



Fidget Toy Sourcing Checklist

For Brand Owners, DTC Sellers, Promotional Buyers & Crowdfunding Creators

Use this checklist before you place a production order. It covers the six things that most often turn a smooth fidget run into a delayed or over-budget one — the brief, the material choice, tooling, sample approval, and the documents that should arrive with the goods.

100

UNIT MOQ ON SOFT FIDGETS

5-7

DAY PROTOTYPES

20–25

DAY BULK PRODUCTION

LeelineToys — Custom Fidget Toy Manufacturer

Suixian Economic Development Zone, Suizhou City, Hubei Province, China

leelinetoys.com | info@leelinetoys.com | WhatsApp +86 139-8615-2456 | Get a Quote

1 The Brief — What Your Factory Needs Before It Can Quote

A vague brief is the most common cause of a quote that later doubles. Send all eight of these up front.

Target age grade

This single line drives every safety requirement downstream — small-parts limits, material restrictions, and labelling. Decide it before you design, not after.

 The tactile target, described in words

How hard should the pop resist? Should the spinner be silent or clicky? How far should it stretch? Name a reference product you want it to feel like — "soft silicone" alone does not describe a feel.

Finished dimensions, weight, and the smallest detachable part

Manufacturers quote against a size. The smallest part also decides whether the age grade holds.

 Material named by grade and hardness, not by family

"Silicone" is not a specification. "Food-grade silicone, Shore A 50, Pantone 212C" is — and it will be priced differently.

 Magnets: type, and how they will be encapsulated

Only if the design uses them. Say whether the magnet must be fully enclosed, and confirm the standard the encapsulation will be tested against.

Colour count and reference

Pantone numbers or a physical master sample. Colour count is a direct cost driver, so fix it early.

Decoration method, and where the logo sits

In-mould deboss, pad print, in-mould labelling, laser engraving or heat transfer. A logo on a high-wear surface needs a method that goes into the material, not onto it.

Destination markets, and volume forecast per SKU

Each market demands a different compliance route, and volume is the single largest unit-price lever. Give a realistic first order and a 12-month view, not a best case.

2 Material Selection — Matching Material to the Feel

The material decides the feel, the cost, and which tests apply

MATERIAL	TYPICAL USE	SPECIFY IN WRITING	WATCH FOR
Food-grade silicone	Pop Its, chewables, oral-contact pieces	Shore A hardness, colour, food-contact route	Migration is tested per colour and grade — not once for "silicone" in general
TPR / TPE	Stretchy fidgets, mesh tubes, grip parts	Hardness, surface tack, stretch before tearing	The two names are interchangeable — ask for the actual grade
PU foam	Slow-rise stress balls	Density, and rebound time in seconds	Keep therapeutic and medical claims off the packaging
ABS	Cube bodies, housings, click parts	Grade, finish, age grade for the smallest part	Small-parts limits tighten below 36 months
Zinc alloy / stainless steel	Spinner weights, ring fidgets	Bearing model, coating, RoHS / REACH	A spin time is meaningless without its test conditions
Birch / bamboo	Wooden cubes, natural sensory boards	Species, thickness, edge radius, coating	FSC only if the supplying mill holds chain of custody

Confirm the current standard for your destination with an accredited lab before the run starts.

3 MOQ & Tooling — Stock Mould or New Mould?

The question that decides both your minimum order and your lead time

Does the design use an existing shape?

If a stock mould can carry your colours and branding, the minimum is far lower and there is no tooling charge.

What exactly needs a new mould?

Shape, bubble layout, hinge and housing each add tooling. A new silhouette costs more than a new colourway.

Who owns the mould once it is paid for?

Get it in writing. If you pay for the tooling it should be yours, and you should be able to move it.

What is the minimum on a new mould?

Always higher than a stock shape — the run has to justify the tooling. Ask before you design around it.

What sits in front of the production run?

Mould fabrication, a T0 sample and your approval. A 20–25 day run quoted with no mould time is an incomplete schedule.

Can you buy samples only?

You should be able to order prototypes without committing to mass production — that is how you validate the feel.

4 Sample Approval — What to Actually Test

A sample that looks right is not the same as one that feels right. Work through all six before you sign it off.

☐ Pop resistance, across the whole sheet

Push every bubble, not one. Resistance should be even — a stiff corner repeats across the whole run.

☐ Spin time, reproduced under the stated conditions

Measure it yourself, on a horizontal surface, at room temperature, with the bearing model the quote names. A spin figure without test conditions cannot be rechecked at reorder.

☐ Stretch and recovery

Stretch it well past normal use, then let go. It should return without permanent deformation or a whiteness mark along the stress line.

☐ Magnet encapsulation

Try to free a magnet by twisting and prying. EN71-1 requires magnetic parts to be enclosed; ASTM F963 limits the flux index for magnets that fit the small-parts cylinder.

☐ Decoration wear, and colour in daylight

Rub the print hard where a thumb sits. Check colour under D65 or plain daylight, not a shop lamp.

☐ The smallest detachable part, against the age grade

Confirm nothing detachable falls below the limit for your declared age grade. This decides whether the product can be sold at all.

5 Documents That Should Ship With the Order

Ask for this list at quoting stage, so nothing is produced before the paperwork is possible

DOCUMENT	WHAT IT PROVES	WHEN YOU NEED IT
Test report from an accredited lab	Tested to a named standard, traceable to a batch	Any market
Children's Product Certificate (CPC)	US children's product compliance via third-party testing	United States
Declaration of Conformity + CE / UKCA marking	EU and UK compliance, technical file held on record	EU and United Kingdom
Food-contact declaration	The grade is suitable for oral contact, with migration testing	Chewables and silicone Pop Its
RoHS / REACH statements	Restricted substances are controlled	Electronics, metal coatings, EU sale
Pre-shipment inspection report	The shipped batch matches the sample you approved	Third-party inspector appointed

The applicable set depends on your destination and your retail buyer — ask for the exact list in the written quote.

6 Red Flags in a Quote or a Sample

Any one of these is worth a direct question. Two or more is worth a second supplier.

A spin time quoted with no test conditions

"Three minutes" means nothing without the bearing model, the surface, and the room temperature. Ask how it was measured.

"Food-grade" with no hardness and no report

Ask for the Shore A figure and the migration report behind the claim. Both should be available before you order.

Magnets glued rather than encapsulated

Encapsulation is a design decision made before tooling, not a finishing step. If it is not in the spec sheet, it is not in the product.

No written spec sheet before the quote

A quote without a spec cannot be compared to another quote, and cannot be enforced later.

The test lab is unnamed

Reports must come from an accredited lab and be traceable to your production batch — not a generic certificate from an unknown source.

Refusal of a third-party inspection

Pre-shipment inspection by SGS, TUV or Intertek is routine. Refusing it is not.

Planning your first fidget toy production run?

Send us your brief — a sketch, a reference product, or just the feel you are after — and we will come back with a material recommendation, a prototype plan and a line-item quote within 24 hours.

[Get a Free Quote →](#) · [Custom fidget toys](#) · [WhatsApp +86 139-8615-2456](#) · info@leelinetoys.com