

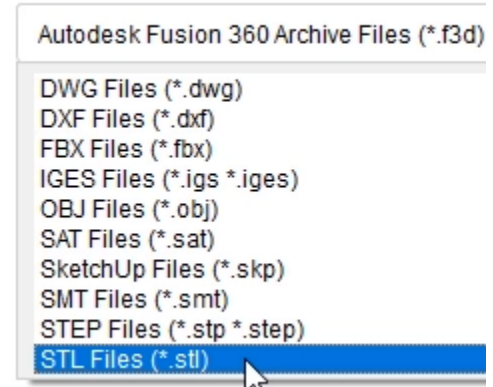
Export an STL file

In this video, you'll export a model as an STL file so that it can be 3D printed.

Learning objectives

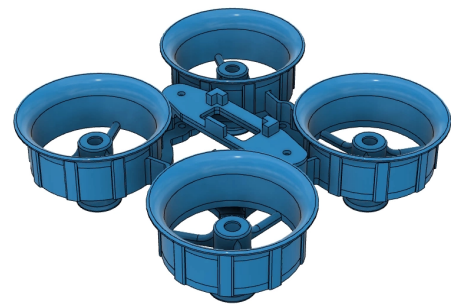
- Create an STL file.
- Modify file export settings.

Type:

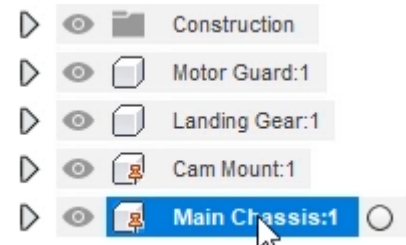


The completed exercise

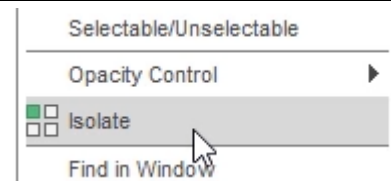
1. Upload and open the supplied *micro class chassis – rtp.f3d* file.



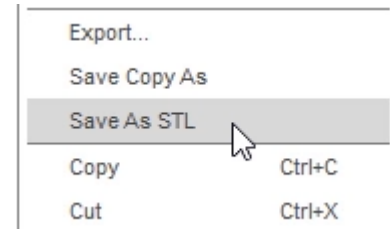
2. Explore the Browser and notice that the file contains four components.



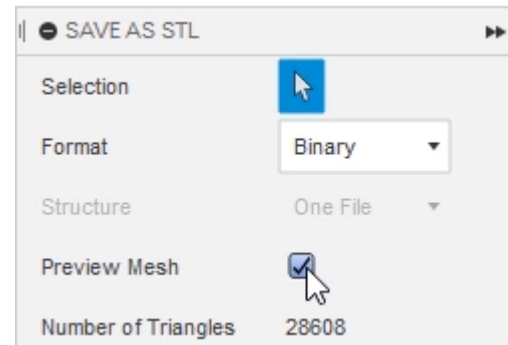
3. Select the Main Chassis component, right-click it, then choose Isolate. After this component is isolated, the remaining three components are hidden.



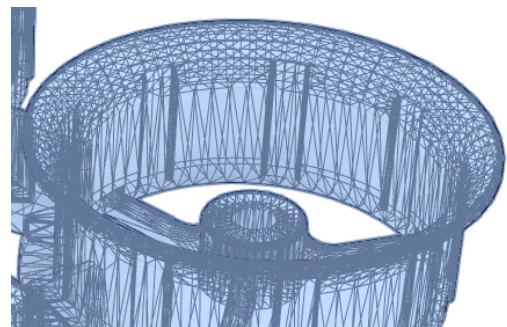
4. Right-click the Main Chassis component and choose Save As STL.



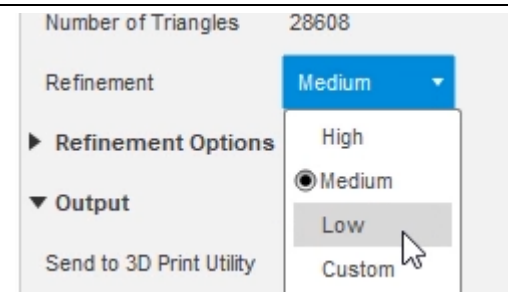
5. Activate the dialog's Preview Mesh option.



