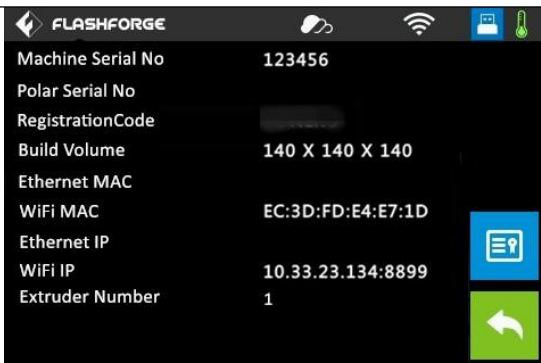
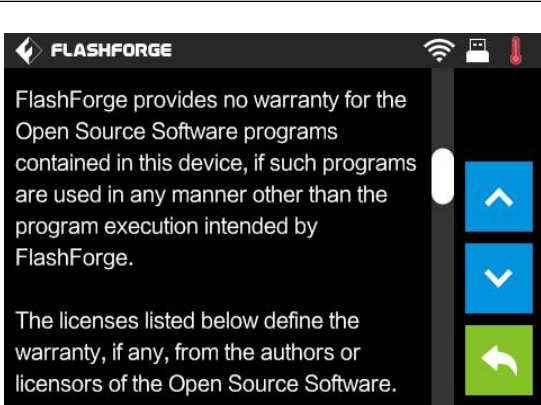
☒PIN: The PIN code of your Cloud account.

☒Save: To save the setting.

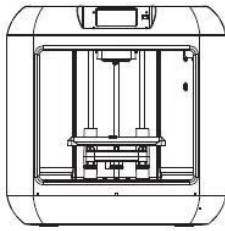
☒Back

(Note: To use polar cloud printing function, you need to connect the printer to internet with WiFi )

	<p>Extruder Calibration</p> <p>Adjust Z-axis to the right position and tap [OK]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• +: The build plate elevates.</li> <li>• -: The build plate descends.</li> <li>• OK: To save the setting and back to setting menus.</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul> <p>The proper distance may be one ordinary paper's thickness.</p> <p><b>Note: Please do this operation after contacting with our after-sale engineer.</b></p>
	<p>Turn on/off [<b>FlashForge Cloud</b>]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tap to turn on/off the FlashForge Cloud Connection.</li> </ul> <p>Turn on/off [<b>Startup Sound</b>]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tap to turn on/off the sound when restart the printer.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn on/off [<b>Light Bar Control</b>]: Tap to turn on/off the light bar when restart the printer.</li> <li>• Factory Reset: Return to factory setting.</li> <li>• Update: To update the firmware version.</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul>
	<p>Status:</p> <p>It displays the real-time status of the extruder temperature and XYZ coordinates.</p>

 <p>Machine Type Flashforge Finder</p> <p>Firmware Version 2.2.3.299 F2.12.1 20180903</p> <p>Usage Counter 7 hours</p> <p>Machine Serial No 123456</p> <p>Polar Serial No</p> <p>RegistrationCode</p> <p>Build Volume 140 X 140 X 140</p> <p>Ethernet MAC</p> <p>WiFi MAC EC:3D:FD:E4:E7:1D</p>	<p>About:(First page)</p> <p>It displays the basic information about the device.</p>
 <p>Machine Serial No 123456</p> <p>Polar Serial No</p> <p>RegistrationCode</p> <p>Build Volume 140 X 140 X 140</p> <p>Ethernet MAC</p> <p>WiFi MAC EC:3D:FD:E4:E7:1D</p> <p>Ethernet IP</p> <p>WiFi IP 10.33.23.134:8899</p> <p>Extruder Number 1</p>	<p>About:(Second page)</p> <p>It displays the basic information about the device.</p>
 <p>FlashForge provides no warranty for the Open Source Software programs contained in this device, if such programs are used in any manner other than the program execution intended by FlashForge.</p> <p>The licenses listed below define the warranty, if any, from the authors or licensors of the Open Source Software.</p>	<p>License</p> <p>It displays the basic information about the license.</p>

## 2.2 Accessories



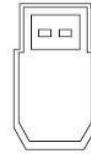
3D Printer



Filament spool



Quickstart-guide



USB flash drive



Filament guide tube



Mains lead



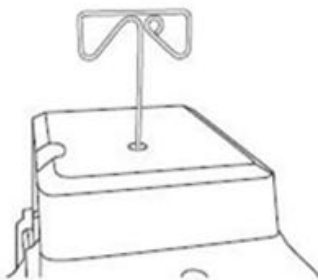
USB cable



Screwdriver



Allen keys

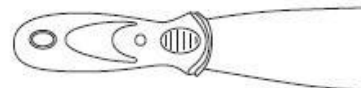


The cleaning tool is only intended for dislodging filament residue from the nozzle.

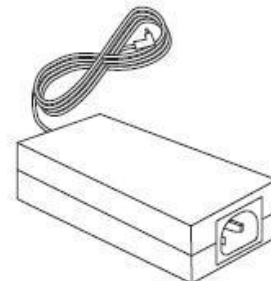
**Note:** The extruder/printer nozzle must be heated to the proper operating temperature before using the tool. Carefully push the tool down through the extruder passageway to dislodge any remaining filament residue.



Extruder/printer nozzle cleaning tool



Tool for removing printed models from the build platform.



Power adaptor

## Chapter 3: Unpacking

This chapter will present you the whole unpacking procedure of Finder2.0 3D printer.

**(Note: Make sure you read the whole unpacking guide)**

Place the packaging box on a clean work surface.



3-1

(3-1) Open the box, grasp the two handles and then lift your Finder2.0 out of the box.



3-2

(3-2) Remove the side insert.



3-3

(3-3) Remove the top insert.



3-4

(3-4) You will see Quick Start Guide, Service Information Card, mains lead, filament guide tube and a tool bag( USB stick\*1, Allen wrenches\*2, unclog tool\*1, screwdriver\*1, and scraper\*1 )



3-5

(3-5) Discard the blue tape that holds the flat cable in place. Be careful with the flat cable.



3-6

(3-6) Cut off four ribbons that used for fixing the guide rod. Then slide the extruder to make sure the extruder and the rod are in good condition.





3-7

(3-7) Remove the middle insert. A spool of filament is packed inside.



3-8

(3-8) Lift the build plate up and take out the power adapter and USB cable.



3-9

(3-9) Remove the two buckles that hold the Z-axis guide rods

Congratulations! You have unpacked your Finder2.0. Next, let's move on to hardware assembly of Finder2.0.



# Chapter 4: Hardware Assembly

Your Finder2.0 has been installed before leaving factory, you can start up the Finder2.0 for printing after mounting the filament spool and completing leveling.

## 4.1 Filament Installation



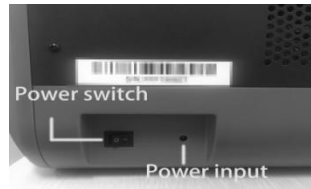
4-1

(4-1) The filament cartridge is at the rear of Finder2.0. Lift the cartridge out of the Finder2.0.

(4-2) Take out the filament and install the filament. **(Note: The filament should feeds from the bottom of the spool towards the top )**

After installing the filament, put the cartridge back to the printer.

## 4.2 Printer Start-up



4-3

(4-3) Insert the power supply into the power input on the back of the Finder2.0 and plug the power cord into an electrical outlet.

Then press the power switch to “I” (Power switch is located near the power input.)

**Your Finder2.0 printer is now turned on !**

By tapping the black button near the touch screen once, the printer will be in black screen status (printing not affected), then if you want to resume to normal status, tap the display on/off button again.

## 4.3 Loading Filament

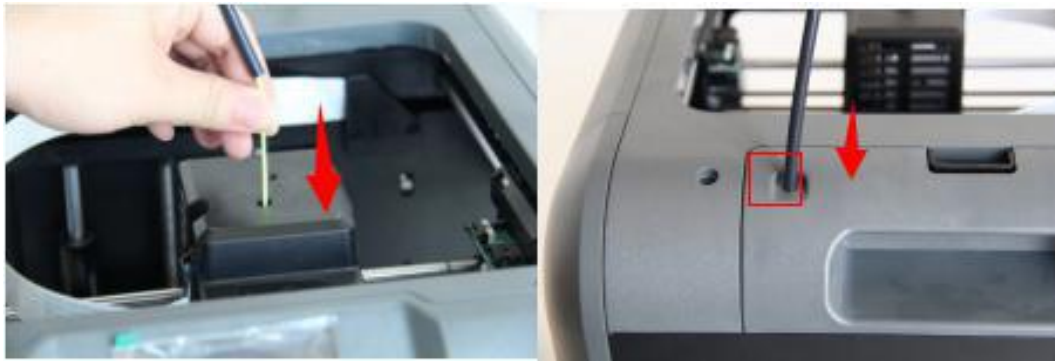
For stable filament loading and proper device protection, you need to install the filament guide tube properly.

(4-5) Take out the filament guide tube, thread the filament from the filament cartridge through the tube.



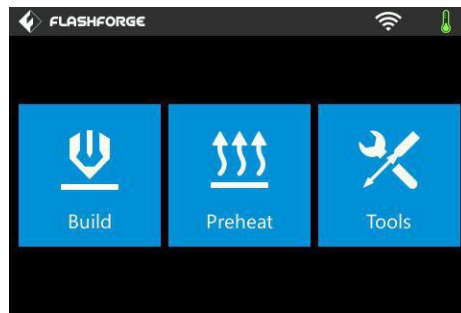
4-5

(4-6) Insert the filament from the filament guide tube into the filament intake.

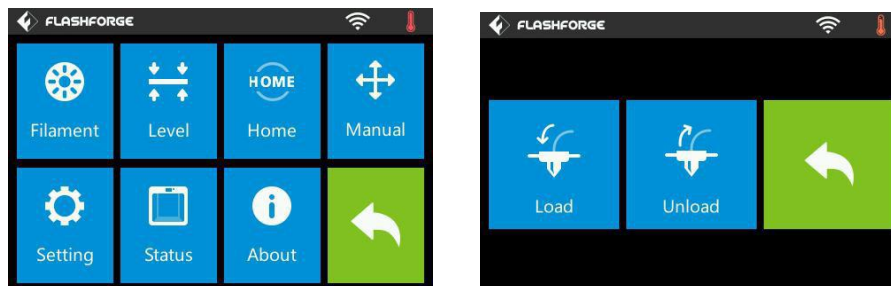


Next, we will load the Flashforge filament. **(Note: Please lower the build plate to increase the distance between the nozzle and build plate to 50mm at least for avoiding nozzle jam.)**

(4-7) Tap [Tool].

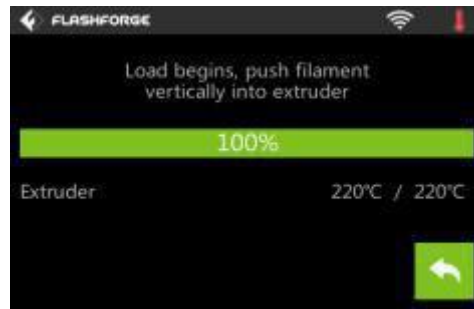


4-7



4-8

(4-8) Tap [Filament]--[Load]



4-9

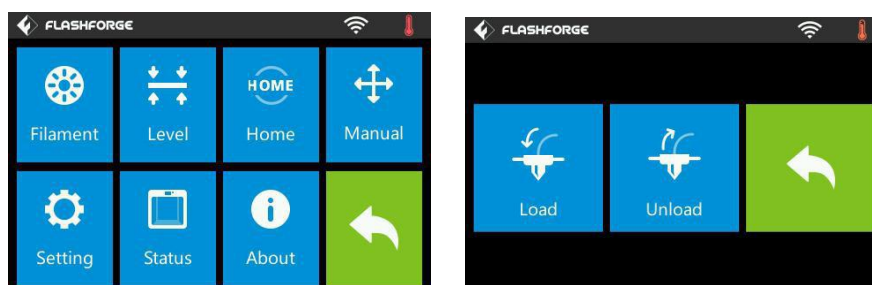
(4-9) After the extruder's temperature reaches 220°C, the printer will sound a beep to prompt you to load the filament into the extruder.



4-10

(4-10) Insert the filament into the extruder at an upright angle. Then the filament will be drawn through the extruder. Do not tap [Cancel] until the filament load the extruder steadily.

## 4.4 Unloading Filament



4-11

(4-11) Tap [Tool]-[Unload] and the extruder starts heating up.



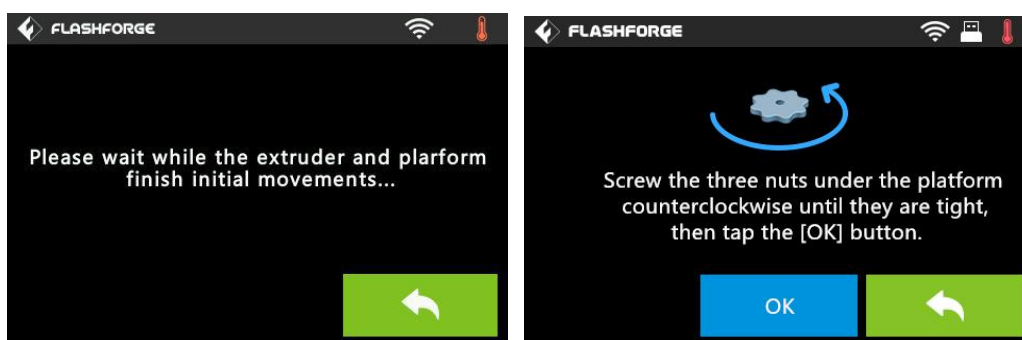
4-12

(4-12) After the extruder reaches 220°C, the printer will sound a beep to prompt you to unload the filament from the extruder. Press the spring presser, press down the filament for about three seconds and gently pull the filament out.

**Note: Do not pull out the filament with force as it will damage the gears. If the melted filament has cooled down in the extruder, please repeat the steps above.**

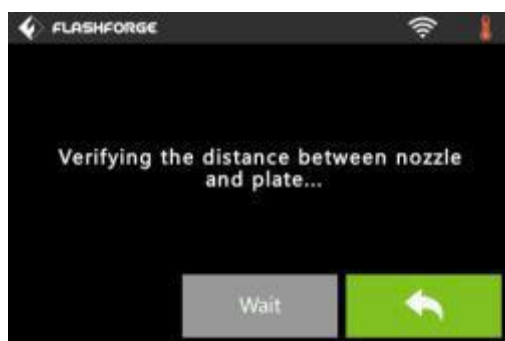
## Chapter 5: Build Plate Leveling

Finder2.0 creatively adopts three-point intelligent leveling system, which will give clear and comprehensive feedback to users. There are three spring-loaded knobs under the build platform. The distance between the plate and nozzle increases while tightening the knobs. On the contrary, the distance reduces.



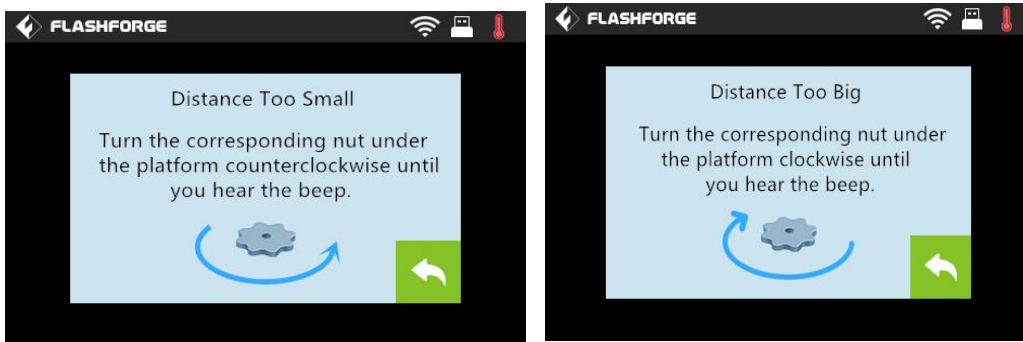
5-1

(5-1) Tap **[Tools]** - **[Level]** on your Finder2.0 touch screen. Please wait while the extruder and platform finish initial movements. After that, operate according to the guide on the touch screen.



5-2

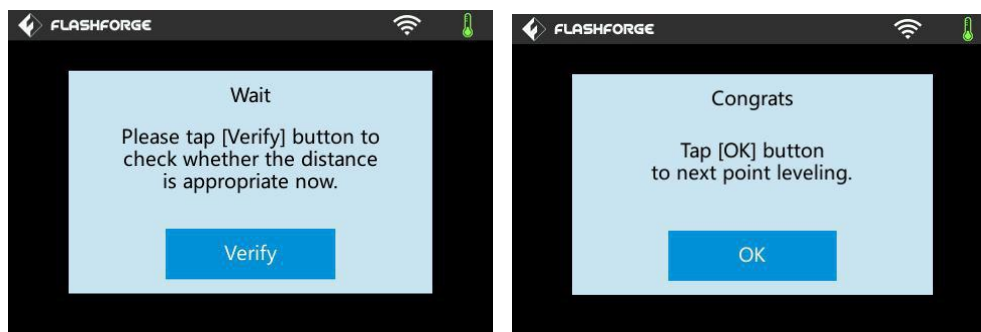
(5-2) After tapping [Yes], the extruder starts to move towards the first point and the plate moves up and down to verify the distance between nozzle and plate.



5-3

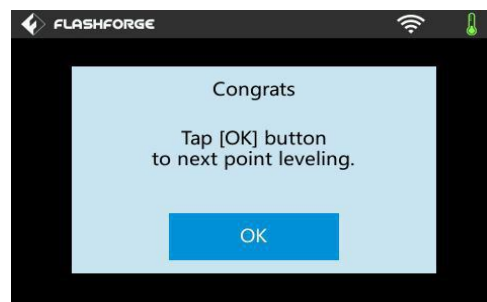
(5-3) When it shows that the distance is too small, please screw corresponding nut under platform counterclockwise; When it shows that the distance is too big, please unscrew corresponding nut under platform clockwise;

Until hearing a steady beep and the [Verify] button appears.



5-4

(5-4) If the distance is appropriate, tap [OK] to second point leveling. If still not, please follow the prompts to adjust again till you see [OK] button.




5-5

(5-5) Repeat steps 2 through 4 above to complete second and third points leveling and then Tap [Finish] to exit.

## Leveling Emergency Plan:

Some leveling spare parts may be damaged after being used for a period of time.

Now users could adopt the emergency plan for leveling.

- (1) Insert the USB stick to the USB port.
- (2) Tighten each of the three knobs underneath the build platform until they go no further
- (3) Tap **[Build]** on the touch screen, tap the USB icon and then select **Leveling.g** file.
- (4) Tap **[Build]**, then the build plate and the extruder start moving.
- (5) After they stop moving, you can adjust the distance between the build plate and the nozzle manually. Move the extruder to the position right over the front-left knob, and adjust the knob individually. Use a A4 paper to check the distance. As you adjust the knob, make sure the paper just slides between the nozzle and build plate. There will be somewhat friction on the paper but still can easily pass the paper between the plate and the nozzle without tearing or damaging the paper.
- (6) Then move to the positions right over the right-front and rear knobs successively, and then adjust the distance according to the descriptions above.
- (7) Then move to the center of the build plate for a check. Confirm that the paper slides between the nozzle and build with a moderate amount friction.
- (8) Tap the **Abort**  button and finish leveling.






# Chapter 6: About Software

## 6.1 Software Installation

### 6.1.1 Software Acquisition

**Method 1:** To get the installation package from the USB disk in the toolkit.

 FlashPrint_3.7.1_win64	2016/1/8 8:48	Windows Install...	41,637 KB
 FlashPrint_3.7.1_win32	2016/1/8 8:48	Windows Install...	37,995 KB
 FlashPrint_3.7.1_mac	2016/1/8 8:47	压缩(zipped)文件...	16,599 KB

**Method 2:** Open the link below to download the installation package:

<http://www.flashforge.com>

**Steps:**

**Support---Downloads---Flashprint---chose the software version---download**

### 6.1.2 Software Installation and Start-up

1. Decompress the zipped file or start the installation program, and then install the software according to the direction.
2. Start the software with the start menu shortcut or by clicking the software icon.(See 6-1)



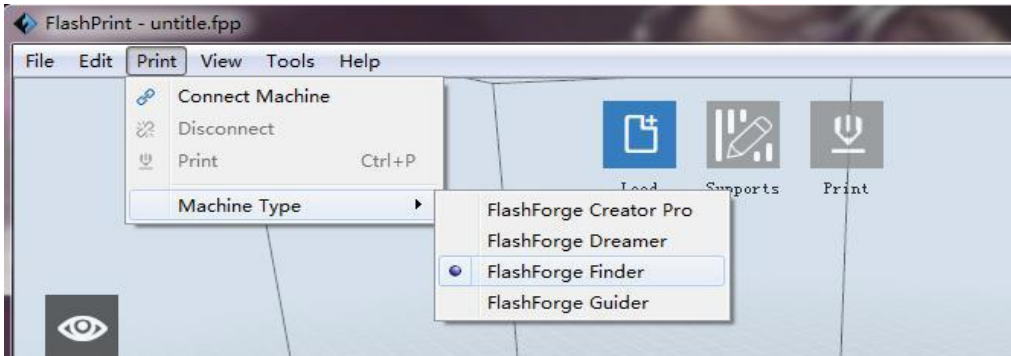
6-1

## 6.2 Exploring FlashPrint

### 6. 2.1 Machine Type Selection

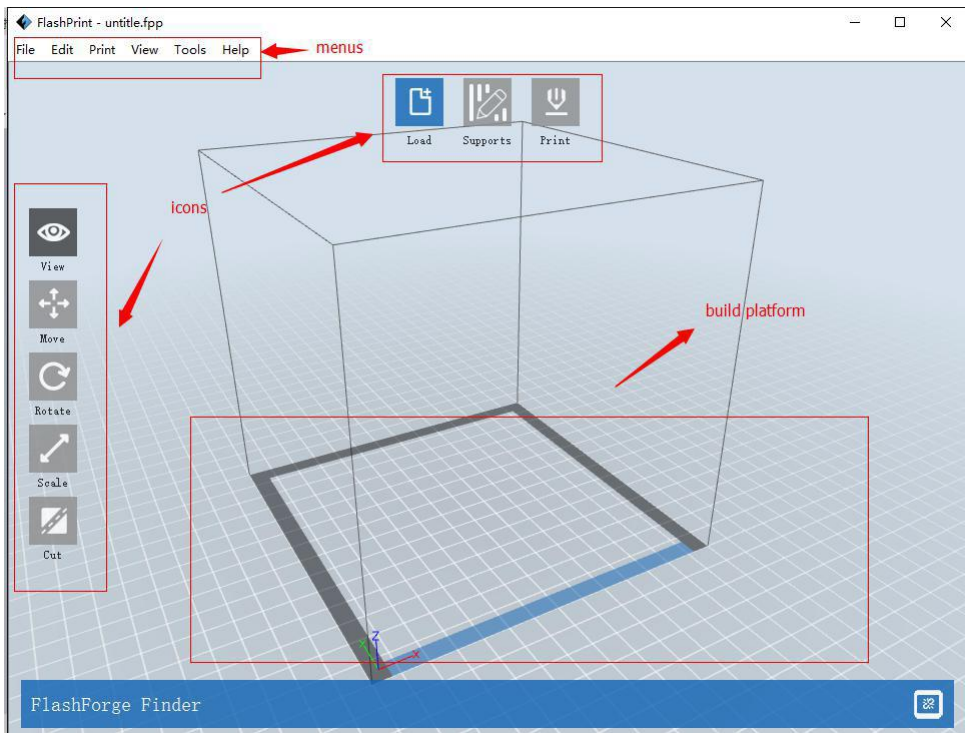
! After starting FlashPrint, you need to select the target machine type first.

