

Prusa MK3S+ Maintenance

Regular maintenance checklist for the **Original Prusa i3 MK3S+**. If there is more than one MK3S+, go through the whole checklist for each printer. It follows Prusa's own guide: [i3 Printer Regular Maintenance](#).

How often

Interval	What
Every couple hundred print hours	Cleaning, axes, belts, extruder, fans, sheets (sections 2 to 7)
Every 600 to 800 print hours, or at least yearly	Electronics check (section 8)

Supplies

- Prusa Lubricant ([Prusa Lubricant Applicator Set](#)). Acceptable alternatives per Prusa: Super Lube synthetic grease, GLEIT-μ HF 400, Mogul LV 2-EP. Avoid very high viscosity grease.
- Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and paper towels
- Compressed air, small brass brush, tweezers, cotton swabs
- Allen keys, needle-nose pliers
- Acetone (Smooth PEI sheet only)

Do not lubricate the Z-axis lead screws or trapezoid nuts. Prusa explicitly warns against this.

1. Before you start

- Note the print hours from **LCD > Statistics**.
- Unload filament.
- Note the firmware version under **LCD > Support** (you will compare it in step 10).

2. General cleaning

- Brush or vacuum filament bits, dust and broken supports from the frame and under the heatbed.
- Heat the nozzle and brush off old plastic with a brass brush. Keep the brush off the thermistor and heater wires.

3. Smooth rods and bearings (X, Y, Z)

- Roll each smooth rod between your fingers and feel for grooves or scratches. Note any damaged rods.
- Wipe each rod clean with a dry paper towel.
- Apply a thin film of Prusa Lubricant to each rod and run the axis end to end several times ([Prusa maintenance tips guide](#)).
- If an axis still feels rough, remove the bearings, clean them with IPA, and grease the inside with a pea-sized amount ([bearing maintenance article](#)).
- Check that the X-carriage-back screws and Y-bearing U-bolts are snug but **not overtightened**. Overtightening deforms the bearings and scratches the rods.

4. Belts and pulleys

- Clear debris from the belt pulleys and idlers.
- Confirm each pulley grub screw is tight against the **flat** of its motor shaft.
- Pluck the X and Y belts: they should give a low bass note.
- Check **LCD > Support > Belt status**. Target values are **260 to 290**.
- Adjust if out of range: [Adjusting belt tension \(MK4/S, MK3.9/S, MK3.5/S, MK3/S/+\)](#).

5. Extruder (Bondtech gears and idler)

- Open the idler door (one screw on the MK3S+).

- Cover the PTFE tube entry with a cotton swab, then clean both Bondtech gears with a brass brush, rotating a few degrees at a time through a full turn. Blow out the debris.
- Verify the drive gear is aligned with the filament path and its grub screw is tight ([Checking/re-aligning the Bondtech gear](#)).
- Confirm the idler shaft and bearing spin freely.
- Optional: a tiny amount of non-oil grease on the **outward-facing gear teeth only**. Keep it off anything that touches filament.
- Check idler screw tension: the head should be roughly flush with the extruder plastic ([Idler screw tension](#)).

6. Fans

- Hold each propeller still and blow out dust with compressed air. Never spin a fan with air.
- Remove plastic strings with tweezers.
- Confirm the hotend fan and the print (part cooling) fan both spin freely by hand.

7. Print sheets

- Clean each steel sheet with IPA; use dish soap and warm water for a deeper clean.
- Acetone only on the **Smooth** PEI sheet, never on Textured or Satin ([Flexible steel sheets guidepost](#)).
- Note any sheets with gouges or worn coating.

8. Electronics (every 600 to 800 hours, or at least yearly)

- **Power off and unplug** the printer.
- Inspect cables for pinching, rubbing or worn insulation, especially the heatbed cable bundle.
- Blow dust out of the Einsy electronics enclosure.
- Gently tug-test the PSU and heatbed power connectors, and retighten any terminal screws that move ([Einsy RAMBo wiring reference](#)).

9. Nozzle

- Inspect the nozzle for wear (rounded tip, enlarged hole) or damage.
- Replace it only if print quality stays poor after everything above ([Changing or replacing the nozzle](#)).

10. Firmware and slicer

- Update to the latest stable MK3S+ firmware if it is behind ([How to update firmware MK3S+](#)).
- Confirm the shop computers have a current [PrusaSlicer](#).

11. Recalibrate

Prusa recommends recalibrating after maintenance.

- Run **Selftest** from **LCD > Calibration** (fans, axes, heaters).
- Run **XYZ calibration** if bearings, rods or the frame were disturbed ([XYZ calibration MK3/MK3S](#)). If the nozzle catches the paper, the SuperPINDA may need to be lowered slightly.
- Run **First layer calibration** and set Live Z for each sheet in use ([Basic calibration articles](#)).
- Print a small test part and inspect the first layer.

Afterwards

Record anything you found, what you did about it, and whether follow-up is needed. If the printer is not safe to use, tag it out of service: see **Shop Safety: Tagging a Tool Out of Service and Reporting It**.

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