

4-H HOME IMPROVEMENT EXHIBITS



What's the judge looking for?

For all exhibits, 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.
- 3) What were the most important things you learned?

Product (pillow, furniture, quilt, wall hanging, etc.)

- Development/learning of new skills/techniques and an explanation of how they were learned.
- Exhibit fits well into the room for which it was intended. Member can explain choices made related to design elements and art principles as appropriate* for the exhibit and member goals.

This fit would include:

- Color – Do the colors chosen work well with others in the room? Are the colors pleasing to the eye?
- Size (Space, Scale) – Does the item fit well in the room/on the wall?
- Shape (Line, Shape, Proportion) – Does the product's shape compliment others in the room? Is its shape of similar style to the rest of them items?
- Harmony (Texture, Balance, Rhythm, Emphasis) – How does this product blend with others in the room?

*It would be appropriate to explain choices made for nearly all accessory exhibits (wall, room, table, etc.) and room design/room makeover exhibits.

- Workmanship and techniques used result in a product that is well finished. Examples include:
 - Fabrics – no frays, no loose ends, sturdy construction, neat, "store bought" quality at a minimum.
 - Woods – smooth finish, sturdy construction, joints secure, and fasteners inconspicuous.
- Item(s) entered are ready for display in the home: pictures framed, wall hangings and pictures are ready to hang, etc. Hangers must be strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.
- Safety precautions were taken. Safety equipment is used as needed.



Idea (poster, notebook, display, etc.)

- Evidence of learning, research, decision making, problem solving, or skill development.
- Neat and attractive exhibit.
- Judge can see that thought and effort went into the exhibit.
- Credible resources cited and copyright guidelines followed.

Home Improvement Resources

- Design Elements and Art Principles Tip Sheet
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/files/page/files/designelementsartprincipletipsheet.pdf>
- See the 4-H Poster Exhibits Tip Sheet <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/projects/hotsheets/PosterTipSheet.pdf>
- Design: Exploring the Elements and Principles in Home Decor (4H 492) <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12945>
- Design: Exploring the Elements and Principles (4H 634)
<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/464>
- Color Wheel (4H 633) <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/463>



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