

# Where to buy components

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# Don't Buy These Components

Have you bought a component that was poor quality, broken or ineffective? Let us know and we can post it here so this doesn't happen to anyone else.

Top tip -- if you're on UAL Wifi (or VPN) go to the [checkout catalogue](#) and search for components, if you click the link you can see what we buy.

## Servos

- We have had problems with: [XTVTX metal gear micro servo](#) -> some didn't work straight out of the box, with others the wires broke off, poorly made
- good: (the ones we buy) [FeeTech FS90 Mini Servo](#)

# Where to buy materials & parts

## Electronics, components

Bigger Shops - large and often complex catalogues

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
RS	electronics, components, tools	<a href="http://uk.rs-online.com/">http://uk.rs-online.com/</a>	Fast delivery, huge selection. Free delivery. Collection also possible from Bow
Rapid online	electronics, components, tools	<a href="https://www.rapidonline.com">https://www.rapidonline.com</a>	Fast delivery, huge selection, student pricing + free delivery over £30
Mouser	electronics, consumer stuff	<a href="https://www.mouser.co.uk/">https://www.mouser.co.uk/</a>	Fast delivery, some items overpriced, Free delivery over £33
Farnell	electronics, components, tools	<a href="http://www.farnell.co.uk">http://www.farnell.co.uk</a>	Free delivery over £20 (ex VAT)
CPC	electronics, components, tools	<a href="http://cpc.farnell.com/">http://cpc.farnell.com/</a>	Free delivery over £8 + VAT
Bitsbox		<a href="https://www.bitsbox.co.uk/">https://www.bitsbox.co.uk/</a>	

Smaller Shops - stock products locally, so not shipping from the EU/US

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
Proto-Pic	electronics, components	<a href="https://www.proto-pic.co.uk/">https://www.proto-pic.co.uk/</a>	Offers 10% student discount
Cool components	electronics, components	<a href="http://coolcomponents.co.uk/">http://coolcomponents.co.uk/</a>	
Pimoroni	electronics, robotics, kits	<a href="https://shop.pimoroni.com/">https://shop.pimoroni.com/</a>	
Robotshop	electronics, robotics	<a href="https://www.robotshop.com/">https://www.robotshop.com/</a>	
Active Robots	electronics, robotics	<a href="http://www.active-robots.com/">http://www.active-robots.com/</a>	
Hobbytronics	electronics, components	<a href="http://www.hobbytronics.co.uk/">http://www.hobbytronics.co.uk/</a>	

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
Hobbyking	radio controlled electronics	<a href="https://hobbyking.com/">https://hobbyking.com/</a>	RC control, BLDC motors, battery packs etc
SKPang	electronics, componants	<a href="https://skpang.co.uk/">https://skpang.co.uk/</a>	
#DigitalMeans	electronics, componants	<a href="http://digitalmeans.co.uk/">http://digitalmeans.co.uk/</a>	
Oomlout	electronics, componants	<a href="https://oomlout.co.uk/">https://oomlout.co.uk/</a>	
Spiratronics	electronics, componants	<a href="http://spiratronics.com/">http://spiratronics.com/</a>	
Bright Components	electronics, componants	<a href="http://bright-components.co.uk/">http://bright-components.co.uk/</a>	
Kitronik	electronics, robotics, kits	<a href="https://kitronik.co.uk/">https://kitronik.co.uk/</a>	

## US/EU based

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
Arduino	kits	<a href="https://store.arduino.cc/">https://store.arduino.cc/</a>	
Adafruit	electronics, componants, kits	<a href="https://www.adafruit.com/">https://www.adafruit.com/</a>	
Sparkfun	electronics, kits	<a href="https://www.sparkfun.com/">https://www.sparkfun.com/</a>	
Seed studio	pcb and electronics components	<a href="http://www.seeedstudio.com/depot/">http://www.seeedstudio.com/depot/</a>	
Digikey (USA)	electronics, componants, kits	<a href="http://www.digikey.co.uk/">http://www.digikey.co.uk/</a>	

## China based

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
Seedstudio (China)	electronics, componants, kits	<a href="https://seeedstudio.com/">https://seeedstudio.com/</a>	
DF Robot (China)	electronics, componants, robotics	<a href="http://dfrobot.com/">http://dfrobot.com/</a>	
DealExtreme (China)	electronics, componants	<a href="http://dx.com/">http://dx.com/</a>	
Ali Express (China)	electronics, componants	<a href="https://www.aliexpress.com/">https://www.aliexpress.com/</a>	

