



Spring-Loaded Coin Tubes with Viewing Window (US + Euro)



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Summary

Steel-spring coin dispensers for US coins and euros: snap-beam cap, viewing window, and a holder for a car console tray.

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[nickel](#) [fuzzyskin](#) [cointube](#)

Spring-loaded coin tubes that keep loose change tidy and hand you one coin at a time. Press a coin into the top and it snaps in under the cap; slide the top coin out sideways and the next one pops up. A window down the side shows how full each tube is.

They lie side by side in a holder that fits a car's console coin tray, and work just as well on a desk or in a drawer.

- **Steel springs, not printed ones:** two small, cheap compression springs stacked in each tube give an even push from the first coin to the last and don't wear out. Earlier versions with a printed TPU spring lost their push within days.

- **Snap-beam cap:** two flexible PETG beams with teeth hold the top coin. Coins snap in from the top and slide out sideways. No TPU or second material needed.
- **Viewing window:** a full window means a full tube; as the tube empties, you see the follower move up.
- **Snap-on springs:** each spring end twists over a small barb on its part, so the springs stay put while you assemble.
- **Fuzzy-skin finish:** the 3MF files have fuzzy skin painted on the outside of the tubes and caps only, which hides the seam and layer lines. Bores and threads stay smooth.
- **No slicer supports:** the cap prints on two small built-in support blocks that break out by hand. Nothing else needs support.

Coins and capacity

Every tube is 69 mm (2.7 in) long and uses the same two springs.

US coin	Holds	Euro coin	Holds
Quarter	22	5 cent	23
Nickel	20	10 cent	20
Dime	29	20 cent	18
Penny	26	50 cent	16
		1 euro	16
		2 euro	17

The euro tubes come from the same tested design but have not been printed yet. If you print one, I'd love to hear how it works, the 20 cent coin with its notched edge especially.

What you need

Per tube, two compression springs, 0.5 mm wire and 10 mm outside diameter:

- **One 30 mm long spring** (bottom). I used [uxcell 0.5 x 10 x 30 mm, pack of 50](#).

- **One 40 mm long spring** (top). I used **MECCANIXITY 0.5 x 10 x 40 mm, pack of 10**.

Files

Two folders, **US coins** and **Euro coins**, each with a 3MF for Snapmaker Orca, OrcaSlicer and Bambu Studio, plus plain STLs.

- **US 3MF:** plate 1 has the quarter, nickel, dime and penny sets; plate 2 has the holders.
- **Euro 3MF:** plate 1 has 5, 10 and 20 cent; plate 2 has 50 cent, 1 euro and 2 euro.
- Each coin is **one object** in the object list, named like "Quarter set (tube, cap, follower, spool)". Delete the sets you don't want; everything else is ready to slice.
- **Holders (US):** the 3-tube holder (quarter, nickel, dime) fits a typical car console coin tray; the 4-tube holder adds the penny and is meant to stand on its own.
- **STL files:** the same parts without the fuzzy skin painting or slicer settings. See "Fuzzy skin from the STLs" below to add the finish yourself.

Printing

- **Material:** PETG (I used PETG-HF, printed on a Snapmaker U1). The cap's snap beams rely on PETG's flex; PLA is stiffer and more brittle and is untested.
- **Plate:** textured PEI. PETG can weld itself to smooth PEI.
- **Settings:** 0.4 mm nozzle, 0.2 mm layers. The 3MFs already set seam at the back, no brim, and the fuzzy skin. Print every part as it is placed: the tubes standing up, the caps upside down, the followers and spools flat.
- **Holders:** printed flat with variable layer height (0.08 mm over the curved cradles), already set in the 3MF.
- **Supports:** none in the slicer.

Fuzzy skin from the STLs

The 3MFs carry the fuzzy skin already. With the STLs you can add it in OrcaSlicer, Snapmaker Orca or Bambu Studio; here's how it was done:

- **Paint it, don't switch it on:** the window cuts through the tube wall, so in those layers the slicer treats the inside of the tube as an outer wall too. "Fuzzy skin: outer walls only" would roughen the bore where the coins slide.
- **Settings per object (tube and cap):** fuzzy skin **None**, thickness **0.3 mm**, point distance **0.8 mm**. Painted faces still get fuzzy skin with these values.

- **Paint with the fuzzy skin painting tool:** the outside of each tube from the bottom up to where the thread starts, and the outside of each cap. Leave the thread, the bore and everything inside smooth.
- **Seam position Back:** the STLs are turned so the back of the bed is the side that lies down in the holder, which hides the seam there. Keep them in that orientation.

