

## 4-H SEWING &amp; NEEDLE ARTS EXHIBITS



## What's the judge looking for?

Be prepared to explain:

- 1) What did you plan to learn or do? (What was your exhibit goal(s)?)
- 2) What steps did you take to learn or do this? Explain what you wanted to do so it is easily understood. The judge wants to know and understand the steps you used to make your exhibit.
- 3) What were the most important things you learned?

These are examples of good characteristics of a constructed item (sewn, knitted, crocheted, woven, etc.)

1. Shows use of design elements and art principles (line, shape, color, space, texture, rhythm, proportion, emphasis, unity and balance) See [Exploring the Elements and Principles](#) for more information
2. Used appropriate methods to plan or design and construct the item
3. Appropriate fabrics or materials were chosen for the intended use of the item
4. Materials chosen (fabric, yarn, other fibers) have appropriate care requirements for the intended use of the item
5. (Clothing garments) Appears to have a visibly comfortable/attractive fit
6. Good construction techniques give the item a well-made appearance
  - a. Fabric is cut on grain, plaids/stripes match if appropriate
  - b. Appropriate and consistent stitch length (or stitch size/gauge) used
  - c. Even seams and/or joining techniques
  - d. Darts, facings, hems, sleeves, closures, zippers, buttons, buttonholes, linings (if used) are neat and well-constructed
  - e. Seam and hem finishes are appropriate for level of experience and use of item
  - f. Casting on/binding off neat and consistent, even increases/decreases, no broken yarn
  - g. Inconspicuous knots joining yarn, no unnecessary knots
  - h. Hand stitches are secure, even, neat, and not noticeable from the outside
  - i. Bating or fill is even and goes to edge of item
  - j. Pressed (or blocked) neatly

\*See also the tip sheet for Clothing and Fashion: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/clothing/>

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER