

MEDIA SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

Metal - Jewellery

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.

Work should exhibit an understanding and respect for the properties of the materials, and should demonstrate the skillful manipulation of basic materials in producing the object.

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.

Jewellery items made of non-metal elements, or combinations of metal and non-metal elements, must be made to the quality standards for metal jewellery where applicable.

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.

- Cast items must be properly finished to eliminate casting marks – sprues, bubbles, voids, inclusions, flashing, etc.
- Edges should be smooth and well finished. Jewellery items should not have any sharp elements which could damage clothing or person.
- Solder joints should be clean and complete with no excess solder.
- Finishes, whether highly polished or textured, should be uniform and demonstrate adequate control of the technique.
- Functional elements must be strong, operate properly and must be securely and neatly attached to the piece.
- Findings, either commercial or handmade, must be solidly attached to the piece with solders or other mechanical means where possible (rivets, screws, etc.). If epoxy or other adhesives are used, they must be durable and neatly applied without excess overrun.

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

For production cast items, the design, original prototype, and mold should all be made by the applicant.

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 used in jewellery items must be selected with consideration of durability, wearability and customer maintenance and cleaning.

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.

Commercial findings are acceptable for jewellery items, but must be unobtrusive and should not constitute a major design element of the piece. Findings should also be of an appropriate quality.

Jewellery made by assembling manufactured or found elements without substantial manipulation (crafting) is not acceptable.

Commercially cut gemstones are acceptable but must be of good quality, properly set, and an integral part of the overall design of the piece. Tumbled stones are not acceptable.

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.

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.

Because of size restrictions, information may be supplied on an accompanying card or insert.

If used, karat and sterling marks or signs must be accompanied by the makers' registered trademark.