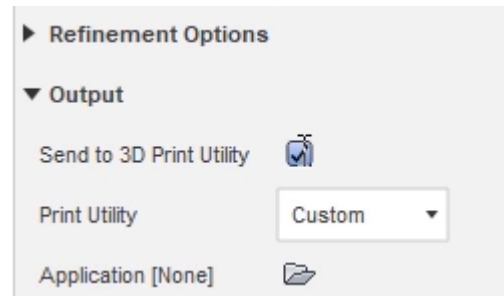
6. Note the mesh preview shown in the Canvas area. The preview shows the faces that will be created by the STL export.



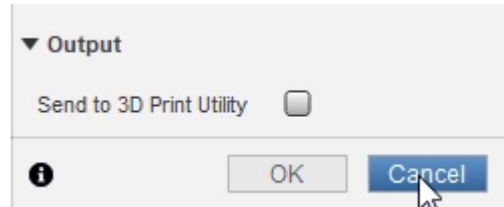
7. Change the dialog's Refinement selection and note the effect on the model's previewed faces. It is important to understand the resolution capabilities of the specific 3D printer you will use. There is no point in creating a highly refined STL model if your printer cannot match the resolution.



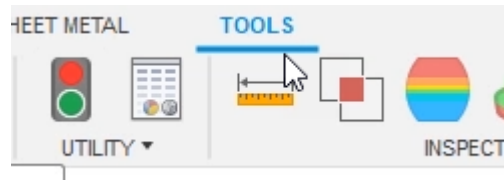
8. Activate the dialog's Send to 3D Print Utility option. If you are using a print utility, it can be selected from the Print Utility drop-down menu.



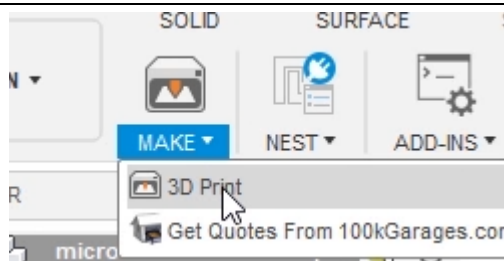
9. The Save As STL option can be accessed using other methods; cancel the current Save As STL dialog.



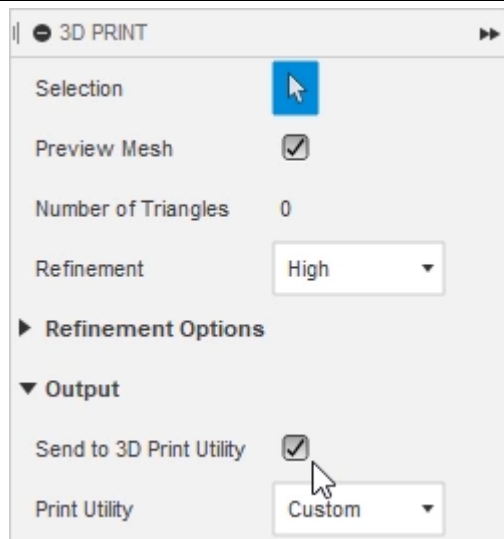
10. Activate the Toolbar's Tools tab.



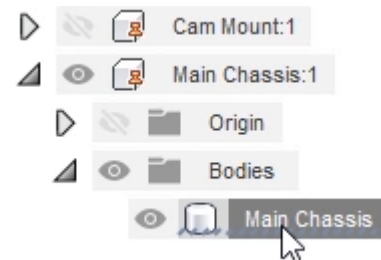
11. Click Make > 3D Print.



12. In the 3D Print dialog, notice that the Send to 3D Print Utility option is automatically checked and you cannot choose the file type to export. Cancel the 3D Print dialog.



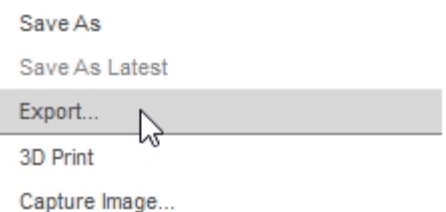
13. In the Browser, expand the Main Chassis component and select the Main Chassis body.



14. Expand the File menu and notice that the 3D Print dialog can be opened by clicking 3D Print.



15. Click File > Export.



16. Notice that you can choose the STL File option in the Export dialog's Type menu. Cancel the Export dialog. Save the file and continue to the next video.

