

# 3D Printing vs. Injection Molding Plastics

Which one and when? We do both.



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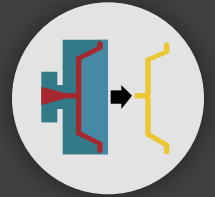
3D printing and plastic injection molding are both useful processes for manufacturing plastic parts, either on their own or as part of the product development continuum. Use one? Or the other? Or both? Here is some guidance.

## 3D Printing/ Additive Manufacturing



Unit Volumes		Cosmetics
1 - 50,000		Requires Secondary
Cycle Time		Tooling Cost
Days		\$0
Modifications		
Print on Demand		
Part Complexity		
Low to High (No Effect on Price)		
Precision		
Low to Medium		
Repeatability		
Low to Medium		
Product Lifecycle - Ideal for		
Prototyping	Validation	Bridge Production
Low to Mid-Volume Production		
Obsolescence / Spare Parts		

## Injection Molding



Unit Volumes		Cosmetics
100 - 100,000+		Molded-In or Secondary
Cycle Time		Tooling Cost
Weeks		\$5k - \$50,000+
Modifications		
Requires Mold Modifications		
Part Complexity		
Low to High (Large Effect on Price)		
Precision		
High		
Repeatability		
High		
Product Lifecycle - Ideal for		
Validation		Bridge Production
Low to High-Volume Production		
Spare Parts		