

Category - Needlework

**Counted Cross-Stitch
Needlepoint**

**Crochet/Knitting
Quilting Embroidery/Crewel**

General Information:

Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. The pattern must be submitted with the entry.

The back of all entries must be accessible for judges to view. Samplers and similar items must be matted, not framed. Pillows must be constructed so that the pillow form is removable, allowing judges to view the back of all stitching. All stitching must be completely finished to be eligible.

For needlework, such as stitched pictures or samplers, two mats may be used to “sandwich” the project. Using two mats of the same size will enable judges to view the back of the stitched area.

Entry must not be larger than 11x14, including matting. Do not attach any hangers, hooks, or wires to the back of the item.

For the safety of those observing ShowCase entries, framed items will be refused.

Helps to consider:

The neatness of a finished work will enable your work to present well. The proper finishes of edges will be determined by the form your work is in, whether hemmed, turned-under, or other options.

Watch for the proper tension of your stitches, and knots and loose threads that are tied correctly and tucked out of sight.

Items will present best if they are clean, pressed, blocked, or whatever technique is appropriate for your project. Imaginative treatments of standard needlework stitches will create a work that is unique.

Counted Cross-Stitch

Counted Cross-Stitch - a form of stitch, or a kind of needlework in which the stitches are diagonal and in pairs, crossing to form X's, done on an open weave fabric.

Rules:

No stamped cross-stitch is allowed. Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. The pattern must be submitted with the entry. The work must be the sole work of the student.

The back of all entries must be accessible for judges to view. Samplers and similar items must be matted, not framed. All stitching must be completely finished to be eligible.

For needlework, such as stitched pictures or samplers, two mats may be used to “sandwich” the project. Using two mats of the same size will enable judges to view the back of the stitched area.

Entry must not be larger than 11x14, including matting.

Do not attach any hangers, hooks, or wires to the back of the item.

For the safety of those observing ShowCase entries, framed items will be refused.

Judging Criteria

Originality:

- concept and design
- appropriate combination of different designs or patterns

Workmanship/Technical:

- appropriate use of base material, thread, color and design of pattern(s)
- uniformity of stitches
- all cross stitches crossed in the same direction
- even border around pattern
- even tension on stitches
- proper starts and finishes of threads or yarns
- no knots or loose ends

Condition of Entry:

- washed and ironed
- completed properly

Presentation:

- demonstrates knowledge and understanding of tools and procedures used
- understands reasons for selecting base material, needles, thread, etc.

Crocheting and Knitting

Crochet - to form fabric by interlacing a single yarn or thread in a series of loops by means of a single hook.

Knitting - to form fabric by interlacing a single yarn or thread in a series of loops by means of two needles.

Rules:

Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. The pattern must be submitted with the entry. Stitching must be completed properly, and entry must be the sole work of the student.

Judging Criteria**Originality:**

- concept and design
- appropriate combination of different designs or patterns

Workmanship/Technical:

- appropriate use color and design of pattern
- uniformity of stitches
- even border
- proper casting on/casting off
- no knots or loose ends

Condition of Entry:

- neat and clean
- blocked
- completed properly

Presentation:

- demonstrates knowledge and understanding of tools and procedures used
- knows reason for selection of different size hooks and needles, particular yarn, etc.

Embroidery and Crewel

Embroidery/Crewel - the art or process of ornamenting cloths or leather with decorative stitching with floss or yarn.

Rules:

If a pattern is used for the entry, pattern pieces must be submitted and on display. Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. No machine embroidery is permitted. The work must be the sole work of the student. The back of all entries must be accessible for judges to view. Samplers and similar items must be matted, not framed. All stitching must be completely finished to be eligible.

For needlework, such as stitched pictures or samplers, two mats may be used to “sandwich” the project. Using two mats of the same size will enable judges to view the back of the stitched area. Entry must not be larger than 11x14, including matting.

Do not attach any hangers, hooks, or wires to the back of the item.

For the safety of those observing ShowCase entries, framed items will be refused.

Judging Criteria**Originality:**

- concept and design
- appropriate combination of different designs or patterns

Workmanship/Technical:

- appropriate use of base material, thread, color and design of pattern
- uniformity of stitches
- even border around pattern
- even tension on stitches
- proper starts and finishes of threads or yarns
- no knots or loose ends

Condition of Entry:

- washed or dry cleaned
- completed properly

Presentation:

- demonstrates knowledge and understanding of tools and procedures used
- understands reasons for selecting base material, needles, thread, etc.

Needlepoint

Needlepoint - decorating open-weave canvas with wool or synthetic yarn in patterns of regular, even stitches.

Rules:

If a pattern is used for the entry, pattern pieces must be submitted and on display. Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. The work must be the sole work of the student.

The back of all entries must be accessible for judges to view. Samplers and similar items must be matted, not framed. All stitching must be completely finished to be eligible.

For needlework, such as stitched pictures or samplers, two mats may be used to “sandwich” the project. Using two mats of the same size will enable judges to view the back of the stitched area.

Entry must not be larger than 11x14, including matting.

Do not attach any hangers, hooks, or wires to the back of the item.

Rugs must be no larger than five feet by seven feet. No plastic canvas is permitted.

For the safety of those observing ShowCase entries, framed items will be refused.

Judging Criteria

Originality:

- concept and design
- appropriate combination of different designs or patterns

Workmanship/Technical:

- appropriate use of base material, thread, color and design of pattern
- uniformity of stitches
- even border around pattern
- even tension on stitches
- proper starts and finishes of threads or yarns
- no knots or loose ends

Condition of Entry:

- washed or dry cleaned
- completed properly

Presentation:

- demonstrates knowledge and understanding of tools and procedures used
- understands reasons for selecting base material, needles, thread, etc.

Quilting

Quilting - to stitch or sew in decorative lines or patterns through layers of fabric and filler material.

Rules:

Quilted entries may be machine or hand-constructed, but quilting must be done by hand. No hand-tied comforters may be entered. Entries may be constructed from an original pattern, a purchased pattern, or a combination of patterns. Originality is encouraged. All work must be the work of the student. The pattern must be submitted with the entry.

All stitching must be completely finished to be eligible.

Do not attach any hangers, hooks, or wires to the back of the item.

For the safety of those observing ShowCase entries, framed items will be refused.

Judging Criteria

Originality:

- concept and design
- appropriate combination of different designs or patterns
- variety of stitching

Workmanship/Technical:

- appropriate use of base material, thread, color and design of pattern
- uniformity of stitches
- even tension of stitches
- proper tying and knotting of quilting threads
- no loose ends
- precision of piecing
- stitches go through all layers
- pressed during assembly

Condition of Entry:

- neat and clean
- stitching is complete
- pressed

Presentation:

- demonstrates knowledge and understanding of tools and procedures used
- understands reason for selection of fabric, stitches, etc.
- all work the sole work of the student, quilting done by hand