When you start FlashPrint, a dialog box will pop up. Just select Flashforge Finder2.0 in the machine type list and click **[OK]**. You can also change the machine type via clicking **[Print]**--**[Machine type]**. See graphic 6-2:











6-2

### 6.2.2 Software Introduction




6-3

	Load one or multiple files.
	Enter the support edit mode

	Print it directly with your Finder2.0 or export to your USB Stick
	View FlashPrint home screen from one of six viewing angles
	Move model around on xy-plane; shift+click to move along z axis
	Turn and rotate your model
	Scale the size of your object
	Cut model into several parts

### 6.2.3 Loading

You can load a model file or Gcode file into your Flashprint by the following six methods:

**Method 1:** Click the **Load** icon  on the main interface. Then select the object file.

**Method 2:** Select the file for loading and drag the file to the main interface of the software.

**Method 3:** Click **[File]--[Load File]**. Then select the object file for loading.

**Method 4:** Click **[File]--[Examples]** to load the example files

**Method 5:** Click **[File]--[Recent Files]** to load the files opened recently.

**Method 6:** Select and drag the target file to the icon of Flashprint.

**Note:** **.STL, .OBJ, and .FPP**, ways to store 3D models, are supported by Flashprint for editing.

### Generating Rilievo

Loading a png, jpg, jpeg, bmp picture file into the FlashPrint. And the following dialogue box(6-3) will pop up. The setting box includes settings for shape, mode, maximum thickness, base thickness, bottom thickness,width, height, top diameter and bottom diameter.

Shape: including plane, tube, canister and lamp.

Mode: including “darker is higher”and “lighter is higher”.

Maximum thickness: Z value of the model

Base thickness: The minimum raft thickness and the default value is 0.5mm

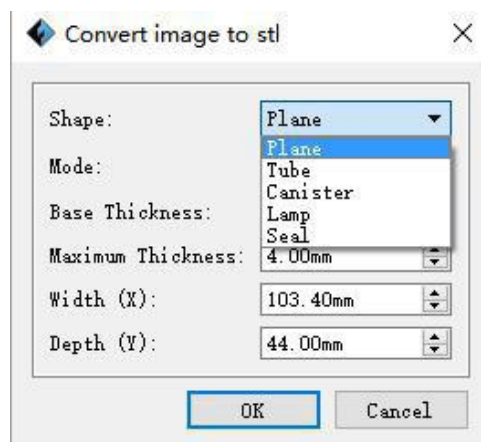
Width: X value of the model

Depth: Y value of the model

Bottom thickness: For tube, canister and lamp to set up bottom thickness

Top diameter: For tube, canister lamp and steal to set up the top diameter

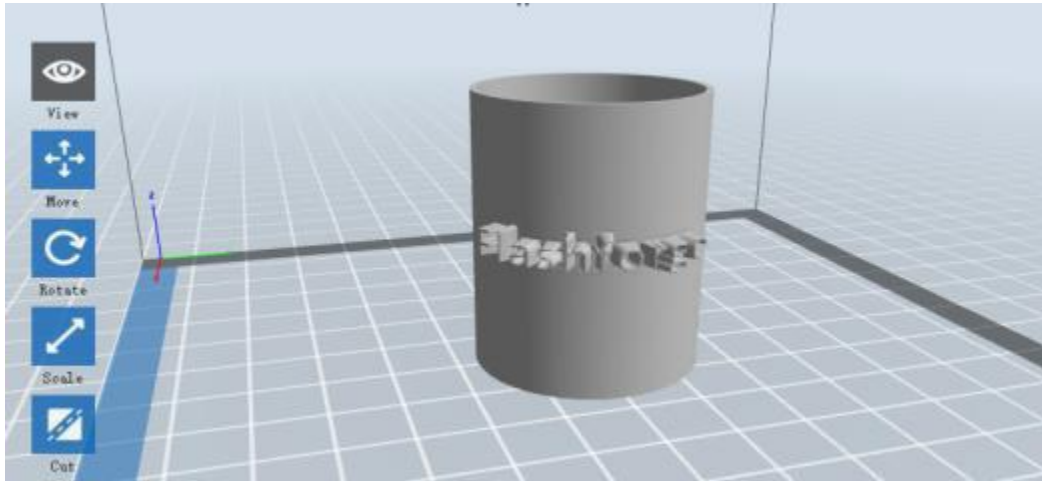
Bottom diameter: For tube, canister, lamp and steal to set up the bottom diameter



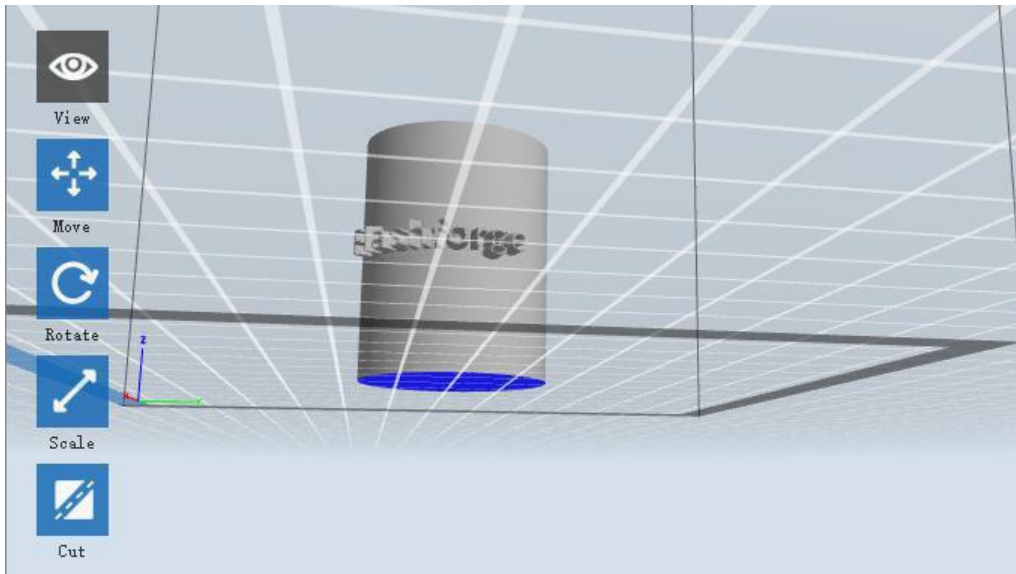
6-4



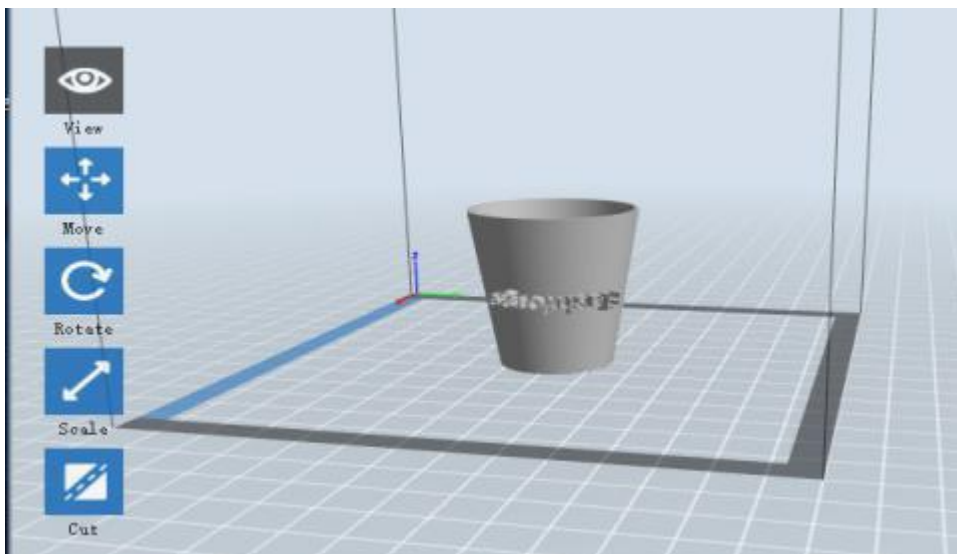
Plane(6-5)



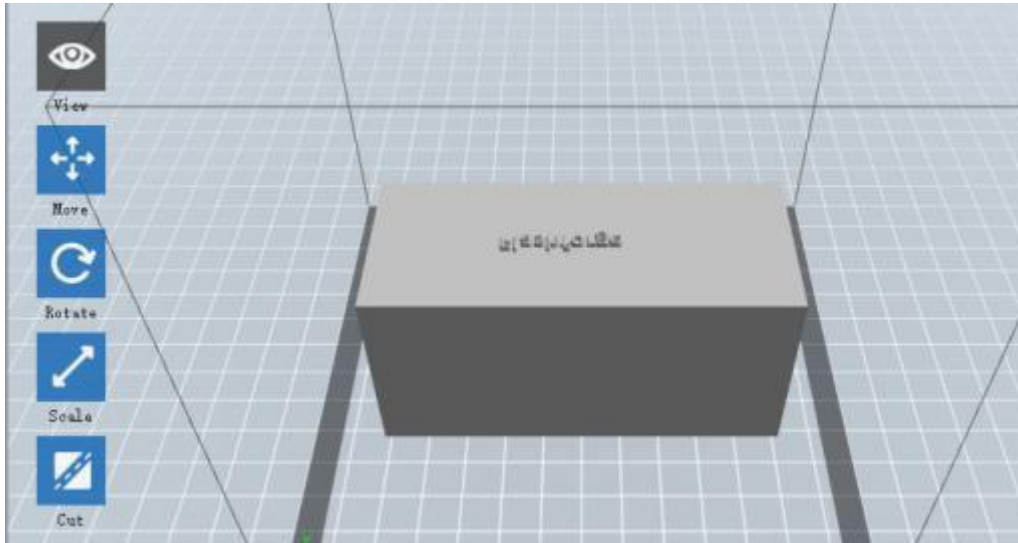
Tube (6-6)



Cansiter(6-7)



Lamp(6-8)




Seal(6-9)

## 6.2.4 Views

### ① Changing views

Change model views by moving, rotating, scaling.

#### • Drag


Click the **[View]** icon  and then you can move the object by the following three methods:

**Method 1:** Hold down the left mouse button and drag.

**Method 2:** Hold down the middle mouse button and drag.

**Method 3:** Hold down the **Shift** key, hold down the right mouse button and drag.

#### • Rotate

Click the **[View]** icon  and then you can rotate the object by the following two methods:

**Method 1.** Hold down the right mouse button and drag.

**Method 2.** Hold down the **Shift** key, hold down the left mouse button and drag.

#### • Scale


Rotate the mouse wheel to enlarge or shrink the build plate.

## ②Set View



Allows users to view the object on the build plate. Six views are under the view menu, that is, home view, bottom view, top view, front view, back view, left view and right view.

**Method 1:** Click the the **[View]** button, there are six views in the drop- down list

**Method 2:** Click the the **[Look]** icon  on the left, click it again and a submenu will appear with six views for selecting.

## ③Reset View

Allow users to reset views by the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click the **[View]** menu and select **[Home View]**

**Method 2:** Click the **[View]** button on the left, click it again and you will see the viewing options, you can click **[Reset]**.

## ④Show Model Outline

Click **[View]**--**[Show Model Outline]**, it will highlight the yellow border of the object

## ⑤Show Steep Overhang

Click **[View]**--**[Show Steep Overhang]**. When the intersection angle between the model surface and horizontal line is within the overhang threshold value, the surface has steep overhang and it becomes red in the software. Overhang threshold value could be set as needed. The default value is 45 degree.

## 6.2.5 Move

Select the object and move the object by the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click the [\[Move\]](#) icon on the left, hold down the left mouse button and drag to adjust the location of the model in XY direction. Hold down the [Shift](#) key, hold down the left mouse button and drag to adjust the location of the model in Z direction. The distance and the direction of the movement shall be displayed.

**Method 2:** Click the [\[Move\]](#) button on the left and then enter the distance value. Click [\[Reset\]](#) to reset distance values.

**Note:** Users shall click [\[Center\]](#) and [\[On Platform\]](#) after the location adjustment to ensure the model(s) be within the build area and on the build platform. If a specified position is needed, only to click [\[On Platform\]](#).

### 6.2.6 Rotate

Select the target object and rotate the object by the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click the [\[Rotate\]](#) icon on the left and three mutually perpendicular rings appear around the object. Click one ring and rotate on the present axis, you will see the rotation angle and direction in the center of circle. In this way, you could make the model rotate on X/Y/Z axis.

**Method 2:** Click the [\[Rotate\]](#) icon on the left, and then enter into rotating angle values in X/Y/Z axes positioning. Click [\[Reset\]](#) to reset rotating angle values.

### 6.2.7 Scale

Select the target object and scale the object by the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click the [\[Scale\]](#) icon on the left, hold down the left mouse button and scale the model. The corresponding values will display near the object.

**Method 2:** Click the [\[Scale\]](#) icon on the left and then enter into scale values in X/Y/Z axes positioning. Click the [\[Maximum\]](#) button to get largest size possible for building. Click [\[Reset\]](#) to reset the size of model.

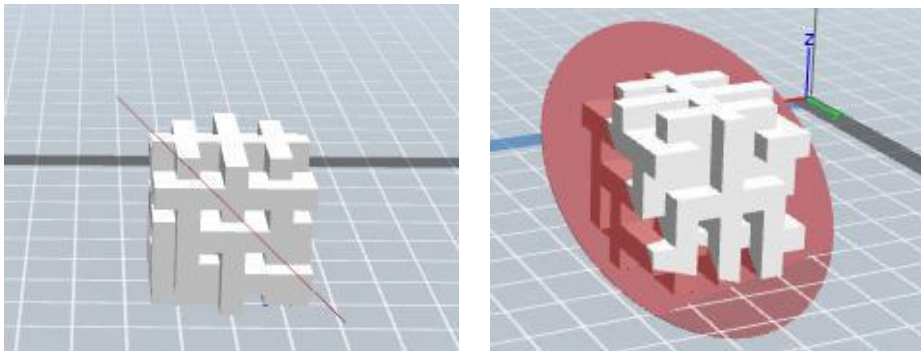


**Note:** If the **[Uniform Scaling]** radio button is clicked, it will scale the model in equal proportion when changing **value** in any positioning of the model. Otherwise it will only change the value of the corresponding positioning.

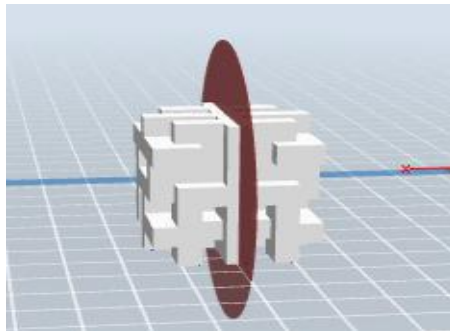
### 6.2.8 Cut

Left-click on the model to select it and double-click on the **Cut icon** to set the cut plane. The direction and position are available for setting.

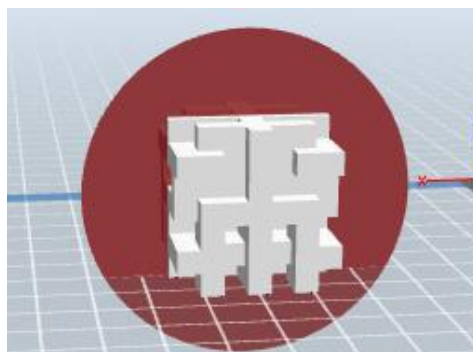
#### ① Draw with Mouse



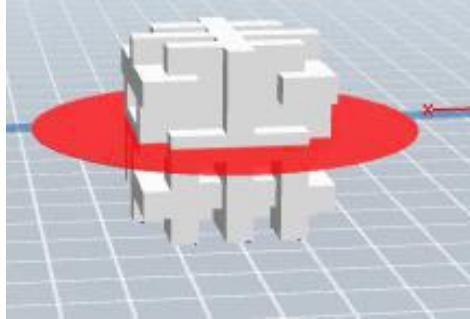
#### ② X Plane



#### ③ Y Plane

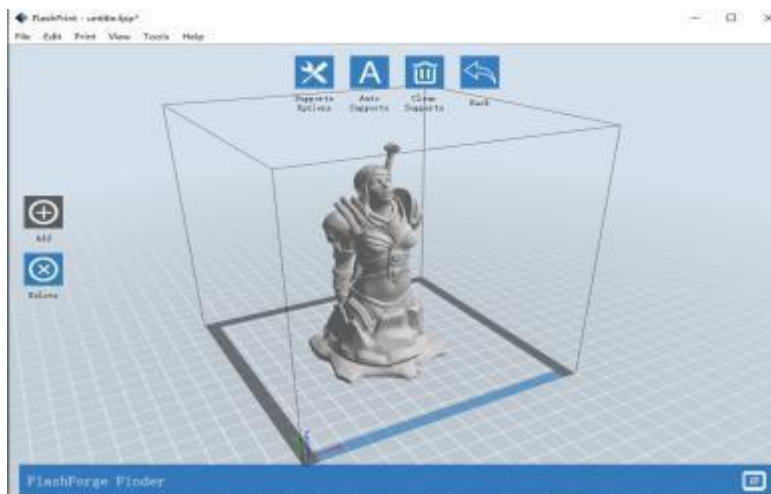


#### ④Z Plane



### 6.2.9 Supports

After loading the model, click **[Edit]--[Supports]** or click the **Supports** icon directly, then you will enter the support edit mode(as shown in the picture below). Click **[Back]** to exit when you finish editing.

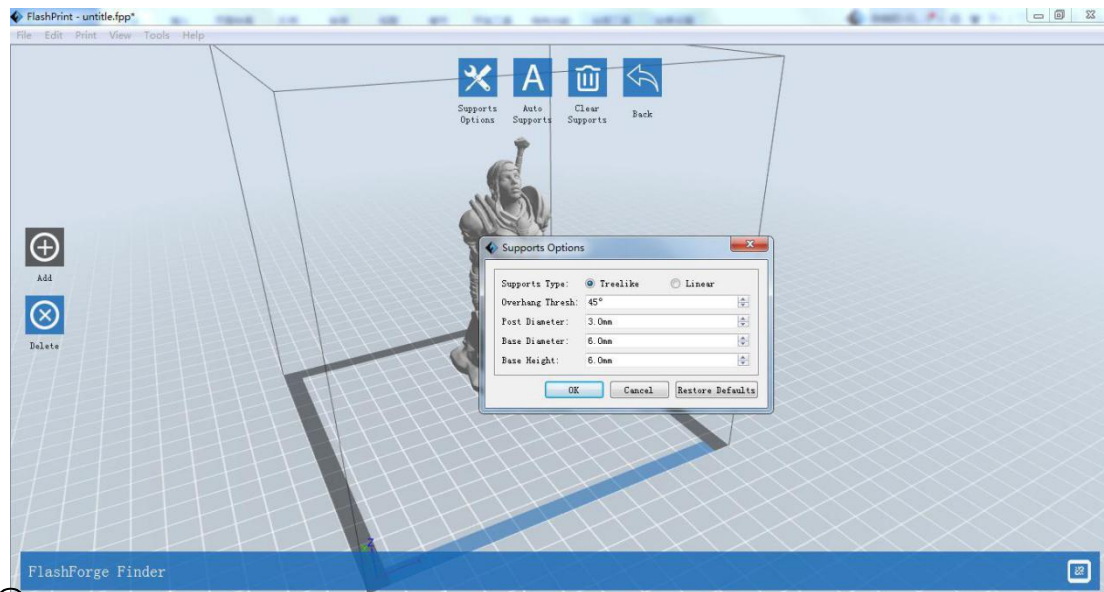


6-10

#### ①Support Options

Click the Support Options, an option box will appear, supports options include “treelike”and “linear”, when choose “treelike”, click **[OK]**, then it will generate treelike structure; when choose “linear”, click **[OK]**, then it will generate linear structure; if it is a model with supports, when you choose one of the supports options, software will judge whether existing supports need to be deleted or not on the basis of

the type of existing support, and will pop up the corresponding prompt to let you make the choice.



## ②Auto Supports

6-11

Click the [\[Auto Supports\]](#) button, the software will judge the position where supports are needed and generate corresponding treelike or linear supports. If it is a model with supports, the existing supports will be deleted and new supports will be generated.

## ③Add Supports

Supports will be added once clicking the [\[Add\]](#) button. Move the cursor to the position where supports needed, left-click to choose the starting point of supports, hold down the left mouse button and drag the mouse the supports preview will show up(if support surface doesn't need support or the support column angle is too large, will highlight the support review ). Loosen the left mouse button, if support column doesn't meet with model, then support will be generated on origin and terminal point(the highlighted preview support won't generate support structure )

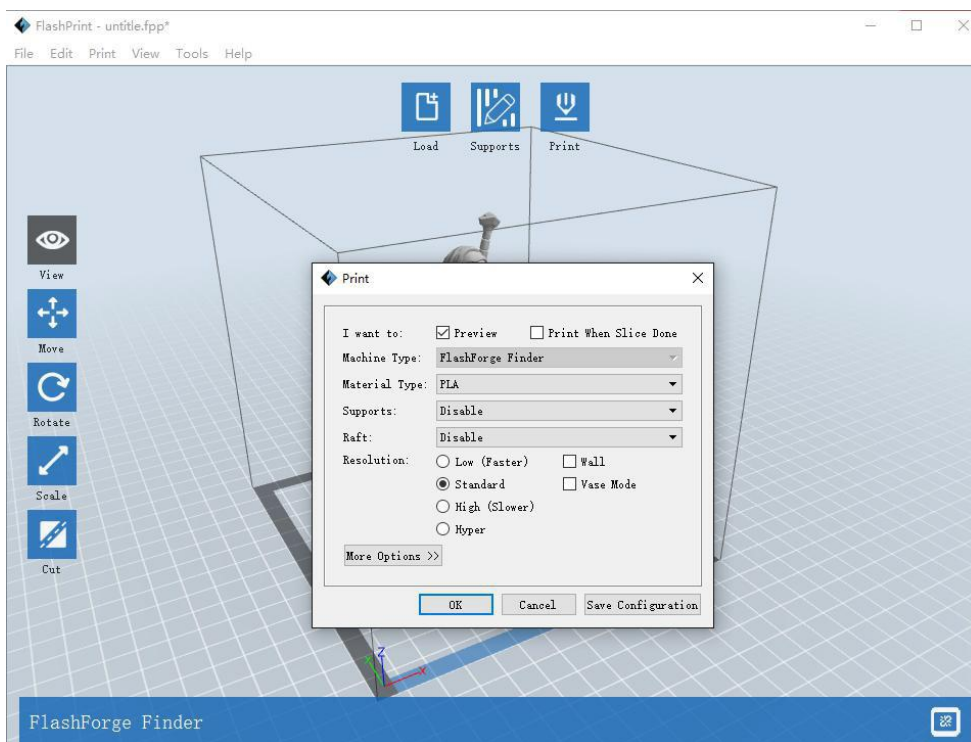
#### ④ Clear Supports

Click **[Clear Supports]**, all supports will be deleted. The operation can be repeated via clicking **[Undo]** or pressing the shortcut key **Ctrl+Z**.

