



Monona County Sewing Challenge

MONONA COUNTY 2024 SEWING CHALLENGE: WALKER BAG



Are you ready for a challenge? Do you like to sew or want to learn how to sew? Do you want to make something to give to others? The Monona County Sewing Challenge combines the Sewing and Needle Arts and Citizenship Projects into one fun challenging event. Your task in 2024 is to create a Walker Bag that will be given to a worthy organization. Use the rules below and be creative.

Contest Objectives

1. Acquaint 4-H'ers with the Sewing and Needle Arts 4-H Project.
2. Improve 4-H'ers sewing skills.
3. Offer 4-H'ers an opportunity to use their sewing skills in a community service project.
4. Encourage fair participation.

Contest Rules

1. All 4-H'ers in 4th – 12th grade are eligible to enter the Sewing Challenge.
2. The 2024 Sewing Challenge Theme is: Walker Bag.
3. 4-H'ers may ask for the help of adults in design and construction, but a majority of the planning and construction needs to be completed by the youth.
4. The Walker Bag may use any design for men or women, it should be made of strong fabric with an opening on the top, so it can be tied to a walker or wheelchair.
5. The Walker Bag must be usable and durable. Walker Bags must be between 16-17" wide and 13" tall with 11" ties on top of the bag.
6. 4-H'ers may use any pattern as long as it meets the criteria listed in the rules. Sample patterns are available at the Monona County Extension and Outreach Office.
7. Walker Bags may have embellishments or other decorations on them. Precaution's must be taken to ensure that the embellishments are safe for small children and cannot be removed easily.
8. Walker Bags entered in the Sewing Challenge are not eligible for the State Fair.
9. After display at the fair, Walker Bags will be donated to a worthy organization.
10. Walker Bags will be pre-entered in Fair Entry by July 5, 2024 and judged on July 9, 2024

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER

Learn more at www.extension.iastate.edu/monona



What's the judge looking for?

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. 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. Hand stitches are secure, even, neat, and not noticeable from the outside
 - h. Batting or fill is even and goes to edge of item
 - i. Pressed (or blocked) neatly

Resources

4-H Resources

- Iowa 4-H Clothing
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/clothing>
- Unraveling the Mystery of Elements & Principles of Design in Clothing (4H 313)
- Adventures in Clothing Level 1 (4H 315A)
- Challenges in Clothing Level 2 (4H 315B)
- Strategies for Clothing Level 3 (4H 315C)
- Clothing Decisions: Discovering Choice (4H 317A)
- Clothing Decisions: Managing Choice (4H 317B)

Other State's 4-H Resources

- Nebraska 4-H Clothing and Textiles
<http://4h.unl.edu/web/4hcurriculum/clothingandtextiles>
- Mississippi 4-H Clothing Project
<http://mdq.ext.msstate.edu/sewing/>
- Washington State 4-H Clothing Project
<http://4h.wsu.edu/projects/clothing.htm>
- Pennsylvania 4-H Textile Science
<http://extension.psu.edu/4-h/members/projects-resources/consumerscience/textile-science>
- Wisconsin 4-H Clothing Project
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/clothing.cfm>

Other Resources

- Nebraska 4-H Clothing and Textiles
<http://4h.unl.edu/web/4hcurriculum/clothingandtextiles>
- Mississippi 4-H Clothing Project
<http://mdq.ext.msstate.edu/sewing/>
- Home Sewing Association
www.sewing.org/
- Butterick-McCall's-Vogue
www.mccall.com
- Sew-What's-New <http://sew-whats-new.com/>
- Fabric Link
<http://www.fabriclink.com/index.cfm>
- Simplicity
<http://www.simplicity.com/>