



6.18 Makerspaces

General

A Makerspace is a collaborative workspace where individuals can make, learn, explore, and share ideas using a variety of high tech equipment in a space that supports this equipment. Makerspaces are critical learning spaces that support creativity, innovative thinking and risk taking. Makerspaces can be classified as classrooms specifically focused on creating, so any learning environment that requires the use of specialized tools (that is not a lab) and project areas could be considered a makerspace. Campus Architecture can help determine the classification of the space.

The makerspace should have controlled access managed by a faculty or unit as these spaces will have a variety of high tech digital tools and equipment that may include 3D printers, laser cutters, CNC machines, robots, soldering irons and, occasionally sewing machines.

Location

Locating a Makerspace will need to consider safety first. The following should be evaluated in the site selection process:

1. Proper ventilation