#### ⑤ Delete Supports

Supports will be deleted once clicking the **[Delete]** button. Move the cursor to the supports needed deleting, current supports and its subnode support will be highlighted, click the left mouse button to delete these highlighted support.

### 6.2.10 Print



6-12

①**Preview:** Choose to enter preview interface or not

②**Print when slice done:** Print or not when slice done

③**Material type:** Choose according to the type of model

④**Supports:** When print suspended structure models, support is necessary. Click [\[supports\]](#) to create support part for the printing.

⑤**Raft:** This function will help the model to stick well on the platform.

⑥**Wall:** During dual color printing, this function will help to clear the leaking filament of another extruder.

⑦**Vase Mode:** No capping for the model

⑧**Resolution:** You have three resolution solution(with default setting)to choose from, high resolution is corresponding with slow printing speed, opposite for the low resolution. For PLA printing, an extra solution “Hyper” is available.

⑨**More options:** Click [\[More options\]](#) to set for layer, shell, infill, speed and temperature. Different resolution solution is corresponding to different defaults, click [\[Restore Defaults\]](#) to back to default setting.

- **Layer**

- a. **Layer:** Layer thickness of the printing model. With a small value, the surface of the model will be more smooth.

- b. **First Layer Height:** This is the first layer of the model, which will affect the sticking performance between the model and platform. Maximize is 0.4mm, usually the default is ok.

- c. **Shell:** Contains the outside shell value, capping layer value (under vase pattern, top solid layer setting is invalid.)

- **Primeter Shells:** Maximize is 10

- a. **Top Solid Layer:** Maximize is 10, minimum is 1.

- b. **Bottom Solid Layer:** Maximize is 10, minimum is 1.

- **Infill**

- a. **Fill Density** means fill rate.

**b. Fill Pattern** is the pattern of filling shape which effects printing duration.

**c. Combine Infill:** You can select the layers for combining according to the layer thickness. The combined thickness should not exceed 0.4mm. “Every N layers” is for all the infills while “Every N inner layers” is only for inner infills, which generally can save print time.



6-13

### • Speed

**a. Print Speed** is the moving speed of the extruder. Generally, the lower speed is, the better print you will get. For PLA printing, 80 is recommended.

**b. Support Print Speed** is needed to set when choosing Slic3r as the slice engine which can control the moving speed of the extruder when printing the supports.

**c. Travel Speed** is to control the moving speed of the extruder under non-printing Status during work. For PLA printing, 100 is recommended.

**Note:** Modify parameters settings to get better prints as different models need different parameters.

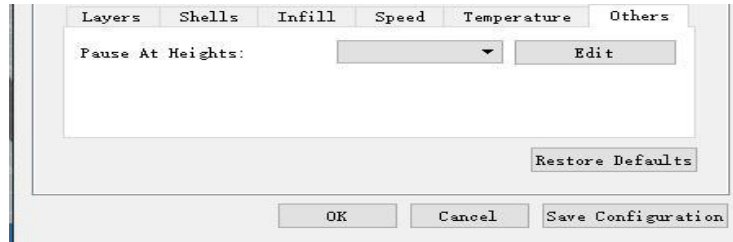
### • Temperature

**Extruder Temperature:** Recommended extruder temperature is 220°C.

**Note:** Different temperatures have subtle influences in prints. Please adjust the temperature according to the condition in order to get a good print.

### • Others

**Pause At Heights:** Allows users to pre-set a height in which the print will suspend automatically. The function usually applied when you want to change the filament at a certain point.



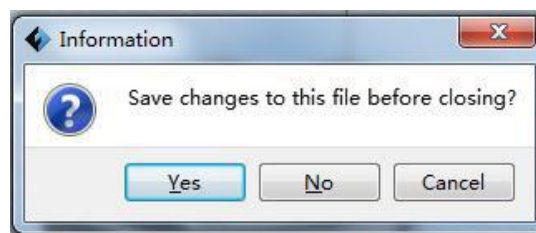
6-14

(6-14) Click[Edit], then you can add or remove a height.

## 6.2.11 File Menus

### ①New Project

Click **[File]--[New Project]** can build a blank project. If there is an unsaved modification on previous project, then it will inform you whether the modification needs to be saved or not. Click **[Yes]** will save the modification, click **[No]** will abandon it. If click **[Cancel]** or close tool tip, then will cancel the new project.



6-15

### ②Saving

After finishing the model edit and adjustment, there are two ways below to save all models in the scene.

#### Method 1:

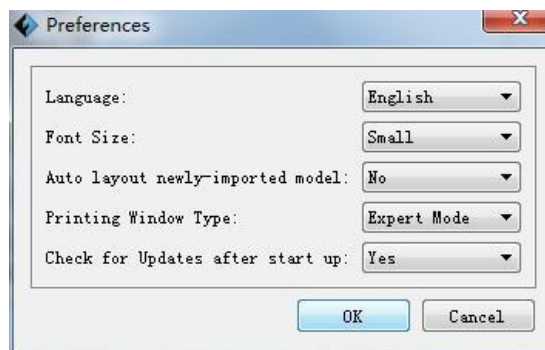
Click **[File]--[Save Project]** in the menu bar to save the file as a project file with the “.fpp”suffix, all models in the scene (include support) are independent . After reloading the files, extruder configuration information and model position will be the same as the configuration during saving.

## Method 2:

Click on **[File]--[Save as...]** to save the model as project file .fpp or .stl and .obj. For .stl and .obj, models are integrated as one(include support part). If load it again, only the position of the model was saved, not included the printing parameters.

## ③ Preferences

Click **[File]--[Preferences]**, you can choose language and if needs detecting update when start



6-16

- **Language:** The software supports six languages, namely, Chinese(simplified Chinese and traditional Chinese), English, French, Korean, Japanese and Russian.
- **Printing Window Type:** Including Base Mode and Expert Mode
- **Check for Update after start up:** It is used to preset if it is necessary to activate the online automatic update function, if choose yes, every time when you open software, it can online detect if it is a new version software, once new version found, it will reminds users to download and install new version firmware.

## 6.2.12 Edit Menus

### ①Undo

Allows users to undo the recent edits by the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click **[Edit]--[Undo]**.



**Method 2:** Press the shortcut **Ctrl+Z**.

## ② Redo

Allows users to redo the most recent edit you have undone to your model file by the following two methods

**Method 1:** Click **[Edit]--[Redo]**

**Method 2:** Press the shortcut **Ctrl+Y**.

## ③ Empty Undo-stack

To clean up the recorded operating steps so as to release the memory.

## ④ Select All

By the following two methods, you could select all models in the scene. (When models are too small to be seen or out of viewing scope, please click **[Center]** and **[Scale]** buttons to adjust the model.)

**Method 1:** Click **[Edit]--[Select All]**.

**Method 2:** Press the shortcut **Ctrl+A**.

## ⑤ Duplicate

Select the object and duplicate the object through the following two methods:

**Method 1:** Click **[Edit]--[Duplicate]**

**Method 2:** Press the shortcut **Ctrl+D**

## ⑥ Delete

Select the object and delete the object through the following two methods:

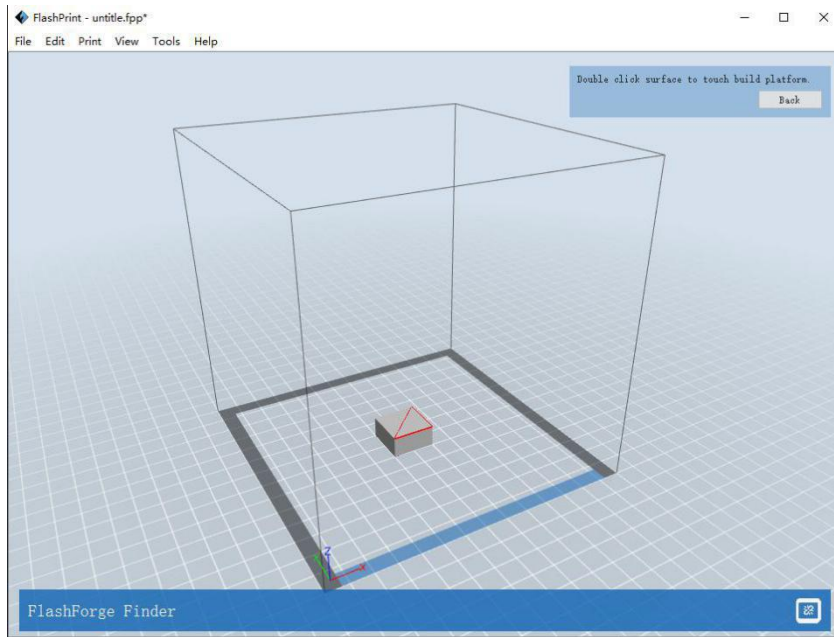
**Method 1:** Click **[Edit]--[Delete]**

**Method 2:** Press the shortcut **Delete**

## ⑦ Surface to Platform

After selecting the model, you can make the model surface to platform via the following operation.

Click **[Edit]**--**[Surface to Platform]** into surface to platform mode(As shown in the picture)



6-17

### ⑧Auto Layout All

Click **[Edit]**--**[Auto Layout All]** after loading one or more than one models, all models will be placed automatically as automatic placement rule.

## 6.2.13 Print Menus

### ① Connect Machine

You can connect the Finder2.0 with your PC via a USB cable or WIFI.

**Note:** The machine icon on the bottom right displays the connection status:

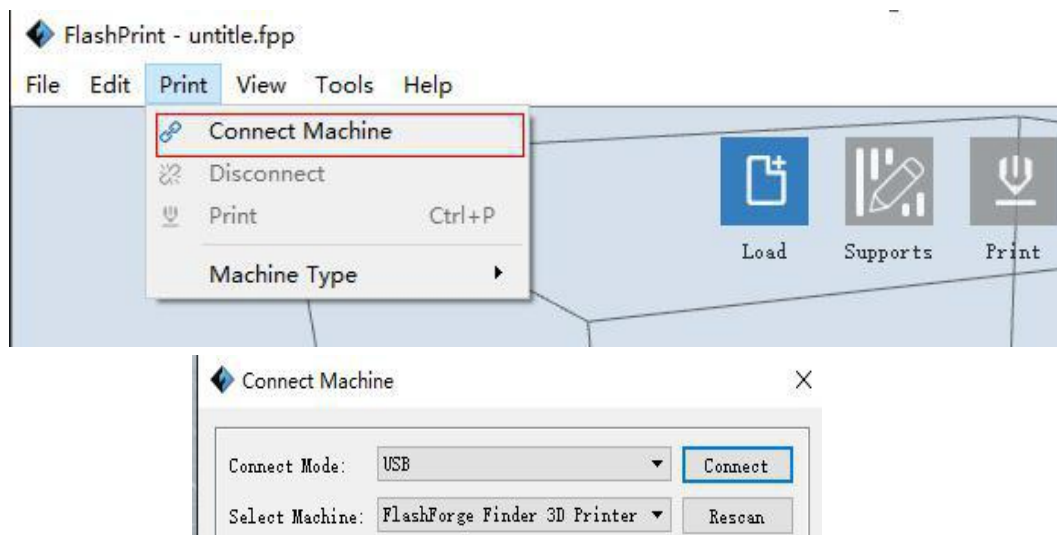
Connected



Disconnected

## Method 1: Connect Via USB Cable

- a. Connect your Finder2.0 with your PC via an USB cable.
- b. Turn on your Finder2.0 and start Flashprint.
- c. Click **[Print]--[Connect Machine]**, then select USB in the **[Connection Mode]** option and select machine you want to connect in **[Select Machine]** option. If you can not find your machine, click the **[Rescan]** button to scan your machine and select it. Finally click **[Connect]** button to connect to the printer. If you still can not find your machine after rescan, it means you haven't installed the driver in the software.

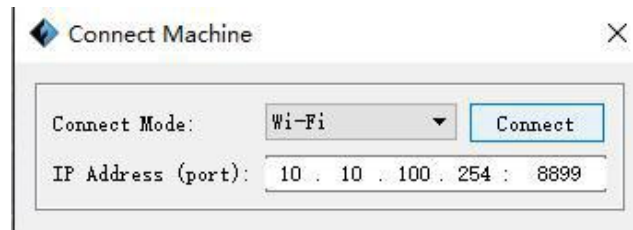


6-18

## Method 2: Connect Via WIFI

### ①Connect Finder2.0 with your PC under AP mode

- a. Turn on your Finder2.0
- b. Tap **[Tools]--[Setting]--[WIFI]--[WIFI ON]**
- c. Click on the wireless network on the left bottom, and find the wireless signal-“Finder2.0”. Click **[Connect]** to finish network connection.
- d. Click **[Print]--[Connect Machine]** on Flashprint. Then the following dialog box pops up. You need to select “Wi-Fi” in Connect Mode. Enter into the IP Address shown on the interface and then click **[Connect]**.



6-19

If successfully connected, you will see the following red mark.

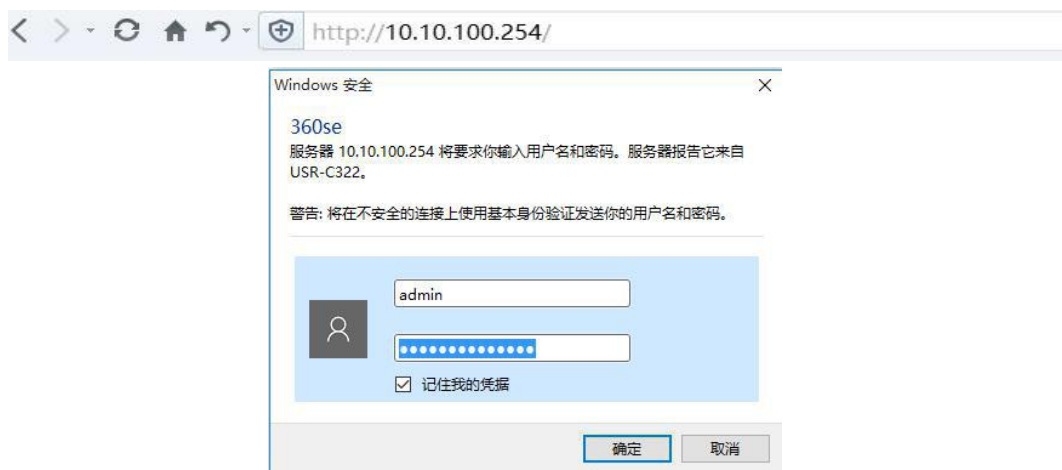


## ②Connect Finder2.0 with your PC under STA mode

a. Turn on the WIFI of Finder2.0 and connect your PC with Finder2.0 via the WIFI. Press [ **Tools** ], [ **Setting** ], [ **WIFI** ], and [ **WIFI ON** ].

b.“Finder2.0” continuous signal will be found available on the network list.

c. Once your PC is connected with your Finder2.0. Open the Internet browser and enter “**10.10.100.254**” and enter the default **user name(admin) and password(admin)**.



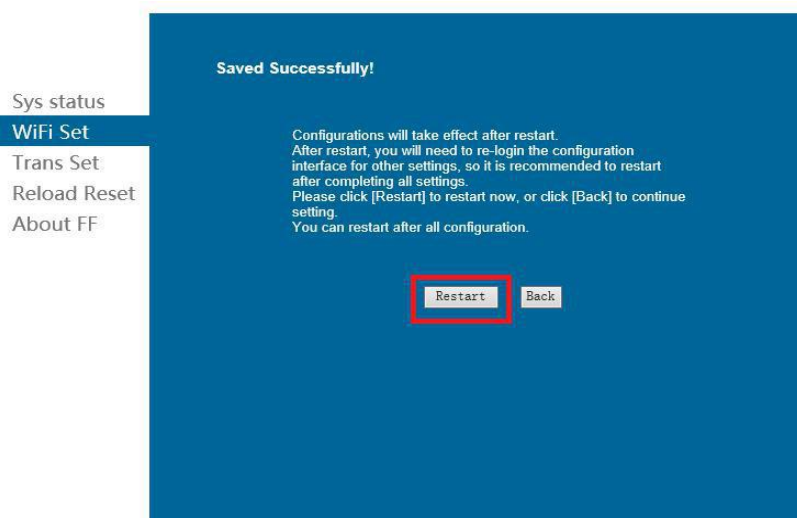
6-20

③ You will enter the WIFI setting panel, it displays as follows:



6-21

d. Select WIFI mode as STA mode, and then complete the corresponding setups, you can change the SSID(the WIFI's name) and the password, select **[Enable]** in DHCP auto get IP, then click **[Save]**. The following interface will appear.



6-22

e. Click the **[Restart]** button. You need to restart your Finder2.0's WIFI. And then your Finder2.0 will connect with your computer via the WIFI that you've set up.

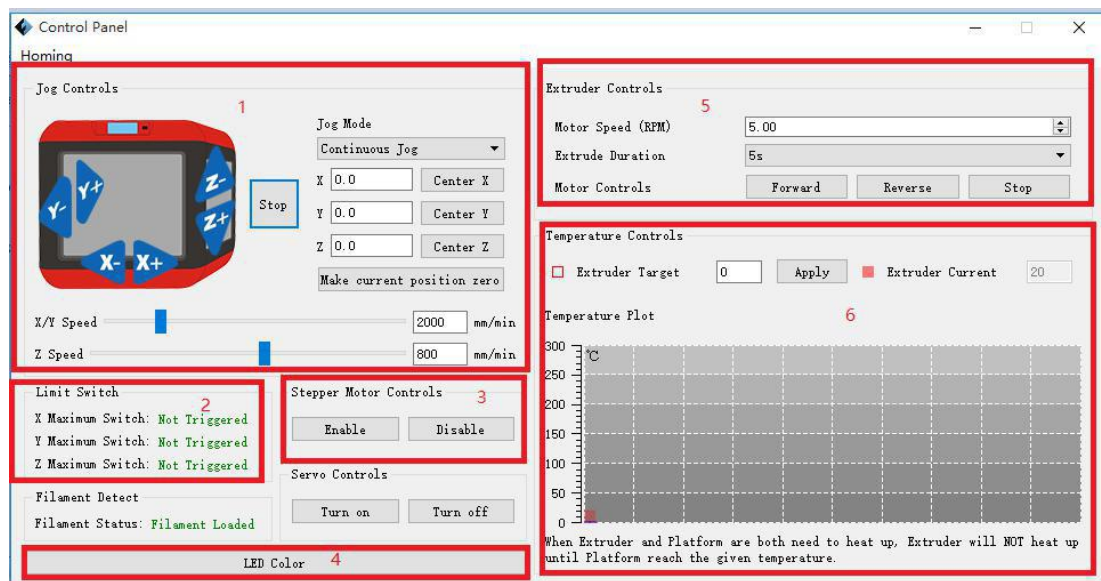
## ②Disconnect Finder2.0

Click [\[Print\]](#)--[\[Disconnect\]](#) to disconnect your PC and Finder2.0.

## 6.2.14 Tool Menus

### ①Control Panel

After connecting PC with Finder2.0, click [\[Tools\]](#)--[\[Control Panel\]](#) to open the control panel.



6-23

### ● Jog Controls

- a Jog Mode:** Select the distance that extruder/ build plate move a single time (that is, the distance extruder/ build plate move upon your single click).
- b Six blue arrow direction button:** Control the move along X/Y/Z axis. X/Y axis button control extruder move, Z axis button control build plate move. Click X-, extruder will move leftward a specified distance; Click X+, extruder will move a specified distance rightward. Click Y-, extruder will move forward a specified distance; Click Y+, extruder will move backward a specified distance. Click Z-, build plate will move upward a specified distance; Click Z+, build plate will move downward a specified distance. (Specified distance refers to the move distance you set in Jog Mode).

**c Stop:** Click the [\[stop\]](#) button to abort the current movement. **d. XYZ coordinate frame on the right side:** Show the current position of extruder/build plate.

**e. Make Current Position Zero button:** Set the current position of the extruder/build plate as (0, 0, 0). (**NOTE:** X, Y, and Z boxes are for display purposes. Changing the value in the boxes will not affect anything.

**f. Center X/Y/Z button:** Extruder and build platform will back to the zero (0, 0, 0) you set last time.

**g. X/Y Speed and Z Speed:** Set the move speed of extruder/ build platform.

- **Limit Switch:** In order to protect your Finder2.0, three limit switches are equipped to control the maximum position, and the three limit switches corresponding to X/Y/Z axis limit switch. It has two status:

- a. Not Triggered:** If the extruder/build plate don't move to its maximum, X/Y/Z axis limit switch is not triggered, and shows “**Not Triggered**”.

- b. Triggered:** If the extruder/build plate moves to its maximum, X/Y/Z axis limit switch is triggered, and shows “**Triggered**”.

- **Stepper Motor Controls:** Allows users to control to stepper motor. Click [\[Enable\]](#), and lock the motor so it does not allow any movement; click [\[Disable\]](#), and unlock the motor to be controlled manually.

- **LED Color:** Allows users to change the LED color of Finder2.0.

- **Extruder Controls:** You can set the value of “[Motor Speed\(RPM\)](#)”, which can control the rotation speed of filament feeding wheel. The motor rotation time can be controlled via setting the value of “[Extruder Duration](#)”. Generally we suggest the users choose option of continuous time 60 seconds. The filament must loaded in the extruder before motor starts. **Therefore, do not start rotation operation until the extruder temperature reaches to the printing temperature of filament.** For PLA filament, the extruder temperature should reach 200°C, after reaching the extruder

temperature, click the [\[Forward\]/\[Reverse\]](#) rotation button to control filament load and filament unload. Furthermore, if you want to stop filament load and unload, you can click [\[Stop\]](#).

