

# WAFAsale Guidelines

June2010

At the WAFAsale/exhibit, we aim to present to the public an image of our organization as one dedicated to quality in design and craftsmanship. We are primarily devoted to the knowledge of traditional and contemporary hand weaving and hand spinning. Therefore, our emphasis is on hand-woven and handspun work. Items in related fiber techniques are included when they are of exceptional quality and originality.

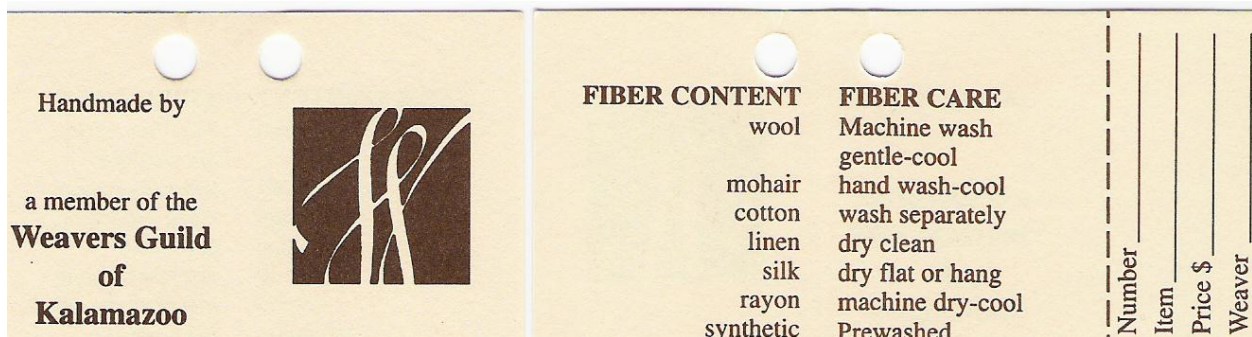
This event is an occasion to share our accomplishments with each other and to celebrate what it is that we do. It provides an opportunity for sociability and personal growth, for stimulating interaction among the artists and the public. All members of the Weavers' Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc. are encouraged to participate, whether beginner, hobbyist, or professional. We like to include the best current work of all members.

Although great precautions are taken to prevent the theft/loss of items submitted to the Sale, Weavers and Fiber Artists (WAFAs) is not responsible for items lost, stolen or damaged during the sale/exhibit. Check your insurance for coverage. WAFAs reserves the right to refuse or remove items which do not conform to the rules. Exemptions to the rules may be granted by the Exemption Committee. The Exemption Committee will meet prior to the general meeting of the Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, in September, October and November, in order to consider exemptions. No exemptions will be made the day of the sale. Exemptions are granted for the current year only, and only to the member requesting the exemption. Items not conforming to the sale guidelines, for which no exemption has been sought, will not be allowed in the sale. Decisions of the Exemption Committee are final and binding.

## **GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES:**

1. Weavers Guild members participating in the sale/exhibit must sign the standard WAFAs contract.
2. WAFAs shall receive a twenty (20%) percent commission from the sale of each item.
3. Members participating in the sale/exhibit are to have paid their dues to the Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc., by September 30 of the year of the sale.
4. All items must be made by members of the Weavers' Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc., using a hand fiber technique.
5. All external surfaces must be handmade. Items made from kits or with commercial molds are not acceptable.
6. Items to be used/worn by young children must be constructed from child-safe fibers. Fibers that melt are NOT acceptable.
7. Price changes during the sale are not permitted. Sale tags may have no crossed off prices.
8. Sale items must be delivered at the specified time and place, and remain for the duration of the sale unless they are sold, or removed by the sale committee.

9. If special display materials are needed for a body of work, they are to be provided with the work and instructions/requirements cleared with the WAFAs Board no later than the November WAFAs Sale Committee Meeting.
10. Items using materials such as cornhusks, weeds or paper require Exemption Committee approval.
11. Each item submitted must carry an approved sale tag.
12. Tags may be purchased prior to Weavers Guild meetings, September - November. Tags on heavy card stock are priced at cost for the use and convenience of members.
  - a. Tags should be hung from the lower right-hand corner of wall hangings and wherever appropriate on other items.
  - b. Tags must be attached to items on the outside of any plastic protective coverings.
  - c. The information on the 1" x 2" cut-off portion must be completed accurately and clearly. WAFAs is not responsible for underselling an item. Each item must have a different, separate inventory number for identification purposes. Keep inventory number at 4 digits or less.
  - d. Indicate fiber content on the tag with a mark or circle or by writing the percentage by fiber name.
  - e. Indicate care instructions on the tag. Any item marked as washable should be test-washed to insure against shrinkage, color transfer, etc. If an item has been pre-washed, indicate so on the tag. If an item is not washable, the tag should be marked "dry clean only."
  - f. Smaller, abbreviated tags are available for anything that does not need cleaning instructions (i.e. ornaments, jewelry, cards, baskets, some wall hangings). The folded standard Guild tag may also be used for these items. Indicate item description on cut-off to help us gather statistics after the sale.
  - g. Custom tags may be used, but should carry the same information and **MUST** have the 1" x 2" cut-off portion exactly as the standard tag. If you have questions on acceptable custom design, please contact the WAFAs Board.
  - h. Items should be priced to the nearest quarter. Such as \$10.00, 10.25, 10.50, 10.75.



