



State 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event Ready to Wear Checklist

Hang Tag Check (must have by law)

- Fabric/fiber content
- Care instructions
- Country in which the garment was constructed
- Manufacturer name or ID number

Care Tag Check

- Care tag **MUST** be sewn somewhere in the garment so it can't be removed
- Does the garment need to be dry-cleaned, hand washed, or ironed?

Garment Check

- Clip loose threads
- Garment on grain (Ever have a t-shirt that “grows” on one side or a pair of pants in which one of the pant legs seems to “twist”? How about a dress, skirt, or shirt that “hangs crooked”? It’s a grain problem!)
- Seams finished with threads clipped and no broken or skipped seams
- No puckering seams
- Zippers sewn straight and glide smoothly
- Stress points reinforced including pockets
- Even topstitching without puckers
- Flat edges and corners (cuffs, collars, yokes) without bulk or puckers
- Even buttonholes without loose or cut threads
- Invisible hems from the right side; not so tight that it puckers but wide enough for alterations if needed
- Securely attached buttons and other types of fasteners
- Extra buttons or beads included, especially if buttons are unique
- Evenly spaced gathers

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Try the Garment On

- Does the garment fit right? Is it too tight or loose?
- Does the garment pull or wrinkle at the sleeves, chest, hips, or waist?
- Is there enough “give” in the fit that you can sit, bend, or stretch comfortably?
- Does the garment pull open or gap at the buttons or zipper?
- Is the garment the right length in the shoulders, waist, sleeves, and at the hem?
- Are there “folds” in the fit? Horizontal folds often indicate too tight while vertical folds often indicate garment is too large.
- Are pockets gapping? If so, this can indicate the garment is too tight.
- Do pleats or vents lie flat without spreading stitches?
- Do side seams fall straight and perpendicular to the floor?
- Are structural lines (arm hole, shoulder, etc.) where they should be?
- Are undergarment lines invisible?

Think Through the Purpose or Occasion for Wearing Garment

- Will you be sitting? Try sitting in a chair and getting up! Try sitting in a chair and crossing your legs.
- Will you be dancing? Pretend you are dancing and see how the garment performs. (You can't raise your arms with a portrait neckline!)
- Will you be bending over? If so, try it in front of the mirror.
- Will you be on a stage? A stage and short skirt make a short skirt seem even shorter! Sitting on chairs on a stage can also require practice in front of a mirror.
- Did you look at the back and sides of the garment in the mirror? You will be seen from the back and sides as well as the front while on stage.

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