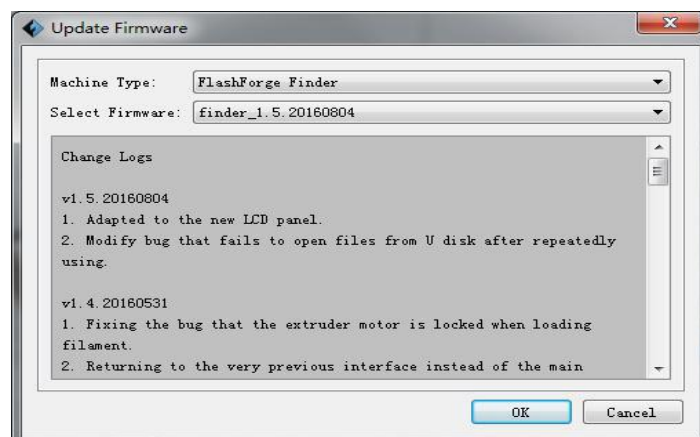
- **Temperature Control:** Input the temperature you want to get in the left frame, click [\[Apply\]](#), the printer will automatically heat the corresponding part, the right side shows the current actual temperature of corresponding part. After starting heating, the below curve of temperature form will start to change, different color correspond different parts' temperatures

## ② Update Firmware

Every time when you start Flashprint, it will automatically detect and download the up-to-date firmware. If any update is available, a dialog box will pop up for reminding the users to update.

**Step 1:** Click [\[Tools\]--\[Update firmware\]](#). It needs to cut off connection before updating firmware. If software and printer are already in connection, it reminds you cutting off the connection, choose [\[Yes\]](#) and go on to the next step.

**Step 2:** Choose corresponding printer type and firmware version and click [\[OK\]](#) in the firmware updating box. After confirming the printer is in free state, the software will automatically update the firmware





**Step 3 :** Reboot you Finder2.0 and wait for 4-5 seconds, then you can see the update process bar. When the update finishes, it will go back to the main interface.

**Step 4:** Tap[Tools]--[About] to check] to check whether the updated version is right.

### ③ On Board Preferences

When the computer and printer are in connection, click [Tools]--[On Board Preferences], you can check the printer name.

### ④ Machine information

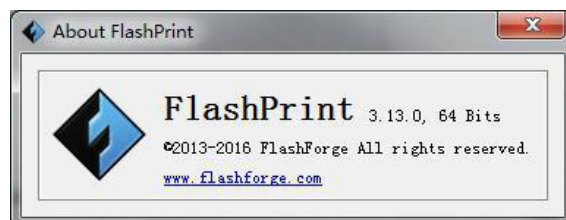
When the computer and printer are in connection state, click [Tools]--[Machine information], you can check the machine type, machine name and firmware etc.

## 6.2.15 Help Menus

① **Help Contents:** Click [Help]--[Help Contents], you can read the help contents.

② **Check for Updates :** Click [Help]--[Check for Update] to detect the available updates online.

③ **About FlashPrint :** Click [Help]--[About Flashprint], the software information box will pop up. The contents include the current software version and copyright information.



# Chapter 7: Basic Printing

This chapter will provide a step-by-step guide on turning a 3D model into a physical reality. Before proceeding, it is recommended that you'd better go over prior chapters on loading/unloading filament, leveling the build platform, and the functions and capabilities of FlashPrint.

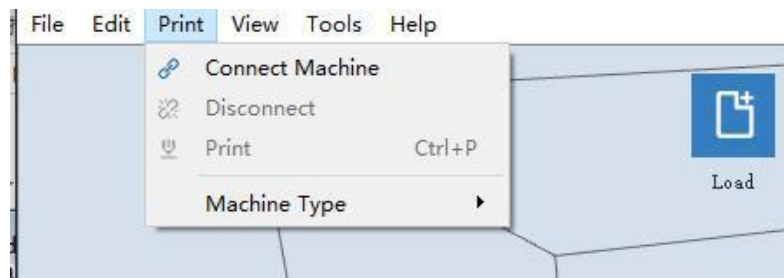
## 7.1 Generate a Gcode

(7-1) Double-click the icon of Flashprint to start the software.



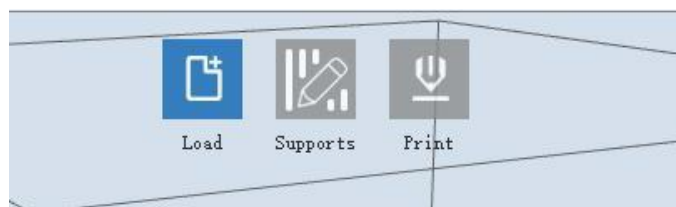
7-1

(7-2) Click **[Print]--[Machine Type]** to select **Flashforge Finder2.0**



7-2

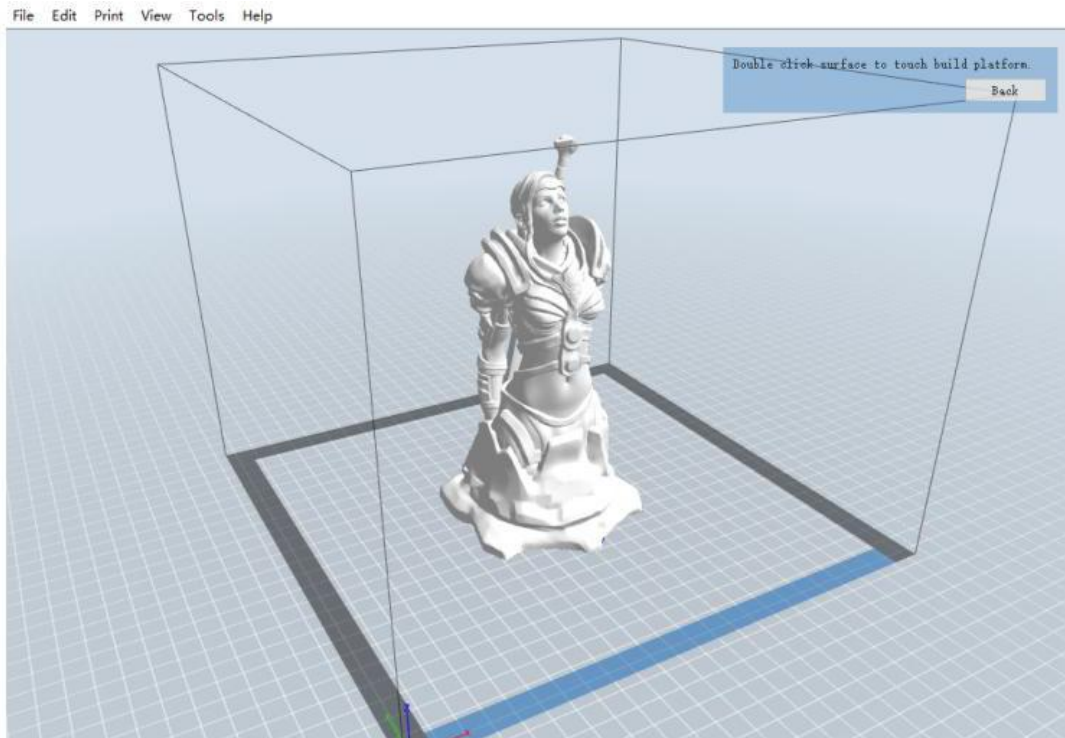
(7-3) Click the **[Load]** icon to load a .stl model file and the object will display on the build area.



7-3

(7-4) Click **[Edit]--[Surface to Platform]** to make your model perfectly positioned

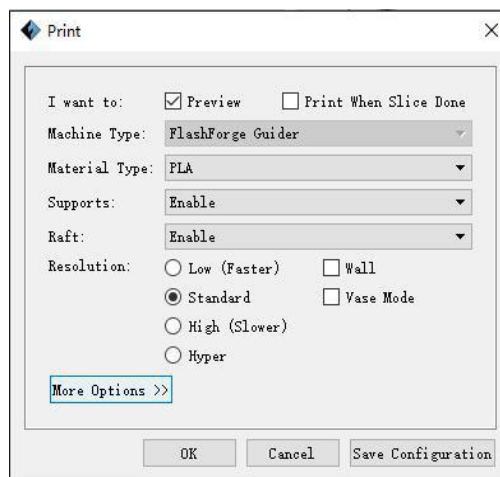
on the build area. Click **[Back]** and double-click the **Move** icon again, then click **[On the Platform]** and **[Center]** to ensure the model be on the platform.



7-4

**Note:** If you've place your model in a right place, you can skip the step above.

(7-5) Click the **Print** icon on the top, you should make some setups for your print job.



7-5

**Preview:** If you check the **[Preview]** box, you can preview your model after slicing is done.

**Print When Slice Done:** If you print via USB cable, you can check the box, while if you print via USB, you should not check the box.

**Machine Type:** Flashforge Finder2.0

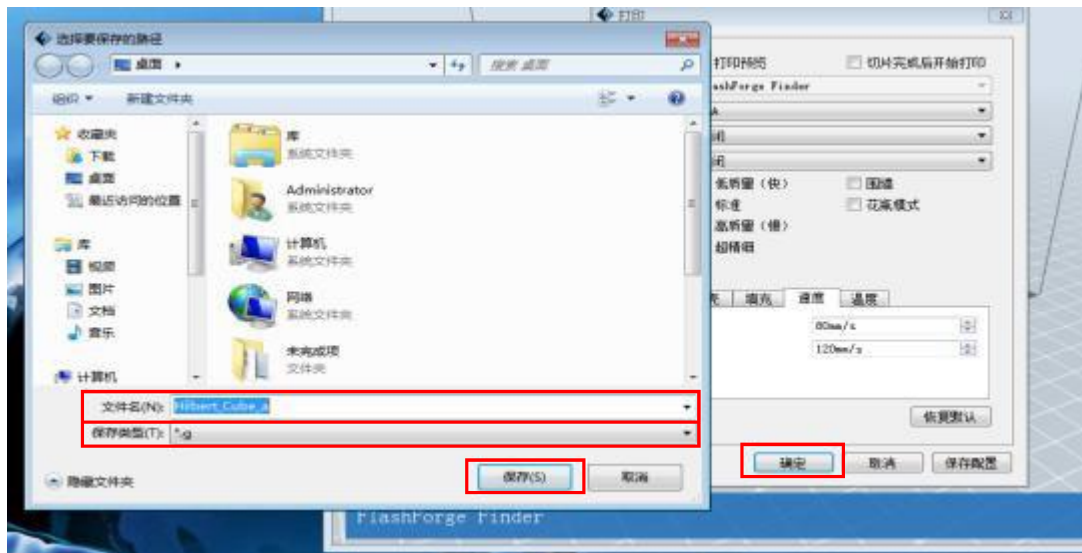
**Supports:** If you print a model with supports, you should click the inverted triangle and select **[Enable]**.

**Raft:** You are suggested to select **[Enable]**. **Resolution:**

You are suggested to select **[Standard]** **More Options:**

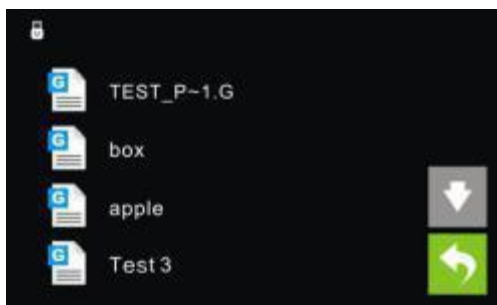
You are suggested to keep them default.

Click **[OK]** to select the path to save the Gcode file. You can rename the file as you like and save it as a .g or .gx file, click **[Save]** to generate a Gcode file.

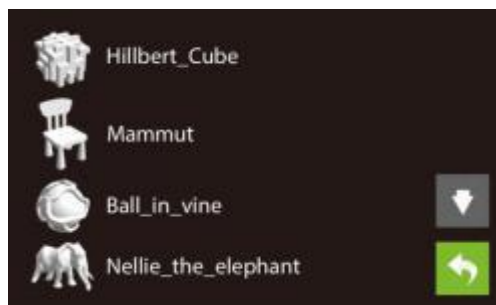


7-6

**Note:** .gx files are available for preview while the .g files are not. They are displaying as follows:



g. Files



gx. Files

7-7

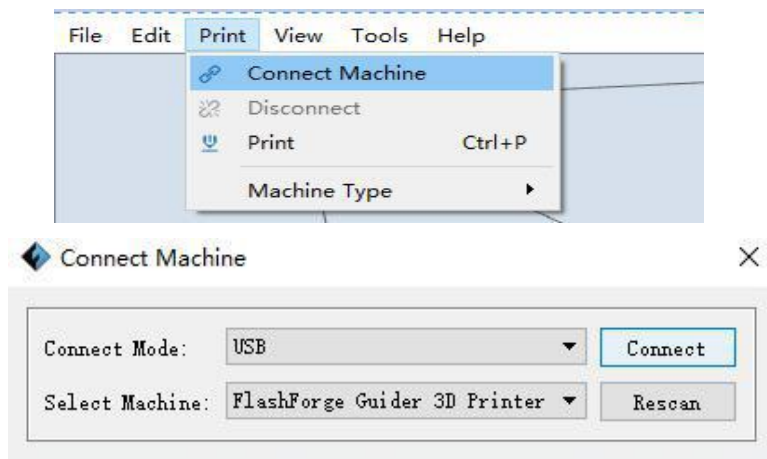
Next, we are going to print the model.

## 7.2 Print Methods

After generating the Gcode file, you can transfer it to your Finder2.0. You can transfer the file through USB cable and USB stick.

### 7.2.1 Print from Computer (USB connection)

- ① Connect your Finder2.0 with your PC via a USB cable.
- ② Turn on your Finder2.0, level the build plate and load the filament.
- ③ Click **[Print]** and transfer your Gcode file to your Finder2.0. After completing transference, the printer will heat up automatically. And when heating finishes, the print will start to build the model.



7-8

- ④ When your PC connects with FlashPrint successfully. The status box on the bottom right displays the real-time nozzle temperature. After finishing preheating, your Finder2.0 starts the print job directly.

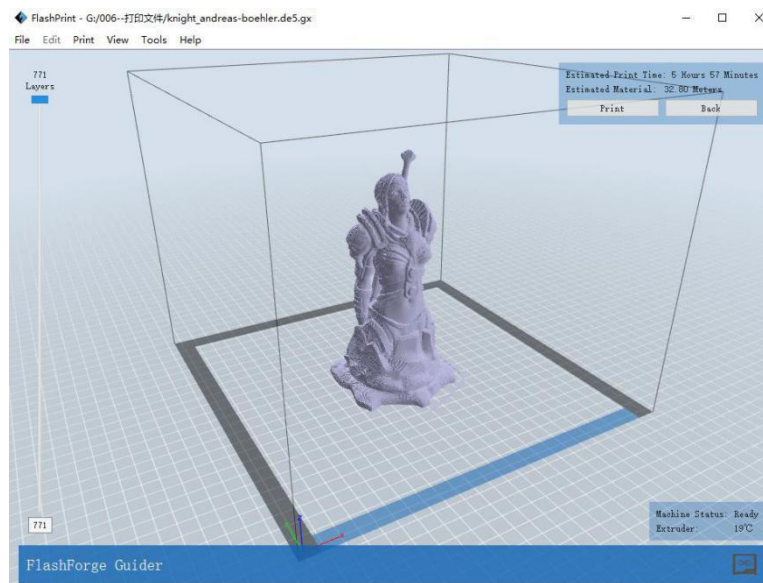
### 7.2.2 Print from Computer (WIFI connection)

- ① Connect your Finder2.0 with your PC via WIFI.(Please refer to 6.1.13)
- ② Turn on your Finder2.0, level the build plate and load the filament.
- ③ Click **[Print]** and transfer your Gcode file to your Finder2.0. After completing

transference, the printer will heat up automatically. And when heating finishes, the printer will start to build the model.

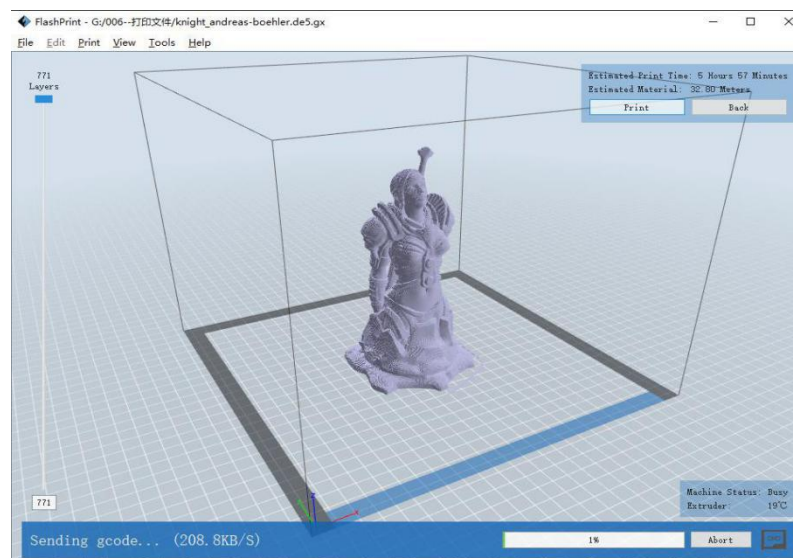
If you want to print a Gcode from a local folder, you just need to load the file into Flashprint at the status of USB connection or WIFI connection, then click the [Print] button on the top-right.

- Load the target Gcode file into FlashPrint.



7-9

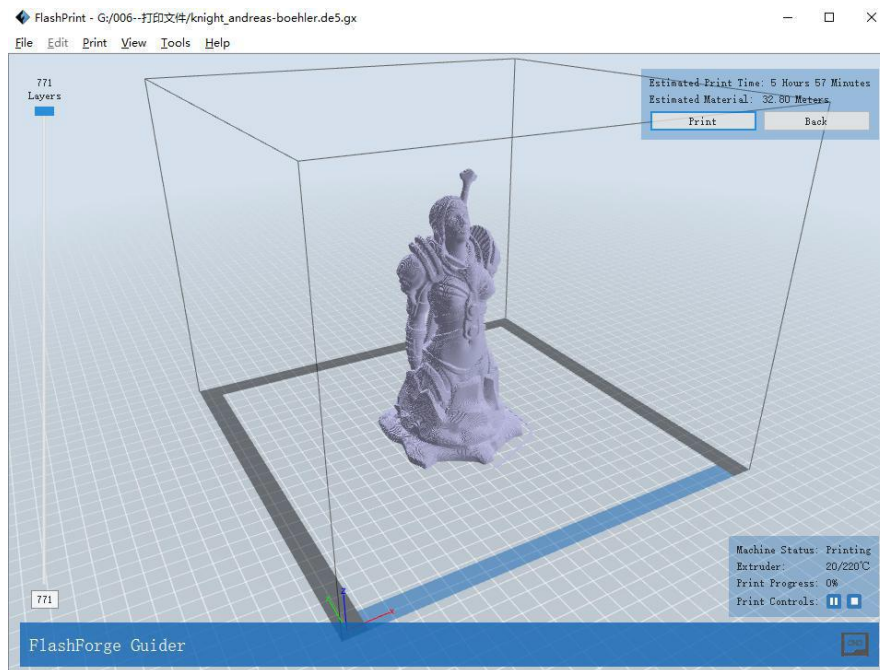
- Click the [Print] button, the PC will transfer the Gcode file to the printer.



7-10



- After finishing transferring, the printer will heat up automatically. And when heating finishes, the print will start to build the model.



7-11

### 7.2.3 Print from USB Flash Disk

- ① Insert your USB flash disk with target .g or .gx file to your Finder2.0. .
- ② Turn on the Finder2.0. Make sure the build plate has been leveled and the filament is loaded.
- ③ Tap **[Print]** and then tap the **SD Card** icon in the middle. The file(s) will be displayed on the screen. Select the file you want to print and tap **[Print]**. The file will be transferred to the printer.
- ⑥ And the printer will heat up the nozzle automatically and start to print after the nozzle reaches the aimed temperature.,

**Abort:** To stop heating and printing. Once you tap [Abort], the process is irreversible.

**Pause:** To suspend the print job, you can tap it again to resume it. You can use this function when you want to change the filament halfway.

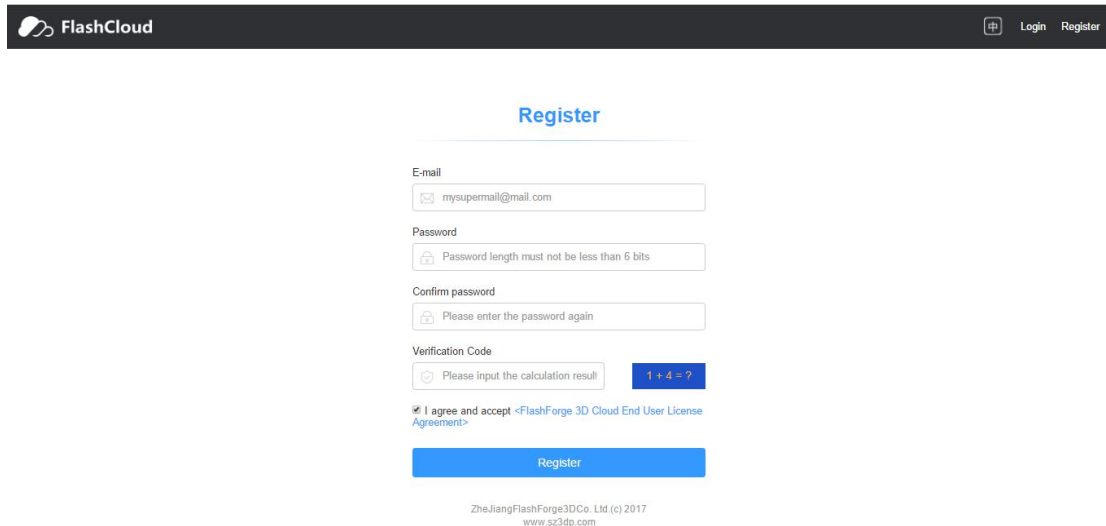
## 7.2.4 Print from FlashForge Cloud connection

1) Turn on [WiFi] connection on printer's setting interface to connect the printer to Internet with WiFi. ( Make sure the printer has connected to Internet.)

Turn on [FlashForge Cloud] connection on printer's setting interface.

