

MEDIA SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

Cold Glass

The purpose of the guideline is to ensure the continued acceptance/inclusion of well crafted pieces into the Market Registry, reflecting Craft Nova Scotia's ongoing commitment to the development of fine craft in Nova Scotia

1. Intent

Objects must reflect levels of technique and thought which clearly indicate the maker's intent to create works which can be readily recognized as examples of the professional and artistic execution of their medium.

The work should demonstrate a visual balance between technique and composition, and be the result of careful planning. Work should exhibit qualities of composition and design and should challenge the technical range of the maker.

Finally, the intent to produce excellent work should result in pieces that communicate the unique voice of the maker.

2. Design

A successful object must be the result of careful designing, with obvious thoughtfulness used in determining the proportions, structural integrity, material and colours used.

Careful designing controls both the finished appearance of the work as well as its structure. The most skillful soldering cannot hide a poor fit between difficult to cut shapes of glass, nor can it reinforce the weakness caused by a hinge line that runs across a piece of work. A successful design will exhibit the following properties:

- structural integrity
- visually pleasing proportion
- either a uniform quality of material choice, or an obviously considered interplay of disparate materials
- neat and precise fabrication

3. Production Quality and Technique

Whether produced in quantity or as an individual piece, the object must reflect excellent skill and production quality, being visibly well-conceived and expertly executed.

The maker should always endeavour to produce work that exhibits the highest quality of skill by ensuring that:

- beads of the solder lines are uniform
- joints of either solder beads or came connections are neat and strong
- glass areas are unblemished by flux or patina burns, scratches, edge chips, or in fired glass areas, blistered paint or kiln wash
- the finished work should be clean, the glass completely free of smudges, dirt or any other residue; and the metals free of scratches or corrosion and exhibiting a slight polished lustre.

4. Source

The design of an object must be original or an adaptation of a traditional design which demonstrates the unique skills of the maker and reflects an individual identity of design. The object must be designed and fabricated by the applying maker, or by employees under the direct supervision of that person.

In stained glass, much of the design onus rests upon the cutting pattern or cartoon. Simple construction of commercially available cartoons is not acceptable under the Craft Nova Scotia's Standards Guidelines.

5. Materials Used

The object must be constructed of materials which are of high quality appropriate to the structural integrity, utility and visual appearance of the object.

The use of specific materials should be justified by the intent, design and structure of the object, with the highest quality of appropriate materials being used in all cases. The maker should always use materials which ensure the longevity of the finished piece.

6. Fabricated Content

Commercially fabricated elements in objects, including package, must be subordinate to the overall design of the object. Objects packaged and sold as a prepackaged unit are defined as gift packages and must be submitted for assessment in the ready for sale state.

For the purposes of the definition above, sheet glass, metal comes, metal foils, solders and glass paints are considered raw materials. Other glass or metal items, such as bevels, cast jewels, lenses, marbles and metal appliqué, hinges jewellery findings, and clock hands, are considered commercially fabricated elements and are subject to being judged subordinate to the overall design.

7. Specific Exclusions

New forms and innovations will be considered by the Standards Committee. Unfinished items or kits for consumer assembly are not considered acceptable for Craft NS markets.

Items, such as cast metal figurines allowing glass inserts, cast glass sandblasting blanks, and kits used to produce kaleidoscopes or marble scopes are not acceptable as their fabricated content far outweighs any contribution to the final design that can be made by the craftsperson.

The use of pre-cut sandblasting or etching resist mats is only acceptable if these mats are fabricated from an original design. The use of commercially available pattern mats is not acceptable.

The use of molds for glass casting is permitted only when these molds are designed and fabricated by the maker.

The use of non-fired transparent enamels or resin-based line extrusion systems (i.e. squeeze lead in tubes) is not acceptable.

8. Labelling

All articles must be labeled with the maker's name, address and the pertinent instructions to the consumer concerning care and maintenance as well as any information to the consumer required by law.

A tag or card should be included with each item, containing contact information as well as any special cleaning instructions or use warnings. In particular, any item containing lead which requires frequent handling, prolonged contact with the skin, or which could be used to store or serve foodstuffs should carry a warning tag about the dangers of heavy metal poisoning.