## Machine Elements

Supplier	Material	Website	Note
Motionco	Machine elements	<a href="http://motionco.co.uk/">http://motionco.co.uk/</a>	Great source of gears, pulleys, belts, chains, bearings etc
Model Fixings	Machine elements	<a href="http://www.modelfixings.co.uk">http://www.modelfixings.co.uk</a>	Poorly made website, but a great range of mechanical fixings and bearings
HPC Gears	Gears	<a href="http://www.hpcgears.com/">http://www.hpcgears.com/</a>	Gears and power transmission
RS	Machine elements	<a href="http://uk.rs-online.com/">http://uk.rs-online.com/</a>	
Spring Masters	Springs	<a href="https://www.springmasters.com/">https://www.springmasters.com/</a>	
On Drives	Gear boxes	<a href="http://www.ondrives.com/">http://www.ondrives.com/</a>	Med - Heavy duty gearboxes
Cross Morse	Transmissions	<a href="http://www.cross-morse.co.uk/">http://www.cross-morse.co.uk/</a>	
SDP-SI	Transmissions	<a href="http://www.sdp-si.com/">http://www.sdp-si.com/</a>	Massive range, USA delivery only, but great for finding 3D CAD models of parts
Simply Bearings	Bearings	<a href="http://simplybearings.co.uk/shop/">http://simplybearings.co.uk/shop/</a>	Specialise in bearings, wide variety: miniature, loose, bushings, etc.
Igus	Plastic Bearings	<a href="https://www.igus.co.uk/">https://www.igus.co.uk/</a>	All things sliding, rolling and polymer. Expensive
Bearing Boys	Bearings	<a href="http://www.bearingboys.co.uk">http://www.bearingboys.co.uk</a>	
S3i	Wire ropes	<a href="https://www.s3i.co.uk/">https://www.s3i.co.uk/</a>	Wire rope and attachments

## Model shops

Shop	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
4D Model Shop	General Model Making and laser cutting services	<a href="http://www.modelshop.co.uk/">http://www.modelshop.co.uk/</a>	4D modelshop Ltd, The Arches, 120 Leman Street, London, E1 8EU	020 7264 1288	Best shop for model parts in London. Can be expensive
London Graphic Center	General Model Making				

Shop	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Charles Cantrill	Cork	<a href="http://www.charlescantrill.com">http://www.charlescantrill.com</a>			
Atlantis Art Supplies	'Europes Largest Fine Art Supplies Retaile	<a href="http://www.atlantisart.co.uk">http://www.atlantisart.co.uk</a>	Britannia House, 68-80 Hanbury Street,London E1 5JL		
EMA Model Supplies	modeling shop	<a href="http://www.ema-models.co.uk">http://www.ema-models.co.uk</a>			
Blueprintmodelshop	model shop and laser cutter	<a href="http://www.blueprintmodel.co.uk">http://www.blueprintmodel.co.uk</a>			really cheap but not good quality (20% off on material for students)
Cassart	modelshop	<a href="http://www.cassart.co.uk">http://www.cassart.co.uk</a>			10% for students. Lots of shops in London
Canonbury art supplies	art shop	<a href="http://www.globalartsupplies.co.uk">http://www.globalartsupplies.co.uk</a>			

## Raw materials

### Aluminum

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Dore Metals	Aluminium	<a href="https://www.doremals.co.uk">https://www.doremals.co.uk</a>			Aluminium and non-ferrous metals.
Aalco	Metal	<a href="http://www.aalco.co.uk">http://www.aalco.co.uk</a>			
Park Side Style	Steel	<a href="http://www.parksidesteel.uk.com">http://www.parksidesteel.uk.com</a>			Rod, tube, bar, sheet, plate, steel
Smiths Metal	Metal	<a href="http://www.smithmetal.com">http://www.smithmetal.com</a>			College has account

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Fays Metals			Unit 3, 37 Colville Road, South Acton, London, W3 8BL	020 8993 8883	A traditional metal warehouse situated a 10min walk from South Acton tube or on the 440 Bus route, Fays stock all different types of Steel, Aluminium, Brass etc in various forms of extrusion, sheet and billet. They're reasonably priced and if you talk to them nicely they'll let you look around for what you need. They also have a large shelf of various offcuts you can obtain for reduced prices.
Aluminium warehouse	Aluminium	<a href="https://www.aluminiumwarehouse.co.uk">https://www.aluminiumwarehouse.co.uk</a>			Metal cut to order

## Wood

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Moss&Co.	Wood	<a href="http://www.mosstimber.co.uk/">http://www.mosstimber.co.uk/</a>		020 8748 8251	
Capital Crispin	Wood Veneer	<a href="http://www.capitalcrispin.com">http://www.capitalcrispin.com</a>			Amazing stock of veneer, and cheap