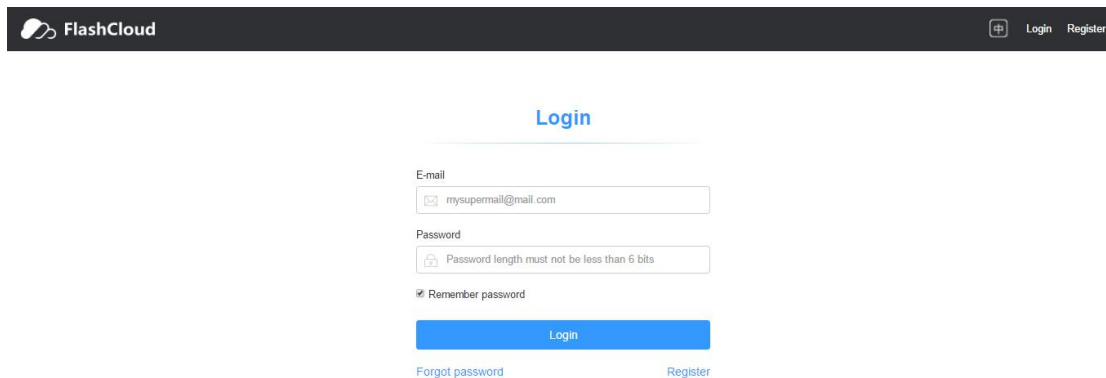
2) Register a FlashForge Cloud account with your computer, on website:

<https://cloud.sz3dp.com/>



The image shows the 'Register' page of the FlashCloud website. At the top, there is a dark header with the 'FlashCloud' logo on the left and 'Login Register' links on the right. The main content area has a light blue background with the title 'Register' in blue. Below the title, there are four input fields: 'E-mail' (containing 'mysupermail@mail.com'), 'Password' (with a note 'Password length must not be less than 6 bits'), 'Confirm password' (with a note 'Please enter the password again'), and 'Verification Code' (with a note 'Please input the calculation result' and a blue button showing '1 + 4 = ?'). Below these fields is a checkbox labeled 'I agree and accept <FlashForge 3D Cloud End User License Agreement>'. At the bottom of the form is a blue 'Register' button. Below the button, the text 'ZhejiangFlashForge3D Co. Ltd.(c) 2017' and 'www.sz3dp.com' is displayed.

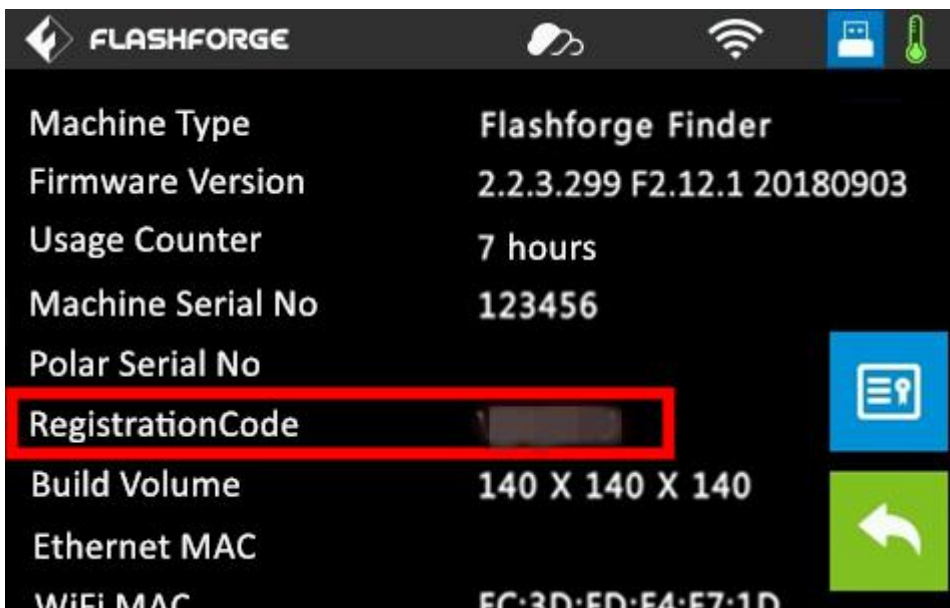
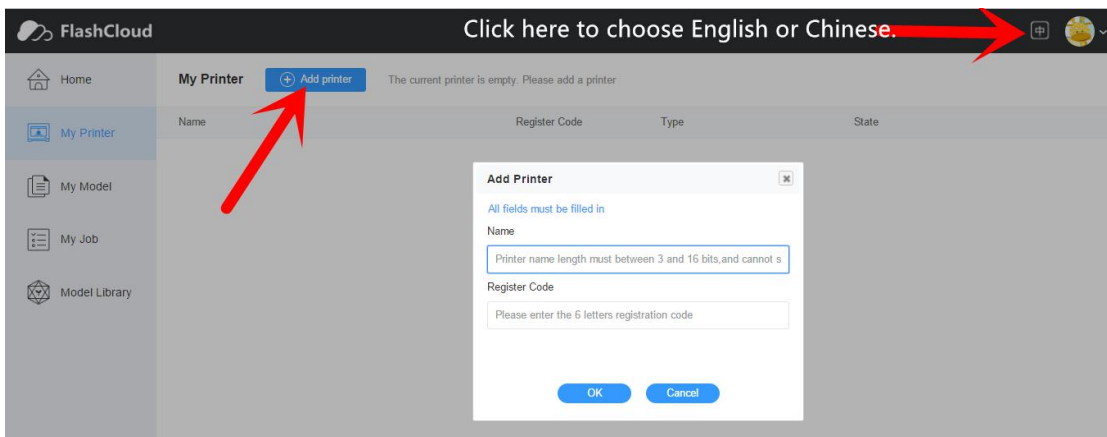
3) Register your account on FlashForge cloud: After activate your account through your email box, login in Flashforge cloud with your account.



The image shows the 'Login' page of the FlashCloud website. It has the same dark header as the register page. The main content area has a light blue background with the title 'Login' in blue. Below the title, there are two input fields: 'E-mail' (containing 'mysupermail@mail.com') and 'Password' (with a note 'Password length must not be less than 6 bits'). Below these fields is a checkbox labeled 'Remember password'. At the bottom of the form is a blue 'Login' button. Below the button, there are two links: 'Forgot password' and 'Register'.

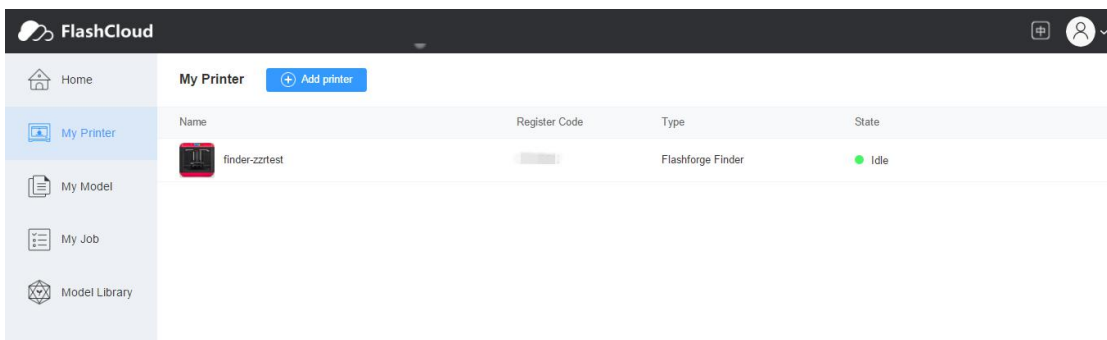
4) After login in cloud with your own account, click[My printer]—click[Add printer].  
Input your Printer's Name and Flashcloud Registration Code in [Add printer] interface. Printer's Name is edit and input by yourself, it can help you identify printer type, user name or using date. Registration Code is showed in your printer's [About] interface.



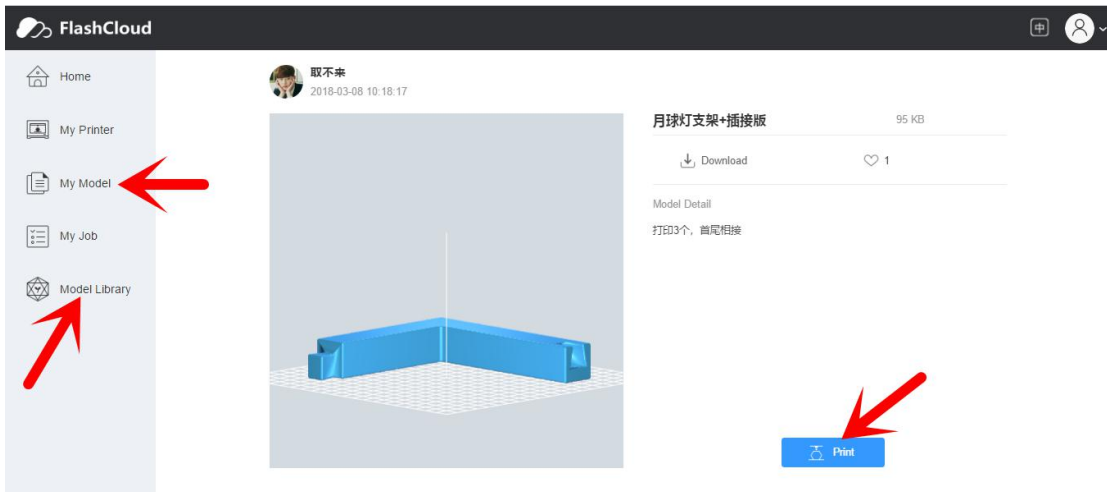


5) Add a printer completed as showed in the picture below.

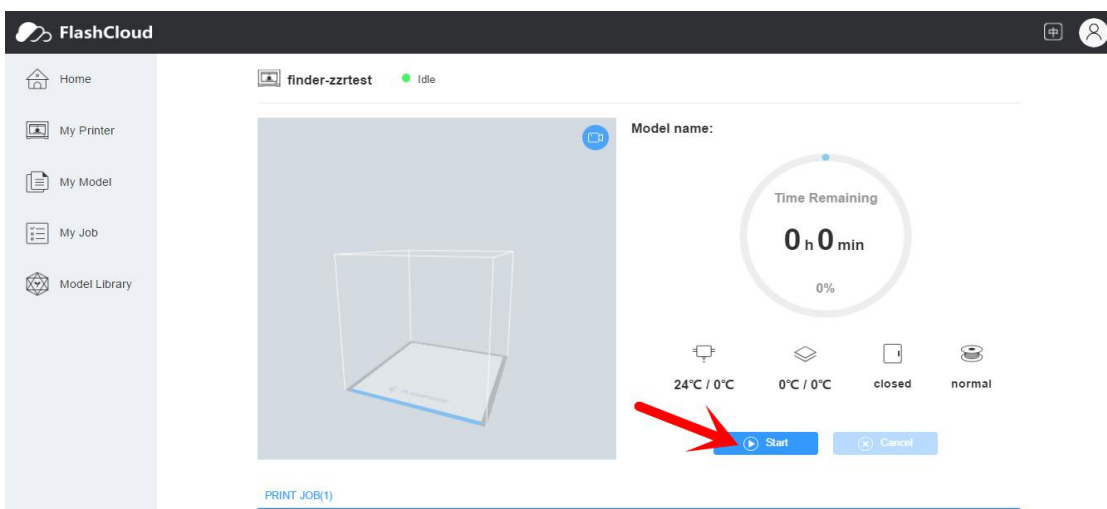
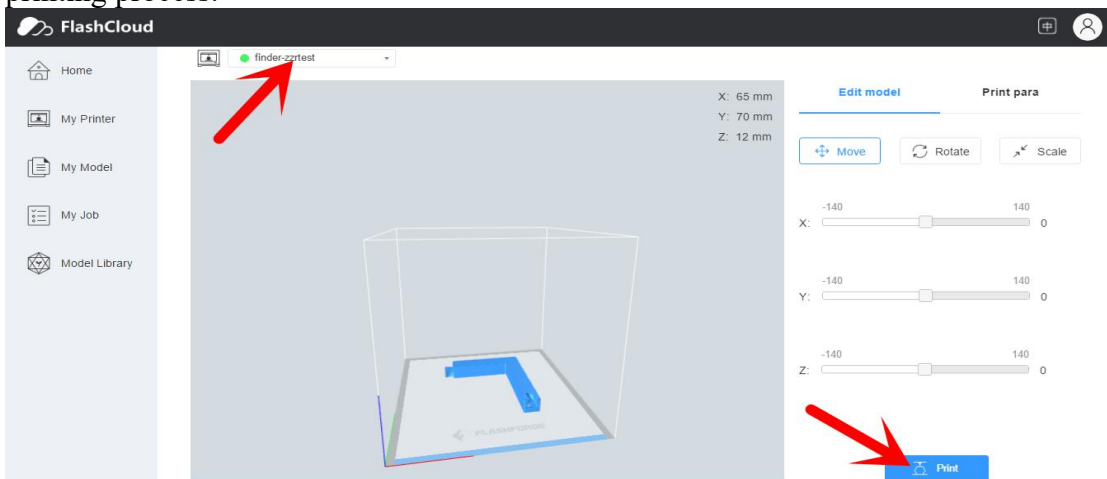
More than one of the Flashforge printers can be added to a FlashForge Cloud account, Flashforge Finder2.0, InventorII/InventorIIS, Adventurer3 printers all support FlashForge Cloud connection. Using FlashForge Cloud connection to print, printers and print jobs management can be done in batches.



6) Choose a model from cloud model library or upload your own model(stl file), click[Print], enter the edit model interface to edit model.



7) Select the printer for this print job on left upper position, Click[Print].  
Click[Start] to start printing, the selected printer will start printing automatically.  
Time remaining for this print job, instant extruder/buildplate temperature or other printing details are all showed in this webpage, you can also pause or cancel this print job anytime during printing process.

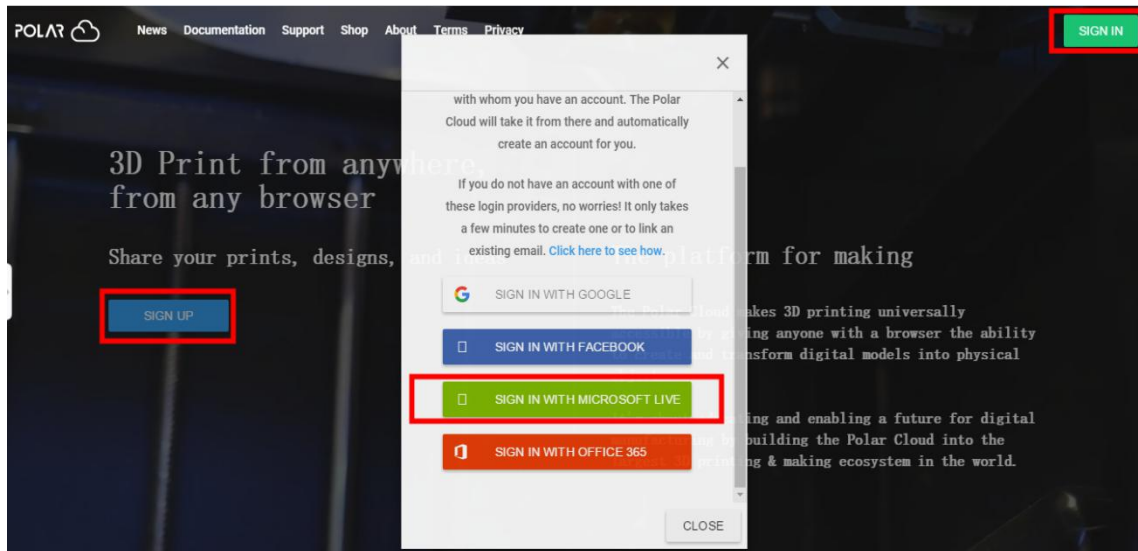


### 7.2.5 Print from Polar Cloud connection

1) Register a Polar Cloud account with your computer, on website:

<https://polar3d.com/>

Register your account using one of the four following options, take the third microsoft live option as an example, create your new Polar Cloud account.



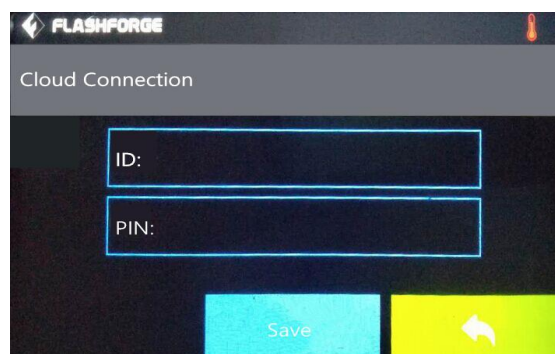
2) Enter the Polar Cloud homepage after you create your Polar Cloud account. Tap the red icon (on the right upper corner showed in the picture below), then Tap [settings], drag down the page to bottom, copy down your Email address and your PIN Code.



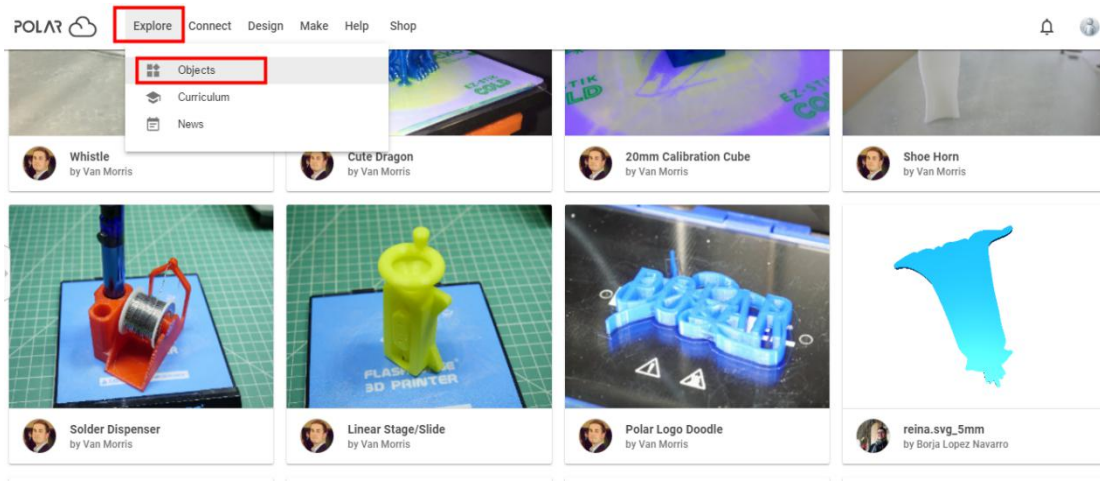
Connect the printer to internet with WiFi ;

Tap [Tools]-[Settings]-[Polar Cloud connection] on printer's touch screen;

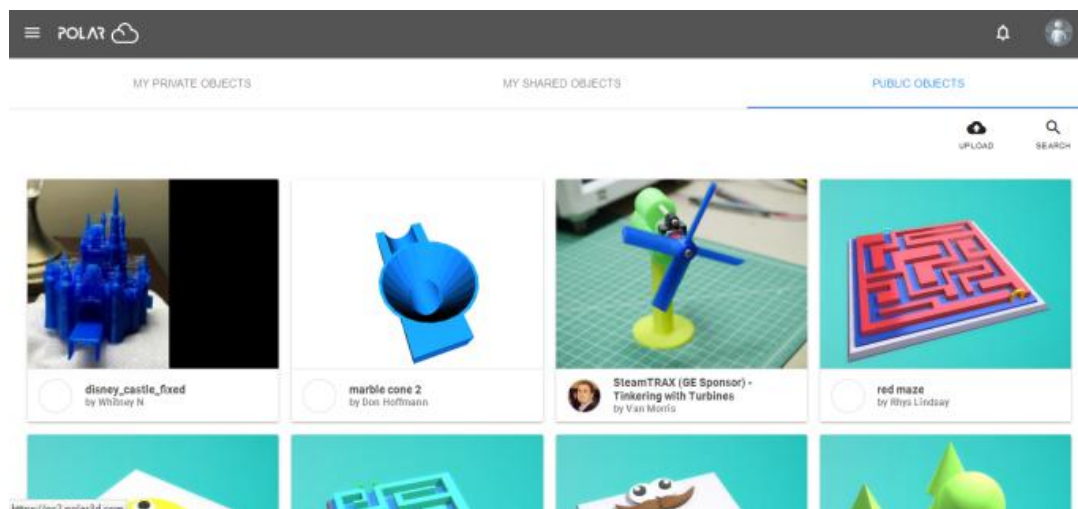
Input your polar 3D cloud account's Email address(as ID) and PIN Code, Tap[save] .



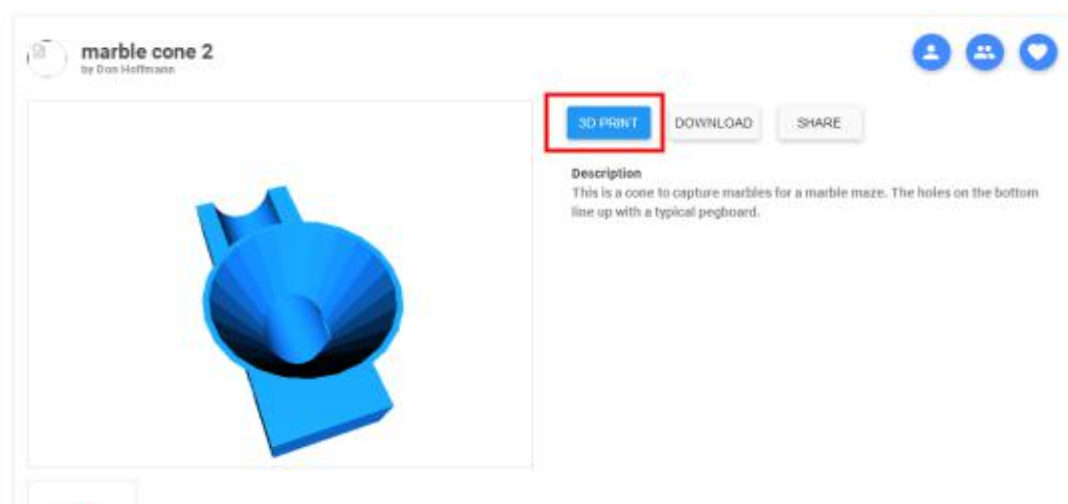
3) Enter the Polar Cloud homepage with your computer again. Tap [Explore] on the left upper corner showed in the picture below, then Tap [Objects]



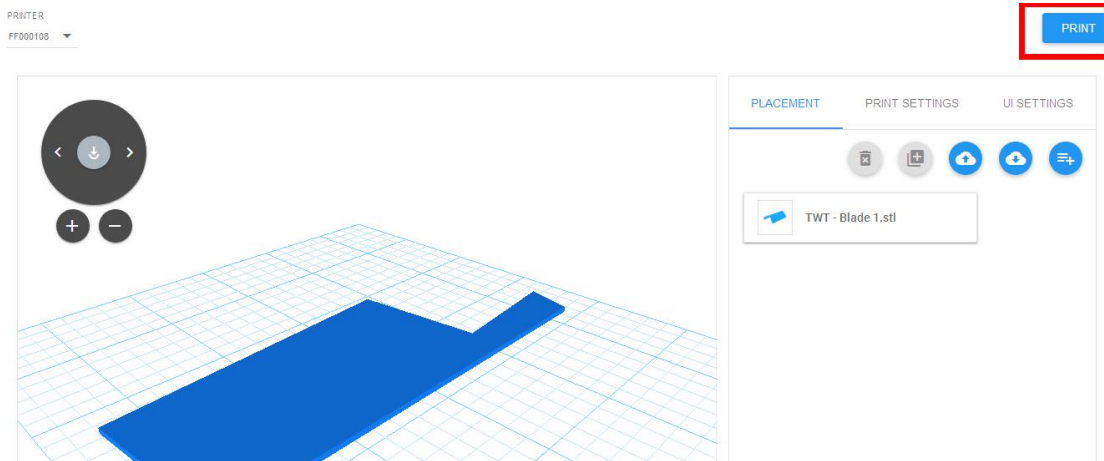
Enter the objects page, choose a model you are going to print.



