

MAKE-A-TON

Ghent on the move



April 2 - 5 2024

Z
O
M
O
O

COMON

We all move through the city. An ideal opportunity to stay active en healthy. Every step counts. When we traverse the city daily on foot, by bike, or in another active way, we lay the groundwork for a healthy lifestyle. According to citizens of Ghent, movement should also be enjoyable. That's why Comon is launching an experiment over the next year and a half around the challenge 'How can we make moving through the city more enjoyable?' And we need your creative mind to do so!

Are you a student in Ghent? Do you want to contribute to tangible solutions for this interesting social challenge and learn a lot in the process? Then you're the person we're looking for!

What can you expect from this Make-a-ton?

During 3.5 days, you'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the innovation process around a current social challenge.

- You'll learn skills such as design thinking, rapid prototyping, and elevator pitching under expert guidance.
- You'll work with students from diverse backgrounds, build valuable networks, and have a real impact with your ideas.
- Breakfast and lunch are on us every day.
- You'll receive a participation certificate, an online portfolio, and have a chance to win a €100 voucher.
- You'll be part of a larger program on 'Ghent on the move' and contribute to real societal change. Who knows, you might sow a seed that can continue to grow even after this Make-a-ton!

Curious about what
a Make-a-ton
looks like?

[Discover the previous
edition](#)

What is this about?

At Comon, we will be working on the challenge 'How can we make moving through the city more enjoyable?' over the course of the next year and a half. Through various phases and activities, we aim to analyse this challenge, devise solutions for it, and create prototypes – with technology as part of the solution.

The Make-a-ton is part of this Comon project. The best ideas will be further developed during the Microlab phase.

When?

During the Easter break, from Tuesday afternoon, April 2, to Friday, April 5, 2024. The Make-a-ton will take place during office hours (9 am – 6 pm).

For whom?

Are you a student in Ghent? You can apply! Students from all years, programs, and backgrounds are welcome – as long as you're up for thinking creatively and out-of-the-box and rolling up your sleeves.

Applying – how does it work?

To ensure a high-quality Make-a-ton, we can coach a maximum of 12 teams. Therefore, we ask you to apply with a brief motivation. During two selection waves, we will choose the students who can participate this year.

Apply on time:

- Early deciders can apply **until Monday, December 11**. We will announce the selection from this first wave on **Friday, December 15**. If you are selected in this round, you are guaranteed a spot in the Make-a-ton.
- If you've missed the first wave, you can apply **until Friday, March 1**. We will announce the selection from this second wave on **Friday, March 8**.

Application for the Make-a-ton is individual. During the Make-a-ton, you will work with other students in a small team. We want to assemble these teams as interdisciplinarily as possible. Ideally, a team should have at least 4 different profiles (see below). When applying, we will ask you to indicate which of these profiles best suits you. Teams will be formed based on these profiles. Already have a team in mind? Be sure to indicate in the comments of your application who you would like to work with.

The profiles

When applying, we will ask you to indicate which of the following profiles best suits you.



The techie: Do you have knowledge of programming, electronics, do you have maker skills... Do you have knowledge of or an interest in new technologies? Then you're the right techie for the team.



The designer: Are you fascinated by product development? Do you have knowledge of or an interest in design & development, UX, graphic design, industrial design...? Then you fit perfectly as a designer within the team.



The health or movement expert: Are you interested in health? Do you have knowledge about the medical world, preventive healthcare, or do you know a lot about healthy movement...? We need you too!



The social expert: Can you think from a human-centered perspective about how a solution could really make a social difference? Do you have a background in psychology, sociology, social work...? Join the team .



The communicator: To come up with solutions that are accessible to everyone, we need communication specialists. Is communication your thing? You too are essential!



The entrepreneur: To implement a working solution and make it available to users, financial and business aspects are also important. Are you mainly interested in how to get and keep a company or organization running? Do you have a background in economics, business administration...? Then you complete the team.

Extra option:



The freestyler: Do you not recognize yourself in any of the above profiles, but are you very interested in participating? Then be sure to apply! We will discuss together how we can best match your skills and knowledge with those of other students.

Next steps?

- **Info session (optional)**

Are you interested, but would you like to get some more information before applying? Join one of our info sessions. Here we will provide more information about the Make-a-ton so that you know exactly what you're signing up for. Both info sessions will take place digitally on:

- Friday, December 1, 12 pm-1 pm. Sign up [here](#).
- Thursday, February 15, 12 pm-1 pm. Sign up [here](#).

Note: Both info sessions will be in Dutch. However, we are happy to answer questions in English.

- **Application and selection**

Convinced? Apply as a candidate. You can do this via the link below. If you are selected to participate, you will receive a confirmation from us by email on December 15 (first wave) or March 8 (second wave).

[Apply for the Make-a-ton](#)

Note: The application form for the Make-a-ton is only available in Dutch, and general communication, workshops, etc. during the Make-a-ton will all be in Dutch. However, we are happy to welcome English speaking students who can follow the workshops in Dutch. We are able to provide most of the coaching in English.

- **Pre-event (mandatory)**

If you are selected to participate, we expect you at the preparatory pre-event on Tuesday, March 19, 12 pm-1 pm (online). Here we will brief you on all the information you need for the start of the Make-a-ton. Mark this date in your agenda!

Who is Comon?

Comon is an open laboratory where researchers and technologists collaborate with creatives and citizens to make Ghent an even better city. Even more pleasant, even healthier. How? By listening to what Ghent citizens need. Exploring this together. And designing and testing human-centered technological solutions. For and with Ghent citizens and enthusiasts. Because at Comon, everyone is an inventor.

This can only succeed if we work together. Policymakers from the City of Ghent, researchers from imec and Ghent University, and the employees of the De Krook Library. They took the initiative to establish Comon, with the desire to put technology back at the service of society. They are the partners in De Krook who collaborate at the intersection of culture, technology, and digital innovation. Comon often collaborates with other De Krook partners Avansa regio Gent and Urgent.fm.



COMON

