

Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild Standards of Acceptance and Eligibility for Shows and Sales

PREMISE: The purpose of the annual sales/exhibition of the BLACK SHEEP WEAVERS' FIBER GUILD is to provide an opportunity for members to demonstrate and to provide the public with the opportunity to experience the richness, variety and unique qualities of weaving and allied fiber arts through excellence of craftsmanship and originality of design.

Members who have paid their dues by the October meeting are eligible to participate in both the Holiday Sale and Spring Fling of that Guild year. Those joining the Guild mid year are eligible to participate in the Spring Fling if their dues are paid at the Guild meeting two months prior to the sale.

All items submitted for the sale/exhibition must be handcrafted and:

- A. Must be the responsibility of the member in design and execution.
- B. Must be original in concept or of historical or ethnic derivation and must be one-of-a-kind or limited edition.
- C. Must belong to one or more of the following categories:
 - 1. Woven or any interlacing technique
 - 2. Basketry
 - 3. Knitting
 - 4. Crocheting
 - 5. Knotting and lace
 - 6. Stitchery
 - 7. Felting
 - 8. Paper (handmade, collage or mixed media)
 - 9. Rug hooking
 - 10. Dyeing or fabric painting
 - 11. Piecing or appliqué
 - 12. Spinning (roving & handspun yarns)
 - 13. Fiber manipulation
 - 14. Beading
 - 15. Fiber related books written by Guild members
 - 16. Purchased materials, including materials used as the foundation of an item, the appearance of which has been **significantly altered** by dyeing, piecing, and/or other embellishing (no plain sewing unless it is a structural part of an item and no commercial kits).
 - 17. Handmade soap
- D. Must possess the following characteristics:
 - 1. Be finished, cleaned and pressed if appropriate
 - 2. Be new and not worn or used
 - 3. Have no odor other than that inherent to the materials
 - 4. Be constructed to last for the appropriate use of the object
 - 5. Be safe for the intended use, and
 - 6. Be free of technical errors.

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- E. Must be ready for exhibition installation and sale, including properly filled out inventory sheets and tags with sizes, measurements and care instructions. Old worn tags must be replaced.
- F. Specific Rules
 - 1. Pillows and Stuffed Toys:
 - a. Must be lined when stuffed with shredded foam or fiber filled.
 - b. Stuffing content must be included on the tag.
 - 2. Garments and Purses:
 - a. A Guild Member may collaborate with a seamstress to create a finished garment. Hand-woven fabric should be properly fulled and finished before being constructed. The garment should be pressed, with seams flat, to carefully finish. (i.e., to prevent unraveling, use a zigzag stitch, serger or seam tape.)
 - b. It is suggested that purses be lined unless seams are unobtrusive and inside seams are done with a finished technique.
 - c. Hangers are property of the Guild and will not be sold with garments.
 - 3. Wall Hangings and Framed Pieces:
 - a. All pieces must be ready for hanging.
 - b. To avoid wrinkling, if possible, bring piece to the sale rolled over a tube.
 - c. Pieces do not have to be pre-washed. If care instructions indicate washing, however, then it should be pre-tested.
 - d. Pieces using tapestry technique may have loose ends at the back.

The Guild Holiday Sale/Spring Fling Committee has the obligation to notify, in writing, anyone submitting items failing to comply with the Standards of Acceptance.

As Members of a Guild, we are committed to improving the skills we practice. Good design, materials and craftsmanship contribute to the quality of the finished product. We offer these guidelines, requirements and suggestions to enable you to strengthen the quality of your work and thereby, the overall quality of our sale.

Designs that are shared are for inspiration and personal use only. Exact reproduction of a Guild Member's original design for commercial purposes is contrary to the spirit of good craftsmanship.

(Revised 10/2010)