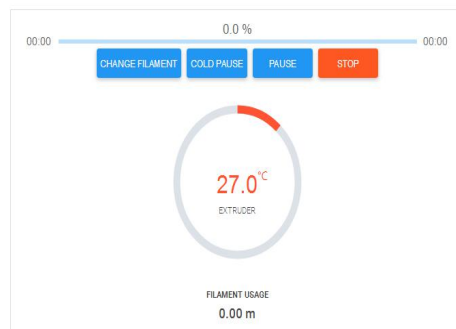
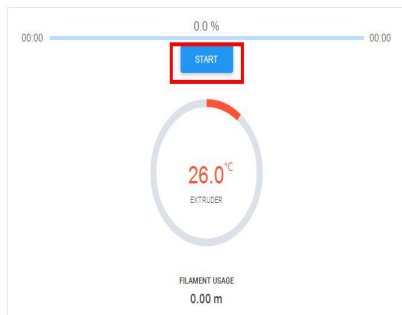
Tap **【3D PRINT】** button



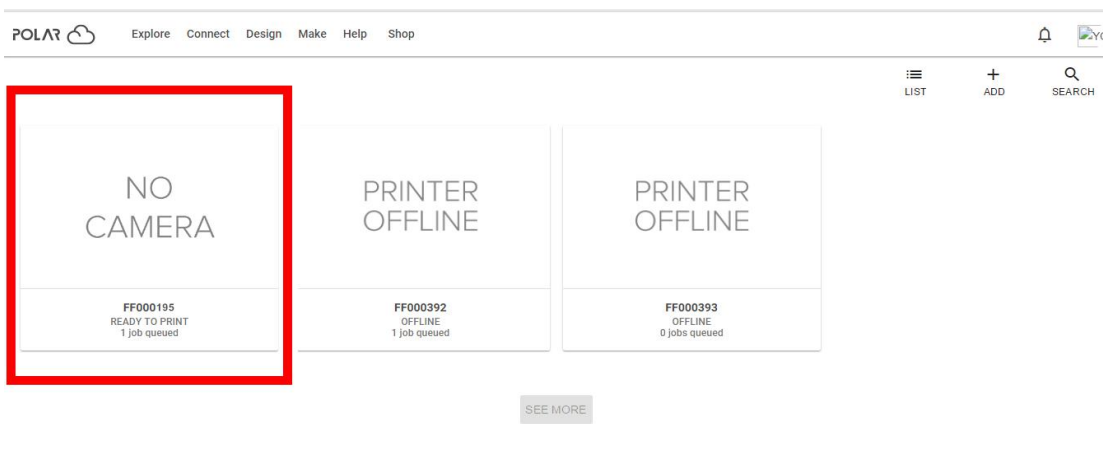
Tap **【PRINT】** button



Tap **【START】** button, the printer starts downloading printing file automatically, after downloading completed, you can interactively operate the printer on your computer, including Change Filament, Pause, Stop etc.

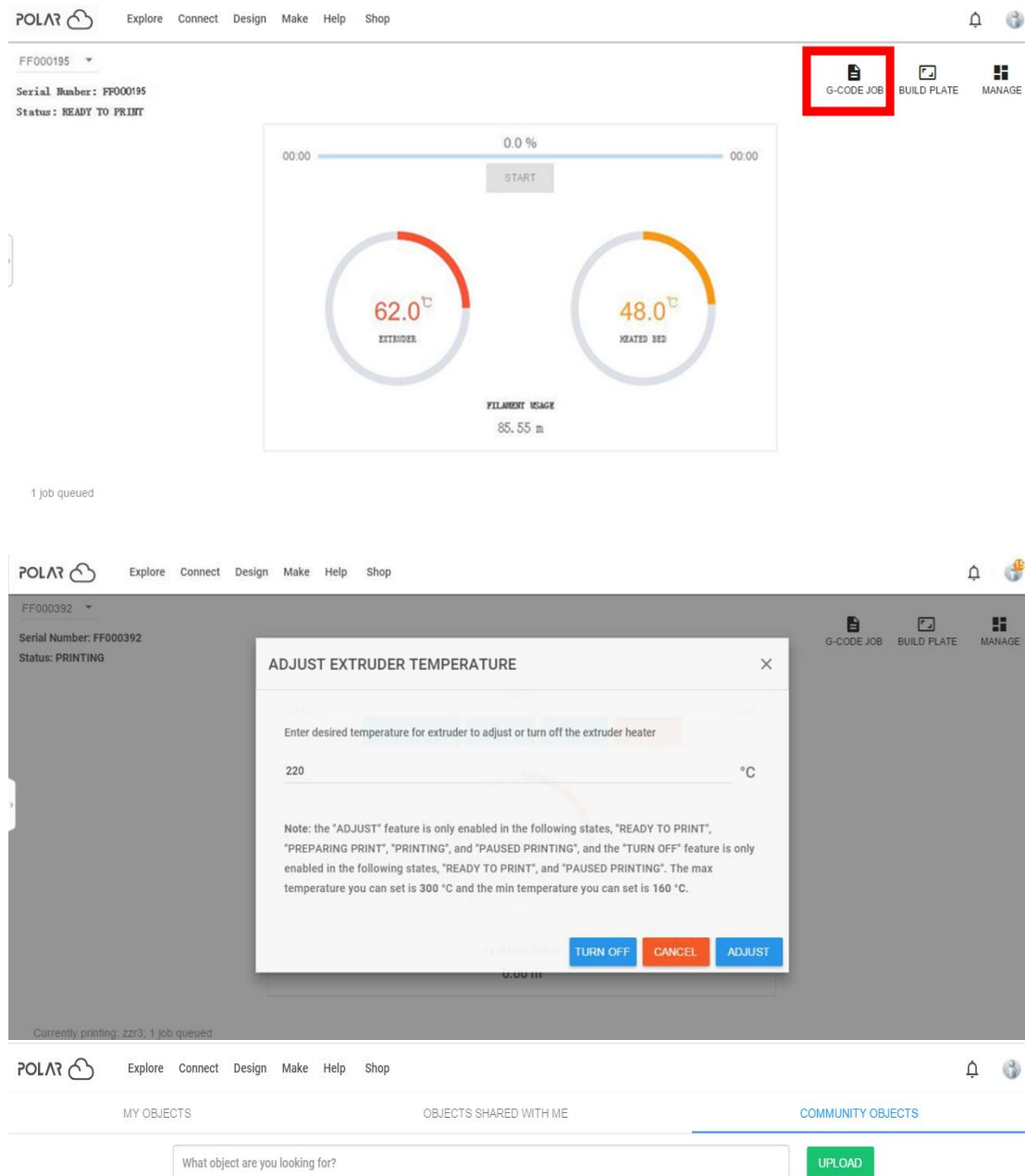


4) More than one of the Flashforge printers can be added to a Polar 3D Cloud account, Flashforge GuiderIIS/GuiderII, Finder2.0, InventorIIS/InventorII, Adventurer3 printers all support Polar 3D Cloud connection.



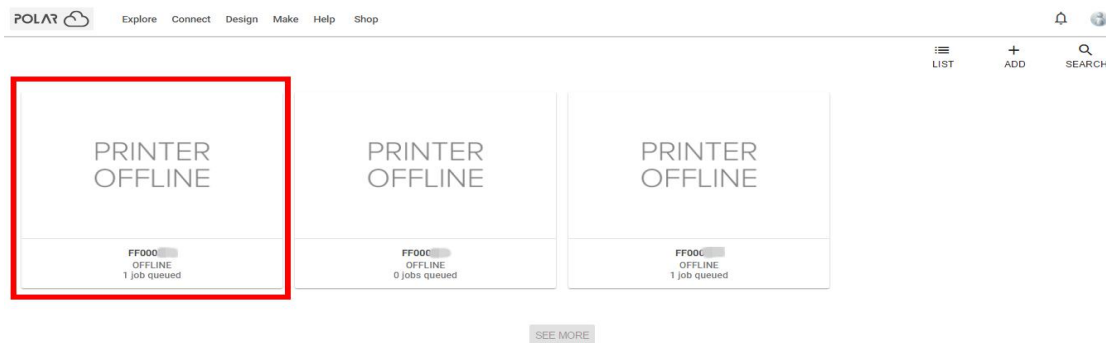
5) By using Polar3D Cloud platform, you can create G-CODE printing job by uploading your own sliced print files. Print files can be transferred to corresponding printer and printing will be started automatically.

You can also adjust the extruder temperature, or explore other cloud functions.

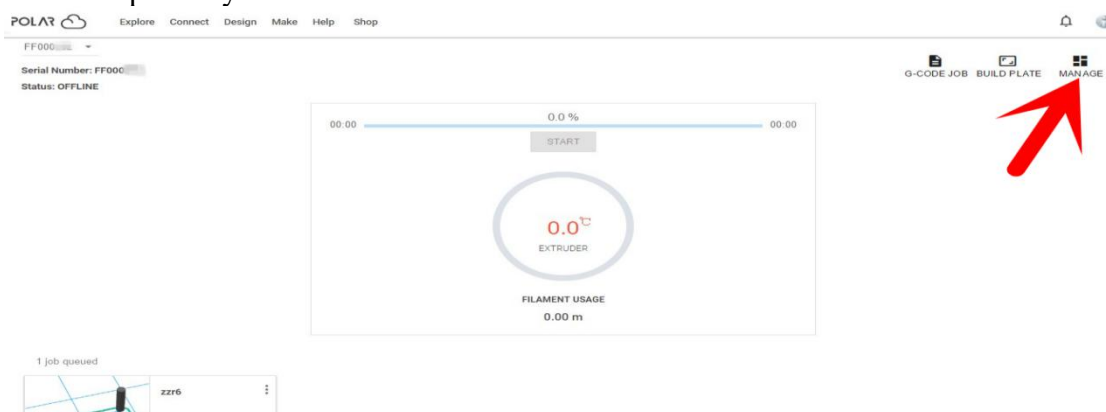


6) Delete a printer from a polar cloud account.(If someone else wants to use the same printer under another polar cloud account, please make sure you've delete the printer from your current-using polar cloud account, or others can not use the printer.)

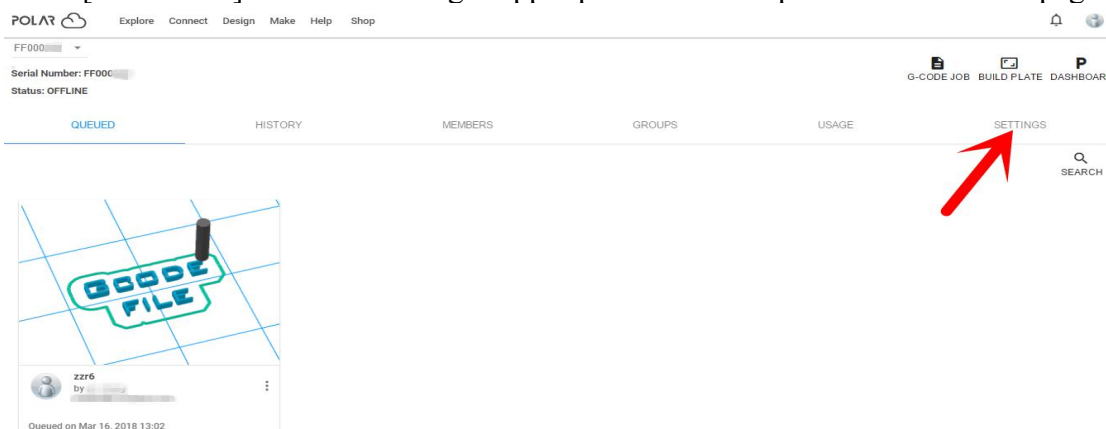




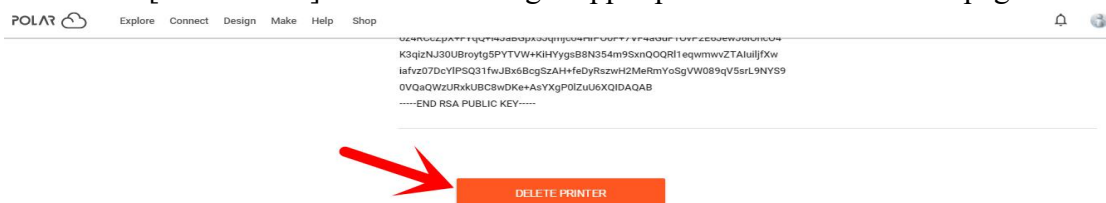
Click the printer you want to delete.



Click [MANAGE] button on the right upper position of this printer's details webpage.



Then click [SETTINGS] button on the right upper position of the next webpage.



Finally, drag the next page to bottom down, click [DELETE PRINTER] button.

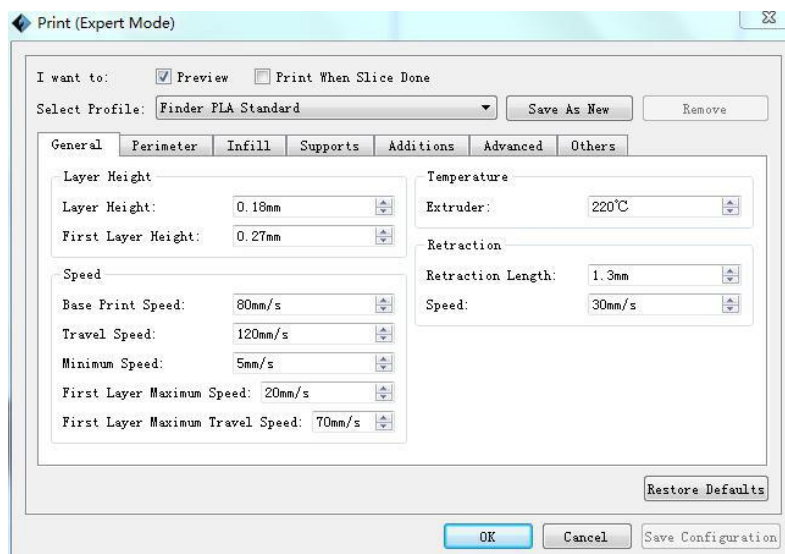
After you've completed the above delete steps, this printer can now be used by others under his own polar cloud account.



# Chapter 8: Advanced Printing

When you get familiar with your Finder2.0, you will definitely want to accomplish some advanced prints. This chapter will take you to get to know the advanced printing skills.

Expert Mode grants the users more freedom of parameter edition. There are two modes are available for users, one is “Basic Mode” and the other is “Expert Mode”.



8-1

Select Profile: Allows users to select the required scheme. There are three options for users (low/standard/high/high) and the default is PLA standard. Different schemes correspond to different parameter settings. High-quality scheme produces high-resolution object but at a low speed. On the contrary, low-quality scheme produces low-resolution object but at a high speed. When printing with PLA, users will find a “hyper” option available.

## General:

### a. Layer Height

Thickness of each layer. The less thickness of layers, the more time will be used and the better model will be printed.

## b. First Layer Height

When printed with thinner layers, comparative thicker bottom layer could improve adhesion and tolerance for non-perfect build plates.

## 2) Speed

a. Base Print Speed: The fiducial value of extruder's movement speed during printing(For subsequent speeds counting ). With a lower speed, the printer can build an objects with higher resolution and more smoothness.

b. Speed at which extruder moves when not extruding filament.

c. Minimum Speed: The minimum extruder's movement speed during printing

d. First Layer Maximum Speed: The max printing speed for printing the first layer(Note: It's invalid to the model which has a raft )

e. First Layer Maximum Travel Speed: The max travel speed for printing the first layer(Note: It's invalid to the model which has a raft )

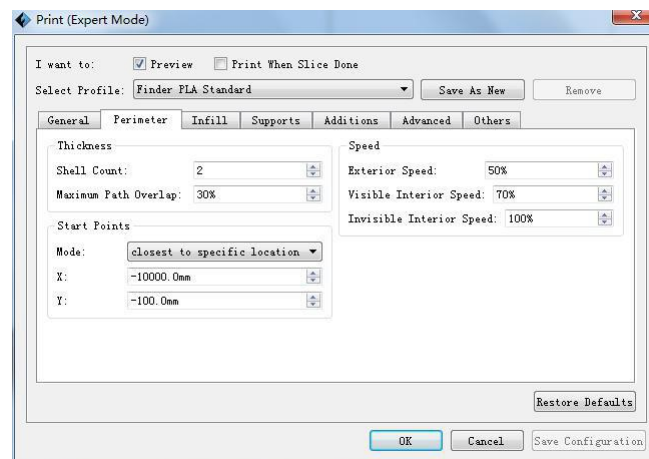
## 3) Temperature

It displays the temperature of "Extruder".

## 4) Retraction

a. Retraction Length: Amount of retraction. Retraction can help users reduce stringing or oozing during printing. (The default value shall be suggested.)

b. Speed: Speed at which the filament is retracted. The default value shall be suggested.



## Perimeter

### 1) Thickness

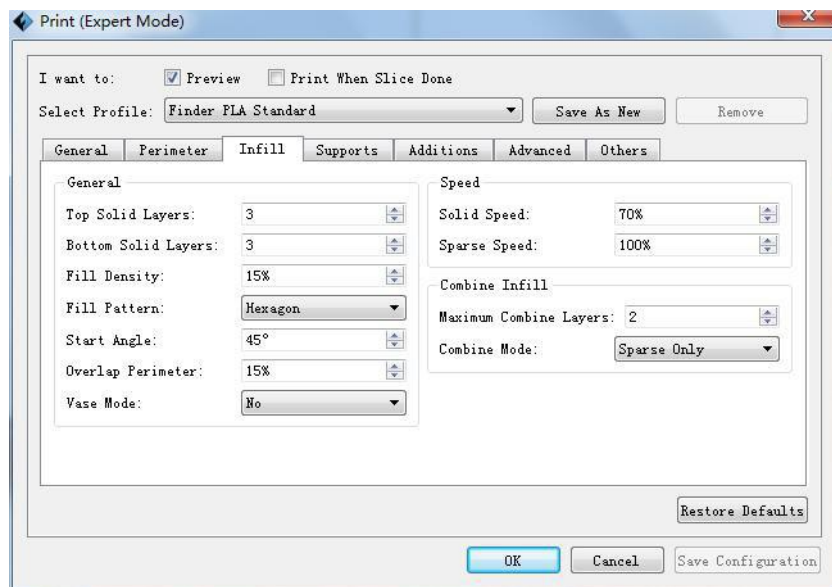
- a. Shell Count: Numbers of laps for each layer's shell. Maximum: 10; Minimum: 1.
- b. Maximum Path Overlap: Max amount of overlapping extrusion for some models, especially small models.

### 2) Speed:

- a. Exterior Speed: Speed at which the exterior shell is printed.
- b. Visible Interior Speed: Speed at which the visible interior shell is printed.
- c. Invisible Interior Speed: Speed at which the invisible interior shell is printed.

### 3) Start Points

- a. Mode: There are two options for Start Point mode. One is “closest to specific location”, the other is “use random start points”.
- b. X: The coordinate value of X
- c. Y: The coordinate value of Y



8-3

## Infill

### General

- a. Top Solid Layer: Number of solid layers on the upper surface of model.

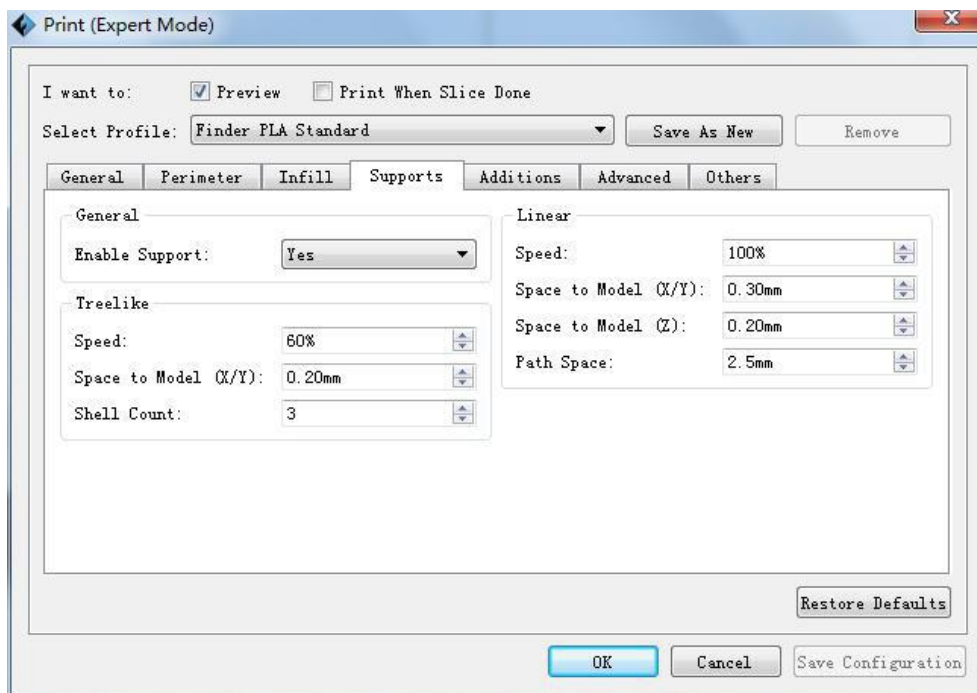
- b. Bottom Solid Layer: Number of solid layers on the under surface of model.
- c. Fill Density: Determines the interior solidity of the model.
- d. Fill Pattern: Determines the infill pattern used for the interior of part, Hexagon infill has higher strength and Line infill take less print time.
- e. Start Angle: Angle of the infill's first layer
- f. Overlap Perimeter: The overlap width between the infill and the shell.
- g. Vase Mode: When enabled, the interior infill and top solid infill will not printed.(Using this option will force 0% infill with only a single perimeter)

## 2) Speed

- a. Solid Speed: Speed at which the top/bottom parts are printed.
- b. Sparse Speed: Speed at which the infill is printed.

