

# 4-H NON-LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS



## What's changed for 2011?

**Our Goal:** We are going to be flexible to provide the best experience for the 4-H'er and family.

One (1) class per project area. Ex. Visual Arts no longer has separate classes for techniques, original art, and other. There are no classes A, B, C or D. Just one class, that's it. We trust that you can tell a baked item from a preserved item and apply the proper standards.

Evaluation Criteria are more accessible to 4-H members and their families. We hope you've had a chance to check out the project Hot Sheets, Tip sheets, and Evaluation forms found on our website. Copies of these are provided at your table.

We have reduced the number of exhibit questions required for State Fair from 4 to 3, by eliminating the question about future plans. Please do be sure to ask this, but don't evaluate on it. The remaining rule is stated:

*A written explanation, audio recording, or video recording is to be included as part of each exhibit. The exhibitor should respond briefly to the following questions about the exhibit:*

- *What did you plan to learn or do? (What was your exhibit goal(s)?)*
- *What steps did you take to learn or do this?*
- *What were the most important things you learned?*

Please note that a generic template for the exhibitor's goal card was available online. The format of the answers and the actual form used is not what we are judging. Incomplete sentences, bulleted lists, handwritten, computer generated, etc. are not part of the exhibit standards. While neatness in response to the questions is nice, 4-H is a non-formal learning experience.

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER



There is no longer a requirement for written design elements and art principles. These will remain, however, a part of the judging standards for visual arts, home improvement, sewing and needle arts, and clothing. We expect that exhibitors should be able to explain, in their own words, how they have applied/used them in the creation of their exhibit, as developmentally appropriate. We encourage those of you judging these project areas to review the exhibit Tip Sheets and some sample questions provided to help discuss how they applied/used design elements and art principles. Please keep in mind that many of our members are not “art scholars” and do not have parents or leaders who can easily help them apply and express design elements and art principles. While one of our goals in the conference judging experience is to educate exhibitors, please start by meeting members where they are at and gently expanding their window of knowledge a little each year. Members selected to exhibit at State Fair in these projects should be told that explanation of their design decisions will be helpful to the state fair judges.

Refinished or new wooden items can be exhibited in either Home Improvement or Woodworking, depending on the member’s goal.

Sewn items can be exhibited in Clothing and Fashion, Sewing and Needle Arts, Home Improvement, or Child Development depending on the member’s goal.

Outdoor lawn ornaments/furniture can be exhibited in Woodworking, Horticulture, Mechanics or possibly Visual Arts depending on the member’s goal. Decorative items or furniture intended to be used immediately adjacent to the home (front porch, back patio) may also be acceptable in Home Improvement.

Poster and display sizes are the same across all project areas. The rules now state:  
If the exhibitor chooses a display to illustrate what was learned:

- Posters may not exceed 24” x 36” in size.
- Chart boards, graph boards, project presentation boards, model displays, etc., may not exceed 48” x 48” in size. Maximum size is determined by measuring the flat (unfolded) dimensions.
- Display boxes may not exceed 28” x 22” in height or width and 12” in depth.

A separate photography label is not required. Members should be able to explain how they achieved their results. For State Fair, we will encourage members to record this in their response to the second question – *What steps did you take to learn or do this?* See the Photography Tip Sheet for important information to be included.

Issues, Live Healthy Iowa, 4-H Family Historical/Heritage, 4-H’ers in Action are no longer classes. Exhibits that would have previously fit in those classes should now go into the most appropriate project class.

If you have judges Science, Mechanics and Engineering or Ag and Natural Sciences, please be aware that we have combined several low enrollment project areas together. We no longer offer a separate Welding, Small Engines, Automotive, Tractor, Electricity, Aerospace, Computer, Robotics, Plant Science, Bicycle, Camping Sport Fishing, Entomology, Forestry or Safety.