After printing

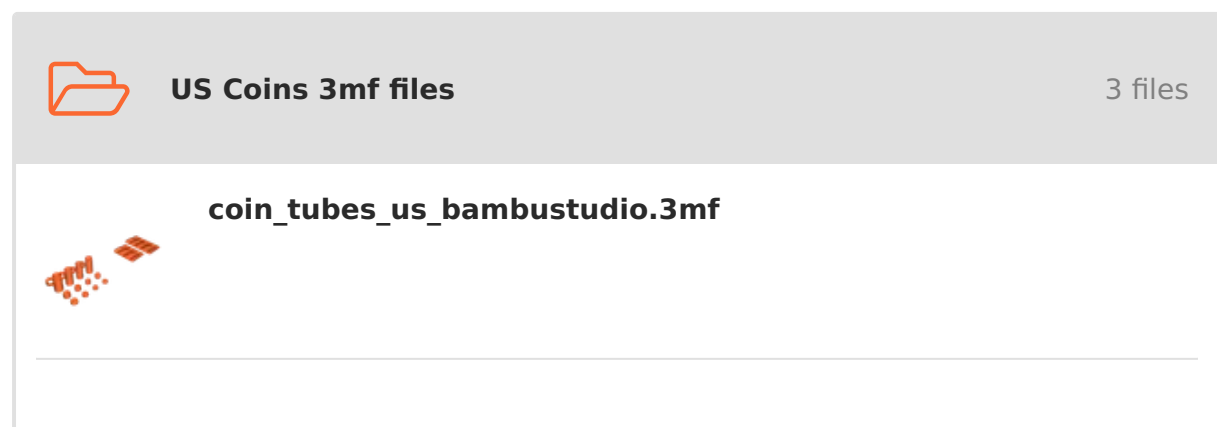
- **Cap:** break out the two small support blocks (red in the picture): one under the cap's open side, the other under the push notch at the back.
- Nothing else needs cleanup.

Assembly

1. **30 mm spring onto the spool:** twist one end of the spring onto the post under the spool until it clicks over the barb.
2. **40 mm spring onto the follower:** the same way, onto the post under the follower.
3. **Drop the spool in:** spool and spring go into the tube, spring first, so its free end lands on the post in the bottom of the tube.
4. **Drop the follower in:** spring first, so the free end of the spring sits in the pocket on top of the spool.
5. **Screw on the cap,** firmly.
6. **Load coins:** press them in one at a time from the top; each one pushes the stack down and snaps in under the cap's teeth. To take one, push the top coin out sideways through the open side of the cap.

The viewing window lines up with the cap's opening when the cap is screwed on tight. Depending on your printer it may sit a few millimeters to one side; that's cosmetic.

Model files





coin_tubes_us_orcaslicer.3mf

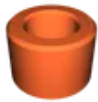


coin_tubes_us_snapmakerorca.3mf



US stl files

18 files



coin_tube_nickel_follower.stl



coin_tube_nickel_spool.stl



coin_tube_penny_follower.stl



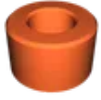
coin_tube_penny_spool.stl



coin_tube_dime_spool.stl



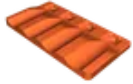
coin_tube_quarter_spool.stl



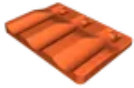
coin_tube_quarter_follower.stl



coin_tube_dime_follower.stl



coin_holder_4_tubes_with_penny.stl



coin_holder_3_tubes_quarter_nickel_dime.stl



coin_tube_nickel_cap.stl



coin_tube_nickel_tube.stl



coin_tube_penny_cap.stl



coin_tube_penny_tube.stl



coin_tube_quarter_cap.stl



coin_tube_quarter_tube.stl



coin_tube_dime_tube.stl



coin_tube_dime_cap.stl



Euro Coins 3mf files

3 files



coin_tubes_eu_orcaslicer.3mf



coin_tubes_eu_snapmakerorca.3mf

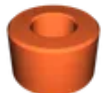


coin_tubes_eu_bambustudio.3mf



Euro stl files

24 files



coin_tube_euro_2eur_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_2eur_spool.stl



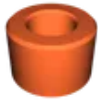
coin_tube_euro_10c_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_5c_spool.stl



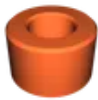
coin_tube_euro_5c_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_1eur_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_10c_spool.stl



coin_tube_euro_50c_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_50c_spool.stl



coin_tube_euro_20c_follower.stl



coin_tube_euro_1eur_spool.stl



coin_tube_euro_20c_spool.stl



coin_tube_euro_5c_tube.stl



coin_tube_euro_1eur_tube.stl



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coin_tube_euro_20c_tube.stl



coin_tube_euro_50c_tube.stl



coin_tube_euro_10c_cap.stl

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