## 3) Combine Infill

- a. Maximum Combine Layers: Select the layer amount according to the layer height. The total height shall not be over 0.4mm.
- b. Combine Mode: Including “Sparse and Solid” and “Sparse Only”. “Sparse Only” mode only applies for the inner infill layers.



## Support

### 1) General

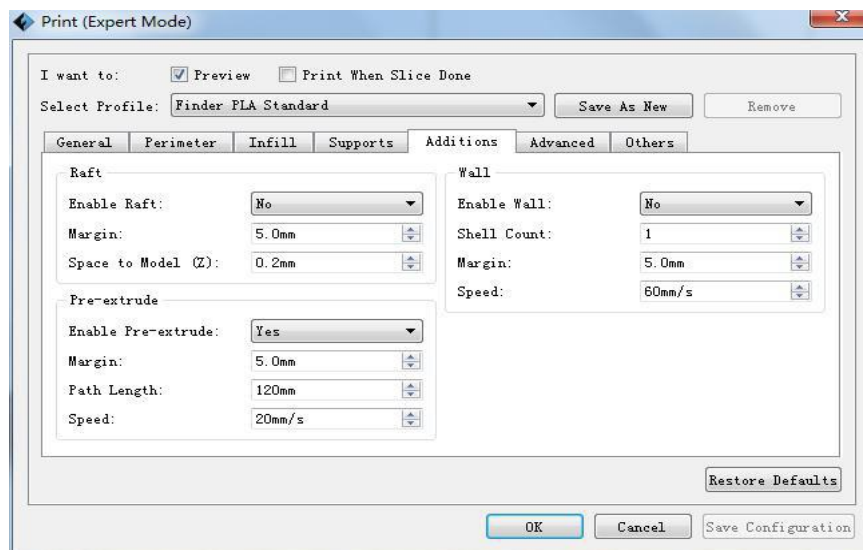
a. Enable Support: Allows users to turn on/off the support option. Support structure can prevent the model from collapsing. If choosing “Yes”, then both treelike and linear supports are available for setting up. If choosing “No”, then both treelike and linear supports are unavailable for setting up.

### 2) Treelike

- a. Speed: Speed at which the treelike supports are printed.
- b. Space to Model(X/Y): The gap between the treelike supports and the model contact surface (in the X/Y directions).
- c. Shell Count: To control the printing laps for support’s outer shell.

### 3) Linear

- a. Speed: Speed at which the linear supports are printed.
- b. Space to Model(X/Y): The gap between the treelike supports and the model contact surfaces (in the X/Y directions).
- c. Space to Model(Z): The distance between the treelike supports and the model contact surface (in the Z direction).
- d. Path Space: The distance between the adjoining paths.



## **Additions**

### **1) Raft**

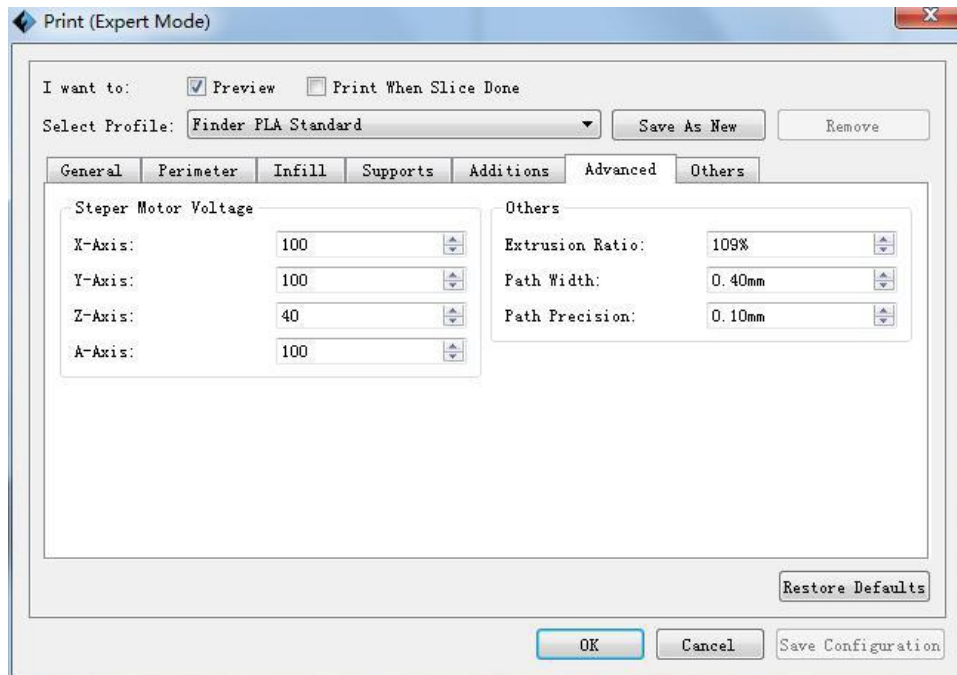
- a . Enable Raft: Enable to print raft during printing. Raft could help the model stick to the build plate.
- b. Margin: The distance between raft's outline and outline of model's first layer. If the raft is enabled, the extra raft area around the object is also enabled. Increasing the margin will create a stranger raft while using more materials and leaving less area for your object.
- c. Space to Model(Z): The gap between the raft top and the model's first layer.

### **2) Pre-extrusion**

- a . Enable Pre-extrusion: Enable the extruder to pre-extrusion until .
- b. Space to Model: The maximum distance between the pre-extruded filament and model's first layer.
- C.Path Length: The filament length of pre-extrusion.
- d. Speed: The printing speed of pre-extrusion.

### **3) Wall**

- a. Enable Wall: Enable the extruder to print wall during printing. Enabling wall can prevent the object from stringing or oozing to some extent.
- b. Shell Count: To control the printing laps for support shell.
- c. Space to Model: The minimum distance between the wall and model.
- d. Speed: Speed at which the wall is printed.



8-6

## Advanced

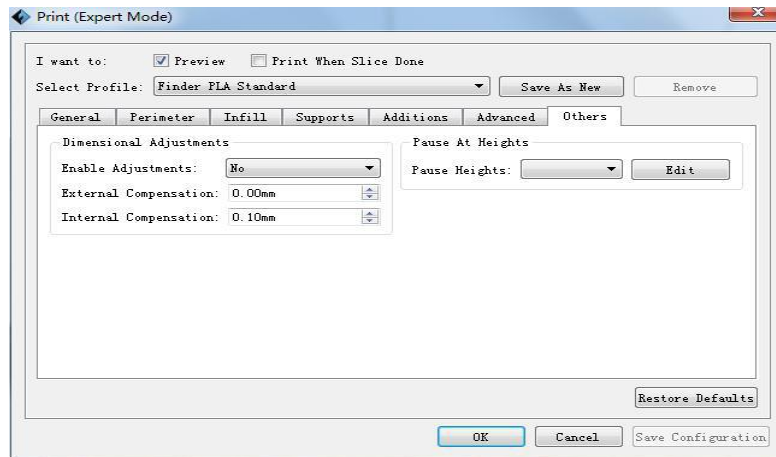
### 1) Stepper Motor Voltage(Usually keep default)

- a. X-Axis: Voltage parameter of X-axis stepper motor. The bigger the value is, the more heater will produce.
- b. Y-Axis: Voltage parameter of Y-axis stepper motor. The bigger the value is, the more heater will produce.
- c. Z-Axis: Voltage parameter of Z-axis stepper motor. The bigger the value is, the more heater will produce.
- d. A-Axis: Voltage parameter of right-extruder stepper motor. The bigger the value is, the more heater will produce.
- e. B-Axis: Voltage parameter of left-extruder stepper motor. The bigger the value is, the more heater will produce.

### 2) Others

- a. Extrusion Ratio: The filament amount extruded by the extruder. Default: 109%  
Max:125% (Usually the default ratio is suggested)

- b. Path Width: The width of the path, the default value is 0.4mm. Keeping default is suggested.
- c. Path Resolution: The default value is 0.1mm. The bigger the value is, the lower the extrusion resolution is. On the contrary, the extrusion resolution is much higher.

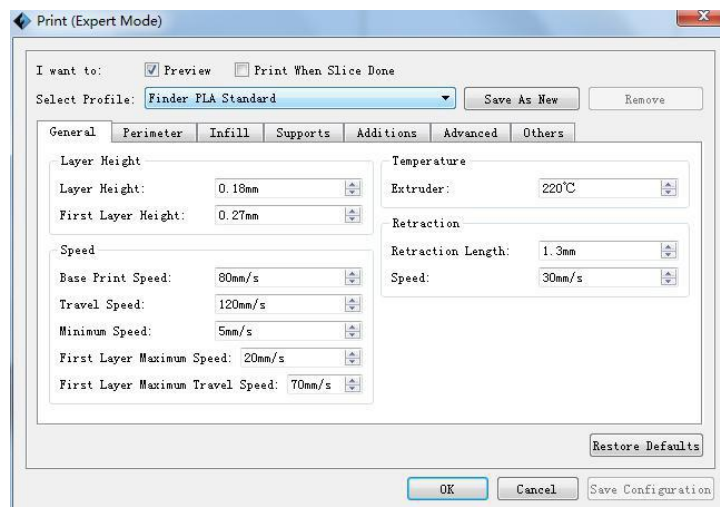


8-7

## Others

### Dimensional Adjustment

- a. Enable Adjustments: Enable software to make compensation for errors.
- b. External Compensation: Enable software to make compensation for the outer diameter error.
- c. Internal Compensation: Enable software to make compensation for the inner diameter error.



8-8



### Save as new

Allows users to save the model as a new file after parameter modification.

### How to do?

After getting all the required parameters modified, click [Save as new], then a dialogue box will pop up. Users need to enter the file name into the box, then click [OK]. Click the drop-down menu of [Select Profile], the new added scheme can be found in the list.

### Remove

Allows the users to delete the added scheme(s). Select one of the added schemes, click [Remove] and a dialogue box will pop up for confirmation. Click [Yes] to remove it or click [No] to cancel the current operation.

Restore Default: Allows users to restore to the default settings.

Save Configuration: Allows users to save the present configuration.

## 8.1 Skills on Supports

### (Reference Video: [Skills on Supports](#))

Support structures enable the printing of models with steep overhangs and cantilevered sections. The Finder2.0 3D printer utilizes Fused Filament Fabrication (FFF) technology, which works on the additive manufacturing principle of heating and laying down material layer by layer to create an object. Many sophisticated 3D print designs require materials to be deposited on a layer where there was not a previous layer, or the designs have steep angles which might cause undesired drooping during the print. In these cases, support structures are needed to ensure objects integrity and print quality.

#### ① Principle of 45 Degrees

Generally speaking, if the 3D model has an overhang of more than 45 degrees, you will need supports. This angle is determined by the material, layer height, extrusion

width, and temperature. It is critical to adjust the support structures accordingly to ensure the best print result, especially for large 3D prints. The principle is raised by a stage designer and widely accepted among the 3D printing industry.

## ② Principle of Proportionality

As for the application of supports, users are suggested to comply with the principle of proportionality. Even though the supports algorithm has been developing, adding supports intelligently cannot be realized at present. Therefore, users are always oriented in adding the supports. As we all know, excessive supports will definitely result in difficulty in supports removal, while limited supports cannot ensure the stability of the model. Since FashPrint has the function of manual modification, users can add proper supports to their models according to the daily experience and the academic principles.

### ● Support Types

**Linear Support Structure:** Suitable for models with large-area overhang(s).

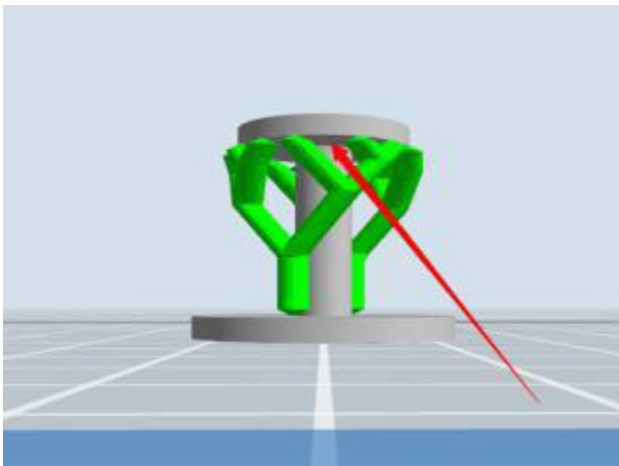
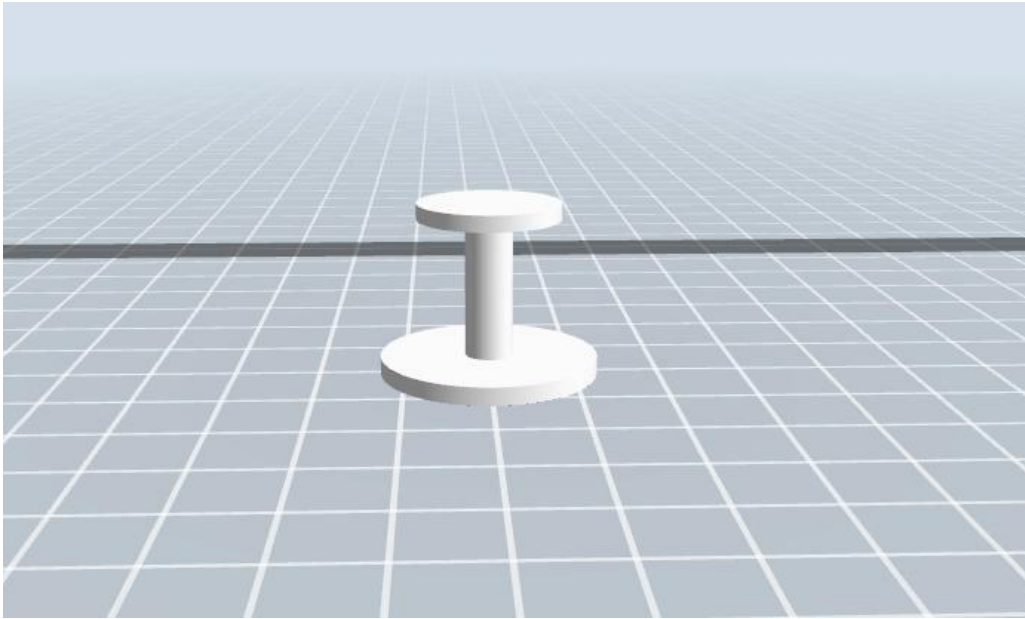
Features: Full coverage of supports improves the model stability. But the supports on the surface are difficult to be removed and will definitely reduce the print quality.

**Treelike Support Structure :** Suitable for models with small area overhang(s). (You are suggested printing a raft)

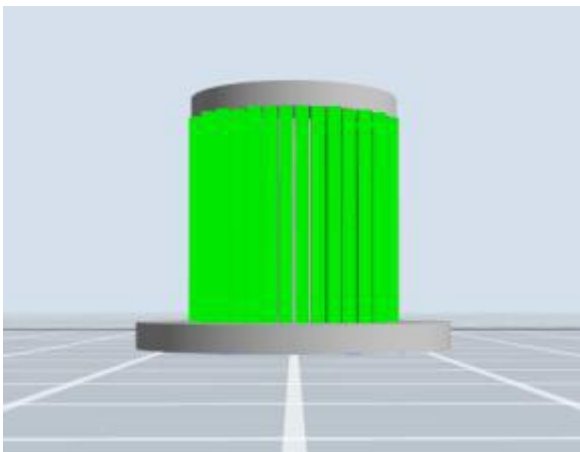
Features: Treelike support structure is proprietary to Flashforge Corporation. And this structure can save support material and can be easily removed. However, compared with the linear support structure, it's of less stability. So you are suggested to manually add more supports after auto-generating treelike supports.

### Auto-supports

**Eg: 1) Model with Large-area Overhang**

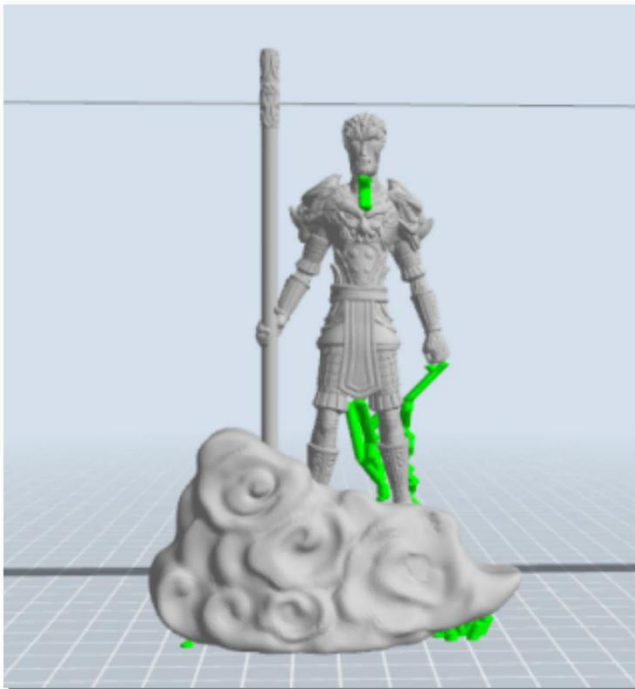
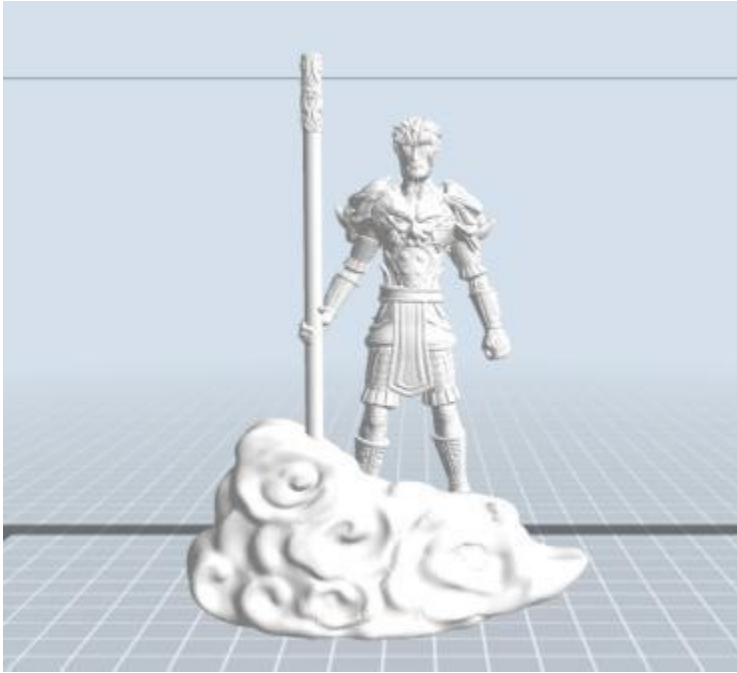


