

LPCPL Maker Labs Policy

Purpose

At La Porte County Public Library, Maker Labs is a community space where people get together to formally and informally learn science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) related technologies through hands-on experiences, sharing of tools, knowledge, and local expertise.

How to use LPCPL Maker Labs

All makers aged 13 years and older must have a library account or current photo ID.

Some equipment used in Maker Labs requires training before use. Necessary training is indicated on each piece of equipment's usage sheet. Makers can use these pieces of equipment after the maker has attended a training class, passed a test for that equipment, and/or has received approval from staff.

When using any equipment the maker certifies that they are capable of using the equipment in a safe and proper manner, and must follow the safety guidelines listed on the equipment's usage sheet.

The maker agrees that if any tool or piece of equipment becomes unsafe or in a state of disrepair, he/she will immediately discontinue use of the tool and notify Library staff.

Makers may temporarily lose access and/or require retraining on equipment if they:

1. cause the equipment to be out of service
2. do not follow the equipment usage guidelines
3. demonstrate a lack of basic knowledge required to use the equipment
4. act in a way that poses a safety hazard to themselves or others
5. violate the Code of Conduct or Computer Use Policies

Minors who want to use equipment that requires a safety course must have a parent or guardian signed waiver on file.

Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Adults may be responsible for no more than 2 children at a time.

Makers must not create anything that is:

1. prohibited by local, state, or federal law
2. unsafe, harmful, or dangerous, including weapons
3. obscene or otherwise inappropriate for the Library environment
4. in violation of another's intellectual property rights. For example, the printers will not be used to reproduce material that is subject to copyright, patent, or trademark protection

Computers and tablets are to be used for their intended purpose, i.e. discovery, learning, class participation, and prototyping creations, such as graphic design.

LPCPL is not responsible for defects or the quality of workmanship of any of the tools, materials, or equipment supplied by LPCPL, or for the quality or condition of a maker's project.

Other applicable Library policies apply.

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