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# Take the Bechdel-Test to evaluate the gender balance in your Maker initiative!

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*Can you answer all the questions with “yes”?*

- 1) Are at least 30% of the members of your Maker initiative female?
- 2) Do they actually “make” things?
- 3) Do they initiate their own projects (not just realizing ideas of other members)?
- 4) Is there a female makerspace manager in your makerspace?



# About the Bechdel-Test

In media-science, the *Bechdel-Test* (named after the American Cartoonist Alison Bechdel) has gained popularity as a standard tool to assess how women are depicted in movies and other popular media. The test consists of three very easy questions and aims at raising awareness for uneven depiction of females in mainstream media.

**MAKE-IT**'s case studies revealed a high demand for further strategies to raise diversity within makerspaces. A simple tool to sensitize stakeholders to create a diverse environment could be a promising approach.

We adapted the simple structure of the Bechdel-Test from media to makerspaces in order to stimulate self-reflection on this issue in the **Maker movement**.



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