Right:Treelike support structure

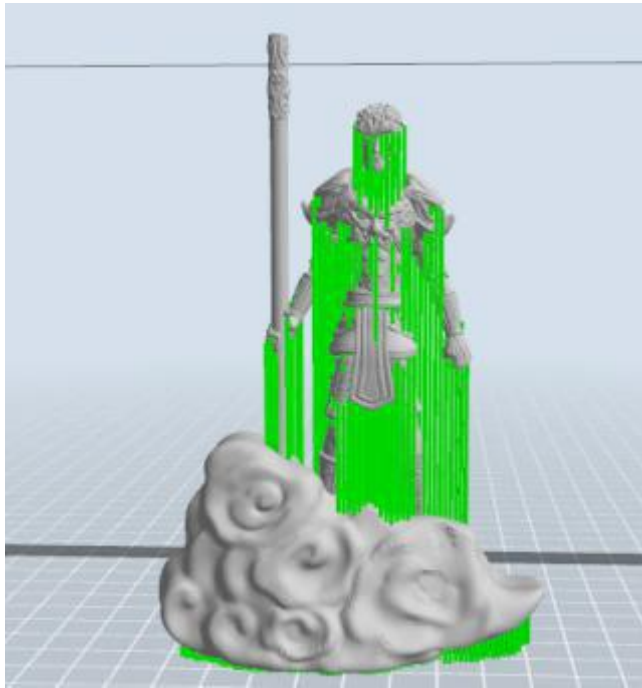


Wrong:Linear support structure

## 2) Model with Small-area Overhang

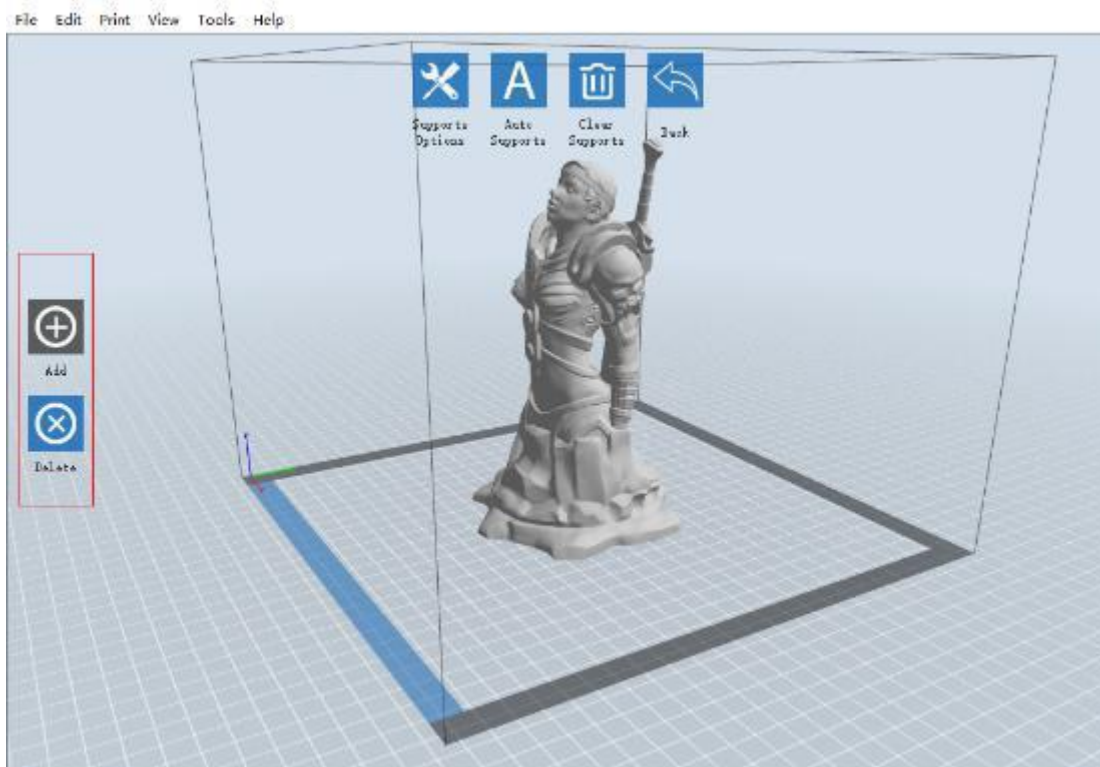


Right:Treelike support structure



Wrong: Linear support structure

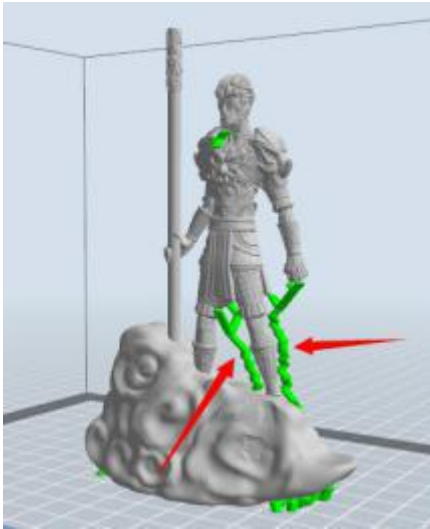
### Manual Modification



8-9

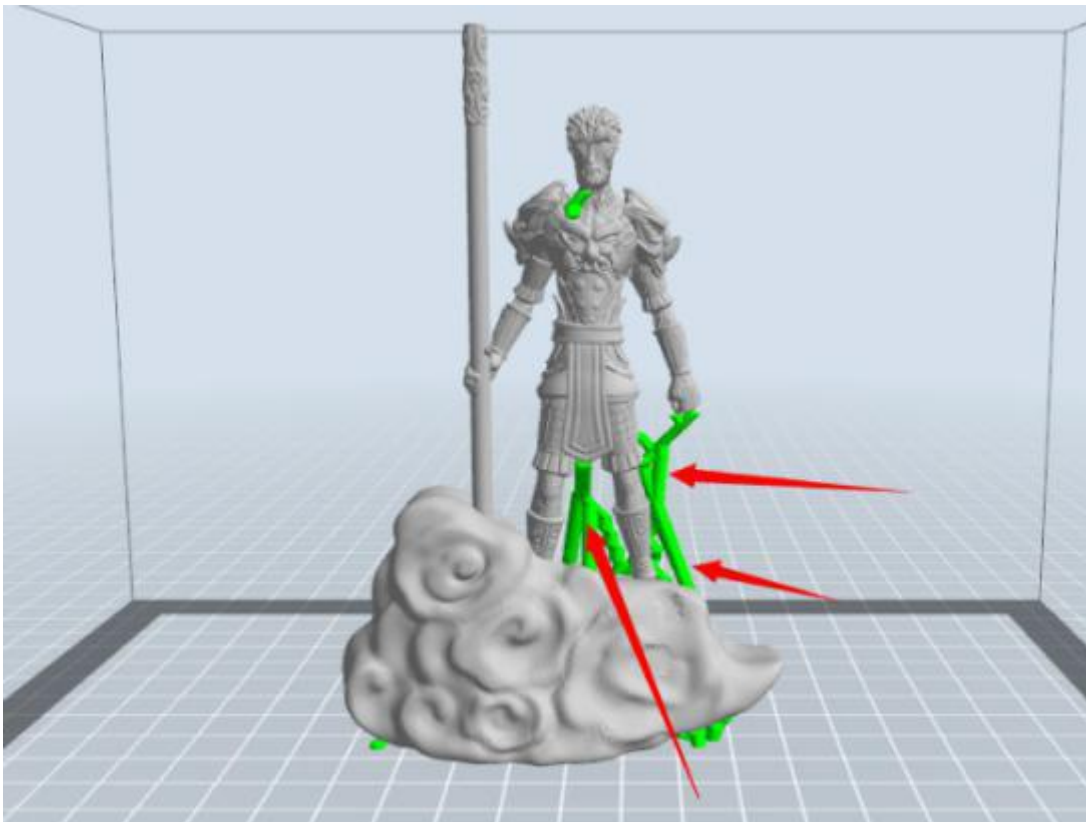
For the experienced 3D printer users, the [Add] and [Delete] buttons are suggested using for manually adding or deleting supports.

## 1) Manual Add



8-10

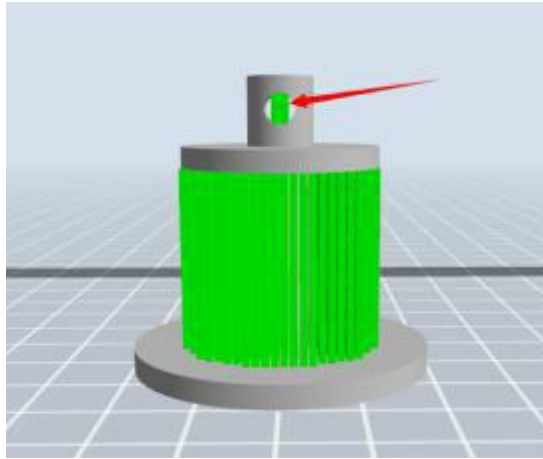
You can add the support structure manually to according to the actual shape of the model.



Left click [Add] on the left, and then click on the position when support structure is

needed. Press down the left mouse button and drag to generate the support.

## 2) Manual Delete



8-11

Like the picture above, a hole inside the model doesn't need any supports.

Left click the [Delete] button and then left click the supports needed deleting. And the support will be deleted.

## 8.2 Control over Printing Quality

### ① Enhance the build plate adhesiveness

- Leveling the build plate
- Keeping the build plate smooth and tidy
- Using the build tape or glue

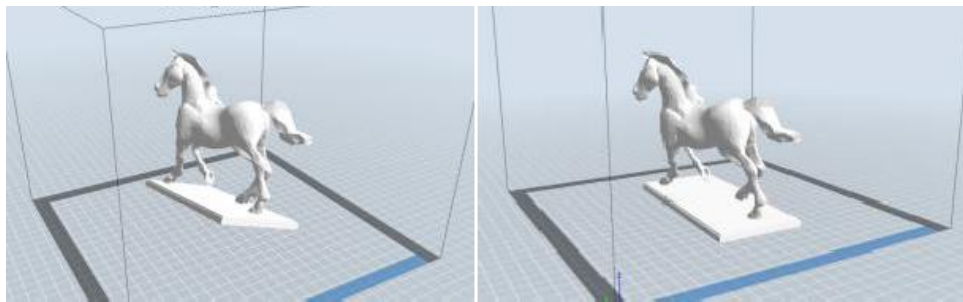
### ② Adjusting the printing speed

- Low (Fast) (Print Speed 80mm/s Travel Speed 100mm/s)
- Standard (Print Speed 60mm/s Travel Speed 80mm/s)
- **High** (Slow) (Print Speed 50mm/s Travel Speed 70mm/s)
- **Hyper** (Print Speed 50mm/s Travel Speed 70mm/s)

## 8.3 Skills of Model Placement

Not all the models are in the right positions after being loaded. Therefore, you need to place it in an appropriate position for better print quality. Such as the models below, you need to put one of the surfaces onto the platform.(Please refer to 5.1.12-⑦Surface to Platform)

①

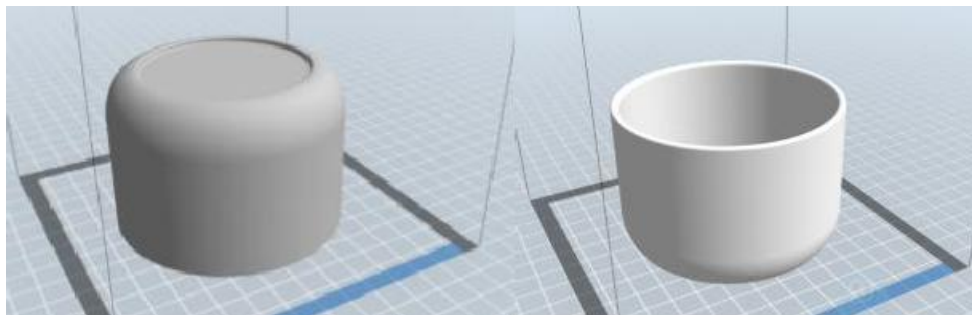


Improper

Proper

8-12

②

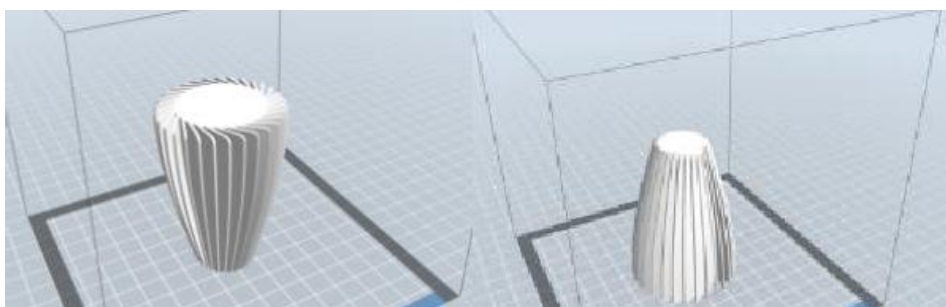


Improper

Proper

8-13

③



Improper

Proper

8-14

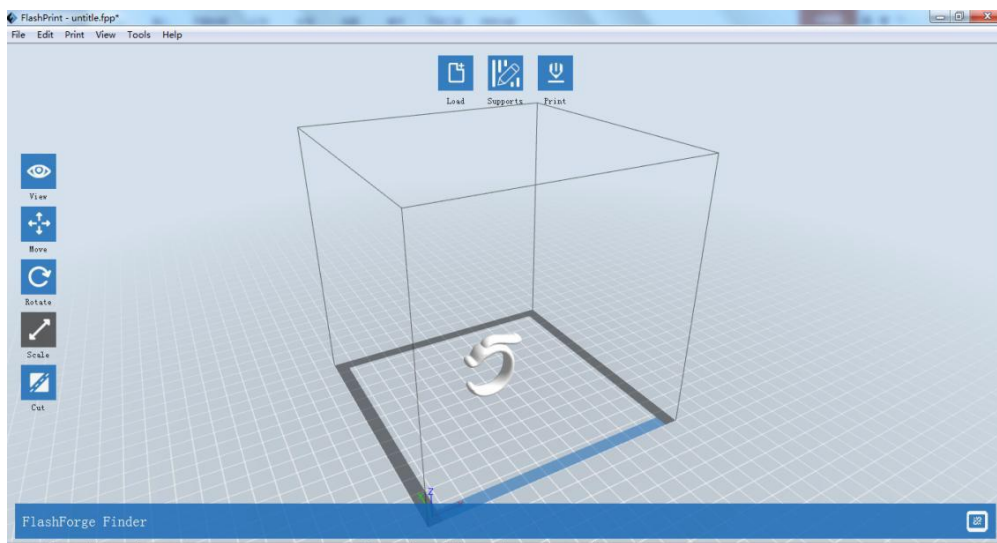


## Further Reading: Cut Function

Left-click on the model to select it and double-click on the **Cut icon** to set the cut plane. The direction and position are available for setting.

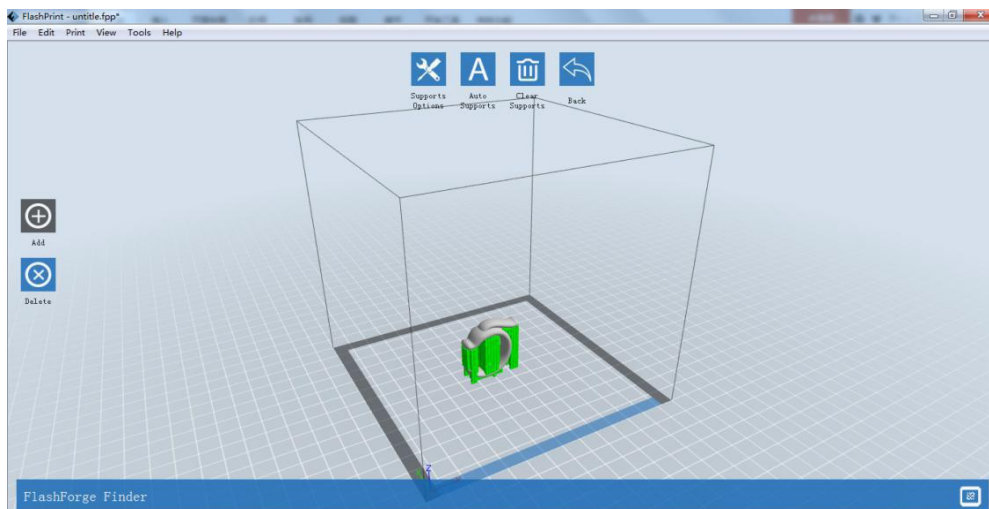
**E.g:**

As for a big model or an irregular model, you need to cut it into several parts so as to reduce the printing limitation and to better the print quality. Look at the model below: Picture 8-15 is the preview of the model's original placement and Picture 8-16 is the preview of the model with support structure.



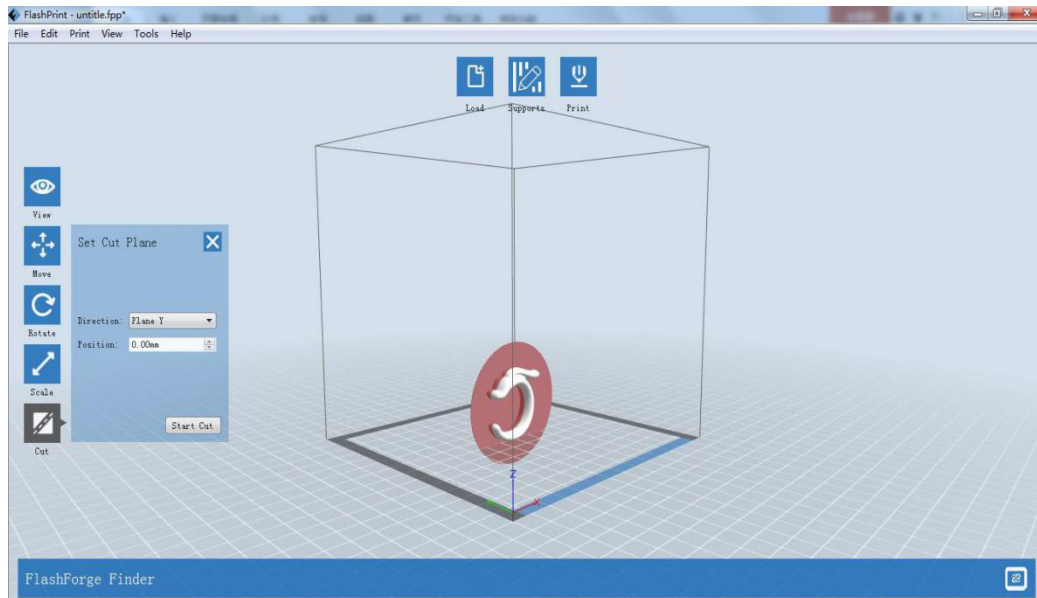
8-15

(8-16) Model with support structure



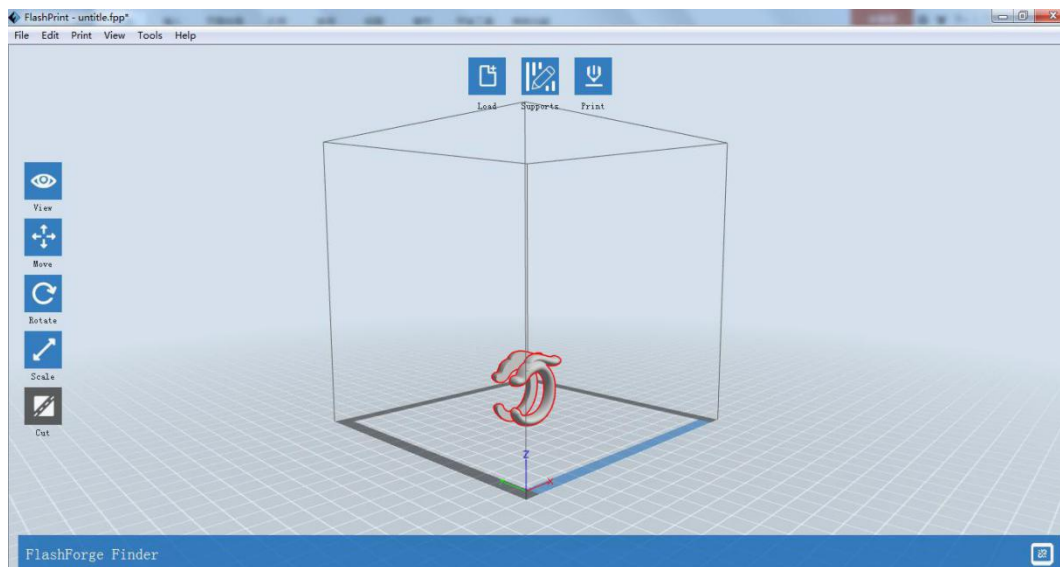
8-16

(8-17) Looking at the Picture 8-16, we will definitely find that the complex supports will influence the smoothness of the model. By analyzing the model's feature, cutting from the Y plane will be suitable.



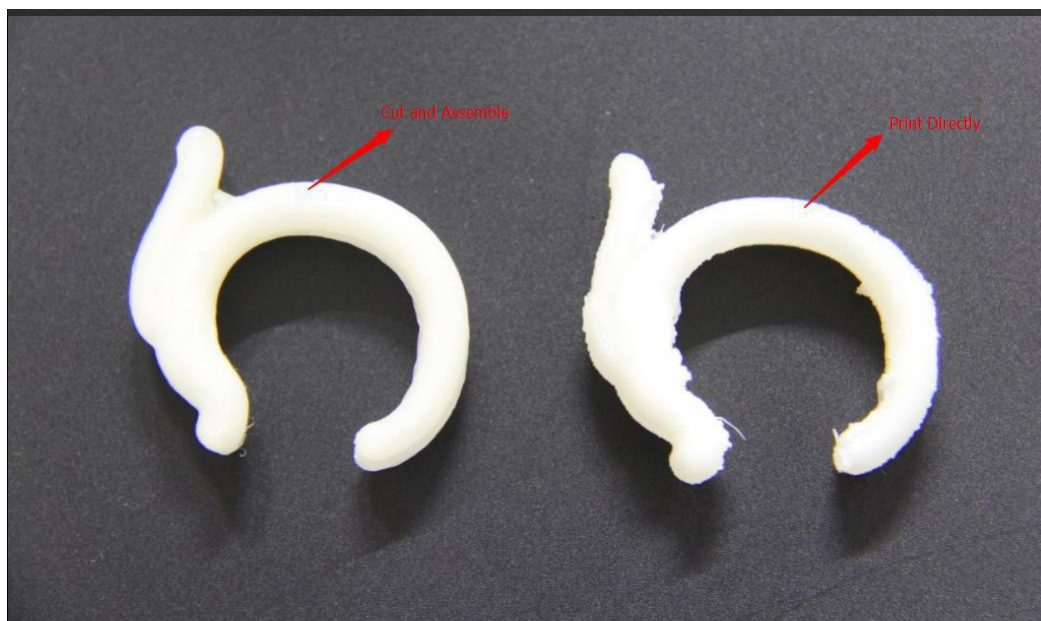
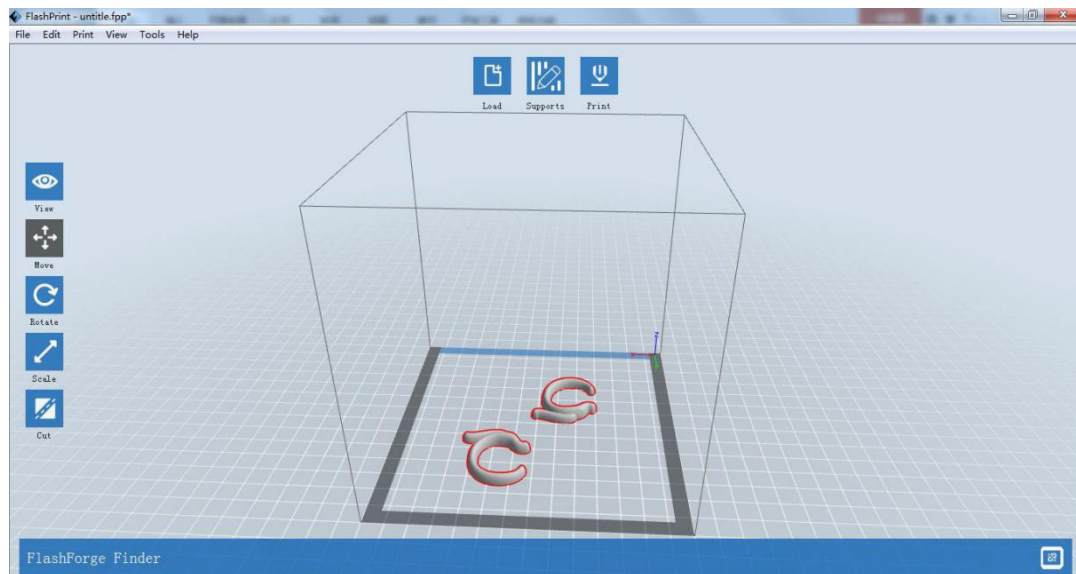
8-17

(8-18) The model preview after cutting.



8-18

(8-19) Click **[Edit]--[Surface to Platform]** to put the flat surfaces onto the platform.



## Chapter 9: Supports and Service

Flashforge team is on standby and ready to help you with any challenges you may have with your Finder2.0. If the issues or questions are not covered in this User Guide, you can seek for solutions on our official website or contact us via telephone.

There are solutions and instructions to common issues that can be found in our knowledge base. Have a look first as most basic questions are answered there.

<http://www.flashforge.com>

The FlashForge support team can be reached by e-mail or phone between the working hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST Monday through Saturday. In case you contact us during after-hours, your inquiry will be answered the following business day.

**Note: Because of changing different filament the extruder maybe blockaded. It's not owing to quality issue, and outside the scope of 400 hours life. If users encounter this problem, please contact our after-sale department and finish clean work according to their instruction.**

**Tel:** [86-0579-89316036](tel:86-0579-89316036)

**QQ:** [2850862986](https://www.qq.com/number/2850862986) [2850863000](https://www.qq.com/number/2850863000) [2853382161](https://www.qq.com/number/2853382161)

**ADD:** No. 518, Xianyuan Road, Wucheng, Jinhua, Zhejiang

**\*When contacting support, please have your serial number ready. The serial number is a bar code on the back of your Finder2.0.\***