THE MORE YOU KNOW HOW TO DOCUMENT AND SHARE YOUR PROJECTS, THE EASIER IT WILL BE FOR YOU TO SCALE.

As an individual or organization, you are able to collaborate globally and develop technologies needed to overcome challenges and start new ventures. Decentralized, collaborative hardware development can generate the innovations that our society needs. Using a web-based versioning system for sharing the documentation of your product

or service will allow you to facilitate its reproducibility and dissemination. Good documentation enables other people and communities to help you address the societal challenges you are tackling. This resource is a how-to that helps you to approach the documentation of your software or hardware project with an open and transparent culture.

Type:

digital tool

Subject:

#project documentation

Keywords:

#collaborative product development

#hardware specifications sharing

digital tutorials writing



How to document an open hardware project on WeVolver

1. Describe your project

Describe the project in separate modules such as, for example, the general description, the problem description, the hardware specification and the sensors.

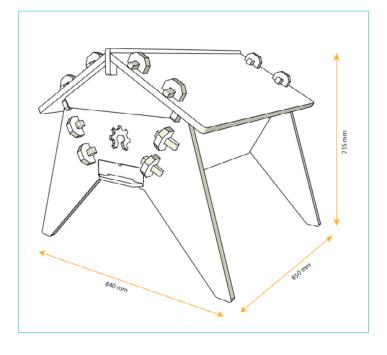


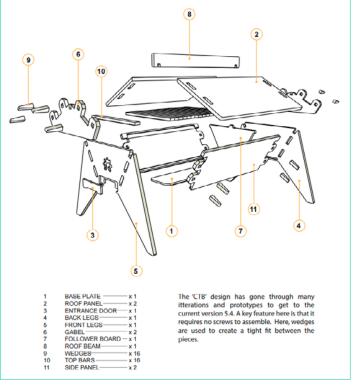
2. Create a bill of materials

The bill of materials should include the link to the online suppliers.

3. Include the blueprints

A blueprint is more friendly if it is provided with the exploded version of the design parts

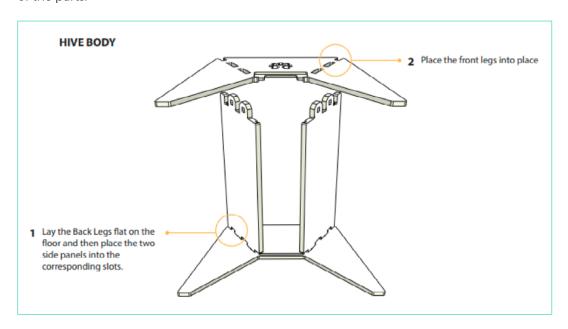






4.Describe the assembling process

Provide a step by step guide to support the assembling of the parts.



5. List the files and explain the differences

Provide information about the 2D and 3D file formats that you generated.



(Note: 20mm Metric / 19mm U.S.)

CTB - v5.4 - 3DModel - 20mm.3dm

Rhinosauras software has been used to generate this 3D model. Here you can play and tinker with the original designs.



CTB - v5.4 - Nesting - 20mm.3dm

A nesting file is essentially a flat version of the design laid out to generate cutting strategies and tool paths. Adjust this file to callibrate it for different woods and machines.



CTB - v5.4 - 3DExport - 20mm.stl

The STL export file provides an easy way to load the model into web viewers. This is not a place to edit the design.

6. Enable clones

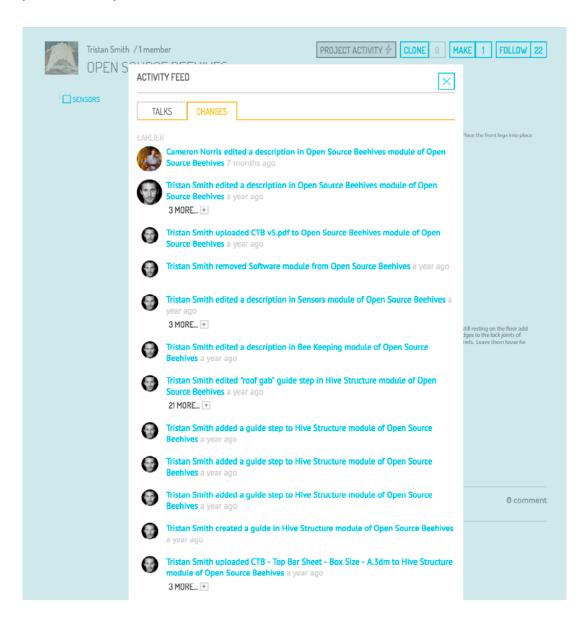
Use functionalities that help other people cloning your project and help you tracking who is making it.





7. Communicate changes of version

The documentation of an open hardware project is constantly evolving. Do not forget to update it and communicate the changes to your community.



About: Wevolver

Wevolver is a web platform enabling decentralized collaboration on hardware development, in open communities or private teams. We provide a central repository for sharing all projects' documentation including files, design descriptions, assembly guides and a Bill Of Materials. A Version Control system enables effective and secure iterations on the same project in parallel by multiple people. A large collection of public hardware projects and our community of open hardware developers provide resources and knowledge, empowering people to make, improve and collaborate on great technology.

Source:

Tristan Smith, documentation of the project Open Source Behive on Wevolver, www.wevolver.com/tristan.smith/ open-source-beehives, CC BY NC SA

Related resources

Github, www.github.com GitLab, www.about.gitlab.com