



Interactive Virtual Tour Instructor Guide

Buster's Cotton Gin

To implement this tour, you will need:

The tour link: <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=49uxoud2H3D>

A way for your students to view/interact with the tour:

- Option 1: smartphones with Google Cardboard or other viewers
- Option 2: students view the tours via personal computers or tablets with individual headphones
- Option 3: project the tour on a screen at the front of the room for students to view together

Background Information

This tour takes visitors through a state-of-the-art cotton ginning facility near Lubbock, Texas, called Buster's Gin. The tour has integrated "stops" to allow visitors to watch the cotton ginning process in action. Visitors can witness the process from the moment cotton enters to when it leaves as bales ready for shipping.

Purpose Statement and Learning Objectives

The purpose of this iVisit tour is to introduce students to the cotton ginning process.

Learning Objectives:

After completing this tour, students will be able to:

- Name various stages of the cotton ginning process.
- Explain factors that influence the quality of cotton.
- Describe how technology may influence the efficiency of the cotton ginning process.
- Name the machinery used throughout the cotton ginning process.
- Discuss the role of labor in the cotton ginning process and how technology may influence that need.

Key Terms

Condenser

Cotton bales

Cotton fiber

Cotton seed

Gin press

Gin Stand

Horizontal cleaner

Lint cleaners

Module Feeder

Short Fibered Cotton



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What You and Your Students Will See in the Tour

This tour includes the cotton ginning process from when it arrives at the gin to when it leaves in bales for grading and storage. You can navigate the tour using different options:

1. By navigating to the first stop and then using the arrows to progress through the process from beginning to end.
2. From the floorplan view move to a specific stage of the process. This button is found in the bottom left side of the screen.
3. Using the mouse to simply move and look around. You can click the white circles along the floor to move through the tour.

Throughout the tour, you can click on information points to learn more and view additional media about the area. You can use the following outline to guide students through the tour.

Starting Point – First Stop in the Cotton Ginning Process

Starting point – Hall of Buster's Gin

- View the welcome point and proceed to the first green checkpoint to view the “From the Field” video clip explaining the cotton harvest process
- Explore the first stop in the cotton ginning process – the Module Feeder
 - Long modules
 - Round bales
- Continue moving down the hall to view different perspectives of the module feeder

Drying and Pre-Cleaning

- Navigate down the hall to the dryers by clicking checkpoints until you arrive at the blue wrench icon. Discover how the optimal moisture levels and learn about the cotton drying process
 - Dryers
 - Moisture levels
- Follow the infrastructure down to the next blue icon in the air, labeled “Horizontal Cleaner,” to learn about the first machine in the cotton cleaning process.
- Proceed to the icon to the right, labeled “Incline Cleaner.”

Control Panel and Gin Stand

- Move over to the control panels and screens to view the equipment used to control the entire system.
- Observe how the gin stand operates in real time
 - Feed Master
- Continue down to the Lint Cleaners

Lint Cleaners and the Condenser

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- Learn about the role of the lint cleaners and the condenser, the next stage in the ginning process
- Gain another perspective on the facility's condenser

Final Steps – Gin Press, Packaging, Shipping

- Watch how the gin press operates and how cotton is baled
- Exit the warehouse to explore the shipping dock
- See where the cotton is packaged, how it enters the dock, is shipped, and eventually stored
- Move through the dock to see photos of storage warehouses
- Finally, view where short-fibered cotton is loaded prior to being used in the production of goods

Acknowledgments

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