

MEDIA SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

Fibre – Dyed and Print Textiles

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

Object must reflect levels of technique, thought and consideration of intended use which can be readily recognized as examples of the professional and artistic execution of their medium.

The knitted garment has been created as a functional art form.

That within a standard design (e.g., mittens) there can be a diverse range of texture and colour.

Design, material content and function are presented as a harmonious unit.

2. DESIGN

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

If the knitting is intended for use as a wearable garment (as opposed to a gallery type of knitted sculpture), it must be designed to fit a body, in appropriate sizing.

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.

Must reflect excellent craftsmanship, and good working knowledge of the tools used (i.e., the knitting machine) in either "one-of-a-kind" or a production piece, exhibiting care, and attention to detail.

Both production and "one-of-a-kind" work should show a unique/personal identity of design.

Functional work should be designed with end use in mind. Objects will be tested during the jury process.

Fabrication should exhibit high levels of skill in the following:

DYEING TECHNIQUES

- Base fabrics should be high quality and appropriate for end use

- Solid areas should be an even colour (when intended to be so)
- A tied, sewn or applied resist should reserve the intended area in white or desired colour and show a firm, consistent drawing style
- Salt should be used in “French dyes” only when appropriate to design

PRINTING TECHNIQUES

- Each colour area should be consistent, not interrupted with splotches, pinholes or clogged areas on screen

FINISHING

- Dyes and pigments should be heat set, steamed and washed as appropriate and/or needed
- Resists (gutta, wax, etc.) should be completely removed
- Clothing and accessories should be constructed with care (see other Guidelines)

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.

Since, in a reproduction there is no design input, the onus of judgment is upon technical skill alone. Copying currently produced work is not acceptable.

Whether an original design, or an adaptation of a traditional design, the work should clearly reflect a personal interpretation.

While giving a sense of the historical context from which a traditional adaptation has come, the pieces should clearly reflect a personal interpretation of this.

5. MATERIAL USED

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

Materials should be appropriate to the intent of the pieces, both in purpose and visual appearance.

Work must demonstrate a level of technical competence and understanding of the materials used.

6. FABRICATED CONTENT

Commercially fabricated elements in objects, including packaging, 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.

Commercially fabricated elements (findings, buttons, zippers, packaging, etc.) must be of fine quality, and if appropriate, fulfill the requirements of other media.

Clothing and home furnishings should be labeled, the content and care as required by law.

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.

Use of hand hemmed scarves is permitted. Pre-made clothing is not permitted unless fabricated by the applying maker, or by those under their direct supervision.

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.

An appropriate business card or tag should be included with each piece, including any special instructions concerning care or use of the piece.