## **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR HANDWOVENS:**

1. Check carefully for errors in weaving, uneven selvages, loose threads, etc. Please store your work in a dry place. Be certain that everything is clean, fresh, wrinkle-free, and fully-finished as appropriate for the item before you offer it for sale or exhibit.
2. **GARMENTS:** The hand-woven fabric should be appropriately fulled and finished before the garment is constructed. The piece should be pressed with seams carefully finished. If commercial lining is used, it must be new fabric. Use of a commercial fabric on visible exterior surfaces should be limited to no more than ten (10%) percent of the surface area. Woven garments may have knit or crocheted bands, collars and/or sleeves using the same fibers used to weave the body of the garment. If a different commercial yarn is used, knit or crocheted elements are restricted to 25% or less of a hand-woven garment. Larger areas must be done with 100% handspun yarn or an exemption must be sought from the Exemption Committee by the November WAFA Board meeting. A weaver may collaborate with a seamstress to create a finished piece.
3. **HANDBAGS:** All seams should be strong and secure. Purse linings must be made of new fabric. Handles, straps and closures must be securely attached and be consistent with the overall design and function.
4. **RUGS:** Materials used in rag rugs must be clean. Rugs should have straight, even selvages and should lie flat. (Slight problems may be improved by blocking). Fringes, if used, should enhance the rug design.
5. **PILLOWS:** All external surfaces of pillows must be hand-woven, although piping or similar trim/edging may be used. Pillow fillings must be all new materials (by law). If an inner casing is used, it must be of new materials also. Stuffing material should not be visible. Prevent raveling with a zigzag stitch, double straight stitch, surging, blanket stitch or seam tape.
6. **WALL HANGINGS:** Pieces intended to be hung, are to be equipped for hanging from one hook. Use at least 40 lb. test weight monofilament for hanging. Frames should be sanded and finished, consistent with the piece, with no obvious screws or nails. Unframed pieces should be finished so mechanical devices are hidden, (e.g. hoops should be wrapped or coiled, rods should be painted or varnished or invisible). Decorative armatures should be consistent with the design of the piece and permanent in nature. Armatures cannot be sold separately. The backs of wall hangings should appear finished and free of loose ends.
7. **BASKETS:** Baskets must be 100% handmade. Visible commercial structures should be limited to 20% of the visible basket size. No wire frames or kit-work will be permitted.
8. **JEWELRY:** Because of jewelry's small scale, commercial yarn can be used. Pieces must use a fiber technique or beading stitch including, but not limited to, weaving, knitting, crochet, tatting, peyote stitch, or brick stitch. Simply stringing beads is not acceptable.

## **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR HANDSPUNS AND HANDKNITS:**

1. Anything sold as handspun must be 100% handspun. Each skein of handspun must be labeled with fiber content, yardage, weight and care instructions stated clearly on its tag. Bundled skeins must have a single sale tag. No skeins may contain crossed out prices!
2. Novelty yarns and novelty yarn items should contain no more than **50%** synthetic or commercial components (e.g. metallic, buttons, bead, etc.). Items of this nature should be reviewed by the Exemption Committee.
3. Knitted or crocheted items must be made from roving or handspun yarn that meet the yarn guidelines above..

## **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR ORNAMENTS:**

Acceptable Ornaments should:

- Be primarily made of fiber, which may include yarn, wheat, straw, cornhusks & other natural fibers. Commercial yarn is acceptable because of an ornament's small scale.
- Prominently feature textile techniques including, but not limited to, hand-weaving, -crocheting, -knitting, and/or -felting techniques;
- Display good craftsmanship;
- Minimize the use of commercial fabric, lace, trim, plastic, flowers/weeds, wood, and metal as embellishment and/or visible support elements;
- Provide a means for hanging the item, such as a yarn loop;

Ornaments **MUST NOT**:

- Incorporate plastic canvas and/or plastic beads
- Be made from kits, commercial molds, or wooden cut-outs.

If in doubt as to whether an ornament meets the sale guidelines, please seek an exemption.

## **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR FELTING:**

1. Anything sold as hand felted must be 100% felted by the artist. No limitations will be put on use of appropriate felting machines and tools in the felting process. It is inappropriate to purchase felt from any commercial source to complete items sold in the WAFA sale. This does not include ornaments.
2. Any felted item sold in the sale must be clean and appropriately fulled and finished.
3. If the felt is laminated to a commercial fabric, the two layers should be inseparable.