## Plastics

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Hamar Acrylics	acrylic, laser cut services	<a href="http://www.hamaracrylic.com">http://www.hamaracrylic.com</a>			Sell cheap offcuts in shop

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Amari Plastics	large acrylic sheets	<a href="http://www.amariplastics.com/amariplastics/default.asp">http://www.amariplastics.com/amariplastics/default.asp</a>	2 Cumberland Ave., Park Royal, London NW10 7RL	020 8961 1961	
Hobart	acrylic and plastic	<a href="https://hobarts.com/">https://hobarts.com/</a>			

## Paper

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number
John Purcell Paper	card and paper	<a href="http://www.johnpurcell.net">http://www.johnpurcell.net</a>	15 Rumsey Rd., London SW9 0TR	Tel: 020 7737 5199
PSG Group	Various Sheet Material incl. Nomex (Fire Retardent Paper)	<a href="http://www.psggroup.co.uk">http://www.psggroup.co.uk</a>	Polymex House, 49-53 Glengall Road, London, SE15 6NF	

## Foam

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number
Pentonville rubber	Foam (upholstery)	<a href="http://www.pentonvill rubber.co.uk">http://www.pentonvill rubber.co.uk</a>	104-106 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JB	0207 837 7553
Foam supplier	foam cut to size and other type of foam	<a href="http://www.foamsupplierslondon.co.uk">http://www.foamsupplierslondon.co.uk</a>	26-27 Shepherds Bush Market London W12 8DF	07429 212 415 or 07411 653 301

## Hardware

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
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Margaret Mills			48 Gloucester Road, London, SW7 4QT		Small hardware store on Gloucester Road who carry a suprising amount of stock in the locality of Imperial. They carry the usual household items as well as tools, basic wood stock and PVC tube. They are however the most expensive for these items, so best used if convenience is a premium.
Leyland SDM	Wood	<a href="http://www.leylandsdm.co.uk/">http://www.leylandsdm.co.uk/</a>			Leyland are a large chain of hardware stores all over London
B&Q		<a href="http://www.diy.com/">http://www.diy.com/</a>			
Homebase		<a href="http://www.homebase.co.uk/">http://www.homebase.co.uk/</a>			

## Resin

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number
Tiranti	resins, molding, sculpting	<a href="http://www.tiranti.co.uk">http://www.tiranti.co.uk</a>	27 Warren Street, London W1T 5NB	020 7380 0808
Notcutt	resins	<a href="http://www.notcutt.co.uk">http://www.notcutt.co.uk</a>		
Mold life	resins and silicone	<a href="http://mouldlife.co.uk/">http://mouldlife.co.uk/</a>		
John Burn	Resins	<a href="http://www.johnburn.co.uk">http://www.johnburn.co.uk</a>		

## Misc

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Arthur Beales	ropes, chandlery	<a href="http://www.arthurbeale.co.uk">http://www.arthurbeale.co.uk</a>	194 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JP		
Inoxia	Wire Mesh	<a href="http://www.inoxia.co.uk/rw/section/1.aspx">http://www.inoxia.co.uk/rw/section/1.aspx</a>			
Metamark	vinyl	<a href="http://www.metamark.co.uk/pages_sv/7series.htm">http://www.metamark.co.uk/pages_sv/7series.htm</a>			
Clerkenwell screws	Screws			020 7405 1215	Really good screws wide range

## Textiles

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Alma Leather	leather offcuts/ leather supplier (apparel & upholstery)	<a href="http://www.almahome.co.uk/alma-leather.htm">http://www.almahome.co.uk/alma-leather.htm</a>	12-14 Greateorex St, London E1 5NF	020 7377 0762	
Gold hawk road (many shops)	fabric, pvc sheets	<a href="https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=goldhawk+road+fabric+shops&amp;oeq=goldhawk&amp;aqs=chrome.69i57j0l5.8836j0j7&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8">https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=goldhawk+road+fabric+shops&amp;oeq=goldhawk&amp;aqs=chrome.69i57j0l5.8836j0j7&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8</a>	Gold Hawk Road		Price can be negotiated if you are canny, and its cheaper than Berwick street
Berwick Street (many shops)	Fabric, sewing supplies	<a href="http://www.borovickfabricsltd.co.uk">http://www.borovickfabricsltd.co.uk</a>	16 Berwick Street, W1F 0HP	020 7437 2180/0520	Nice fabrics, buttons, thread, sewing materials. This is just one store but there are some nicer places on the same street.
MacCulloch + Walis	haberdashery (high quality)	<a href="http://www.macculloch-wallis.co.uk">http://www.macculloch-wallis.co.uk</a>	25-26 Poland Street, London, W1F 8QN		

