# **Evaluating tools for making**

Makerspaces provide access to tools and materials. But since every makerspace is different, there is no one-size-fits-all shopping list. It is important to know the right questions to ask when considering a new purchase in order to invest school resources in the tools that are appropriate for the developmental stage of your program.

Use this worksheet as a guide when investing in new tools, seeking out donated tools, or expanding your toolkit.

Tool:\_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturer:

Up-front cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated annual maintenance: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ongoing consumables may include:

Estimated annual cost for consumables: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Does this tool require the use of any peripheral tools or non-consumable accessories?

Does this tool require software in order to function? If so, the software must export...

\* Be sure to confirm that any software is compatible with the operating system of your computers



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## Access and Integration

In gen	eral, I e	xpect tl	his tool	to be u	sed		times p	er					
					(nı	ımber)			(class/wee	ek/day/m	onth)		
Who w	vill be o	peratin	g/using	the too	ol?								
К	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	adults
What i	s the id	eal too	l-to-stu	ident ra	itio for	this too	l to be	useful i	n a clas	sroom	setting?		
•		٩		9 •	• •	• •	• • •	• • •	• •	• •	• • •	• •	•
1:1		1:2		1:5		1:10		2:whole	e class	1:who	ole class	1:wh	ole school
						(Tool:Stud	dent)						

Describe how this tool integrates into the workflow of a typical user from conception to cleanup:

### Safety

Safety Checklist:				
Eye protection	Hearing protection	Secure loose clot	thing, jewelry, hair	
Ventilation	Designated working space	Adult supervision	l de la constante de	
How much training	do students need in order to	use this tool safely	?	
No up-front <b>d</b> • • • training	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • •		Intensive up-front training
Does this tool requir	e adult supervision during us	se?		
•••••		• • • • • •		• • •
Independent use	•	plicit nission		Direct supervision
How much training	will adults need to maintain	this tool and to help	p students use it safel	y?
No up-front <b>d</b> • • • training	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • •	• • • • • • •	Intensive up-front training
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### Learning and effective use

Describe your plan for introducing and supporting appropriate use among adults and students:

Describe a specific project/activity when this tool will be used:

Do any peripheral tools, equipment, or software require their own training and/or supervision?

None or N/A	• •		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		Time-intensive supervision and/or training required
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What specific skills and knowledge will users develop as they gain experience with this tool?



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