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Bag of Love	Digital print	<a href="https://www.bagsoflove.co.uk">https://www.bagsoflove.co.uk</a>			
Fabrika	pattern cutting and toiling	<a href="http://www.fabrikalondon/">http://www.fabrikalondon/</a>			
London pattern bureau	Design/product development, CAD sketches, Pattern cutting, Toiling, Fittings, Sampling, Design & manufacturing consultancy, Womenswear, Menswear, Outerwear, Tailoring, Separates, Sportswear, Childrenswear, Wovens & knits	<a href="http://www.londonpatternbureau.co.uk">http://www.londonpatternbureau.co.uk</a>			
The sampling studio	Pattern Cutting, Toiles, Sampling, Grading, CMT, Production, Design	<a href="https://www.thesamplingstudio.com">https://www.thesamplingstudio.com</a>			
William Gee	Haberdashery	<a href="https://www.williamgee.co.uk">https://www.williamgee.co.uk</a>	520-522 Kingsland Road, London E8 4AH		

## Glass & Ceramics

Vendor	Material	Website	Address
Dixon Glass	Borosilicate Glassware	<a href="http://www.dixonglass.co.uk">http://www.dixonglass.co.uk</a>	
London Glasswork Ltd		<a href="http://www.londonglassworks.co.uk">http://www.londonglassworks.co.uk</a>	545 Garratt Lane, London, SW18 4SR
Ceramic studio co-op	Ceramic work	<a href="http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/chemistry/people/operation-sinfrastructure/technicalresearch/stephenramsey">http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/chemistry/people/operation-sinfrastructure/technicalresearch/stephenramsey</a>	14, 17, Block C, Juno Way, New Cross, London, SE14 5RW
Stephen Ramsey	glass blower		Imperial College

# Painting

Vendor	Material	Website	Address	Phone Number	Note
Stockwell Motor Accessories	cellulose paint	<a href="http://www.capitalcrispin.com">http://www.capitalcrispin.com</a>	226-236 Clapham Road London SW9 0PZ	0207 582 3666	
Colorite paint		<a href="http://www.colorite.co.uk/colourmatching.html">http://www.colorite.co.uk/colourmatching.html</a>	169 Boston Road, London, W7 3QJ	0208 579 3381	
Armourtex Ltd.	-powder coating		16 Rowe La, London, E9 6EL	020 8986 2028	
Purpose Powder Coating	powder coating		Old Kent Road		Pick up and drop off in person. Can drop your parts into existing production runs if small, and you're OK with standard colour (white or yellow) and charge the minimum cost. Say you're a student.

# Where to buy components

The following list is of common suppliers, other than eBay...

## Electronics

### UK

#### Arduino boards, shields, etc...

- [Proto-Pic](#)  
*Offers 10% student discount*
- [SKPang](#)
- [#DigitalMeans](#)
- [Cool Components](#)
- [HobbyTronics](#)
- [Kitronik](#)
- [Oomlout](#)
- [Pimoroni](#)
- [Spiratronics](#)
- [Bright Components](#)

## Components

- [Rapid](#)  
Student pricing + free delivery over £30
- [CPC](#)  
Free delivery over £8 + VAT
- [Farnell](#)  
Free delivery over £20
- [RS](#)  
Collect from Bow or free next day delivery
- [Mouser](#)  
Free delivery over £33
- [Bitsbox](#)

## Robotics + components

- [Technobots](#)
- [Active Robots](#)
- [Robot Shop](#)
- [MakerBeam](#) (European)

## International

- [Adafruit](#) (USA)
- [Sparkfun](#) (USA)
- [Seedstudio](#) (China)
- [DF Robot](#) (China)
- [DealExtreme](#) (China)
- [Digikey](#) (USA)
- [Ali Express](#) (China)

## Materials

- [Hamar Acrylic](#)
- [Hindleys](#)
- [Mindsets](#)

## Craft materials

- [Cass Art](#)
- [London Graphic Centre](#)

## Model shop

- [EMA Model Supplies](#)
- [4D Modelshop](#)

## Mechanical parts

- [Davall](#)
- [HPC](#)
- [SDP/SI](#)
- [McMaster-Carr](#)

- [Belting Online](#)
- [ondrives](#)
- [Bearing Station](#)
- [Direct Bearings](#)
- [Technobots](#)
- [Transdev](#)