

## **STANDARDS OF QUALITY**

### **TEXTILES: Knitting and Crochet**

#### Design

1. Creativity should be demonstrated in the choice of colours and yarns, in the development of original designs and patterns or in the adaptation of traditional designs. Skilful renditions of classic styles are permissible.
2. Use of commercial patterns, motifs and characters is not permitted.

#### Materials

1. Fibres used should be high quality, appropriate to the intended use of the article and meet the Craft Council fibre content ruling.
2. All yarn in a solid colour article must be of the same dye lot.
3. Yarns used in combination must be compatible in weight, texture, quality and reaction to cleaning methods.

#### Technique

1. Work should be of suitable and even tension and neatly finished inside and out. Seams should be elastic and yarn ends should be darned in properly.
2. When possible, new yarn should be joined at the edge of the work, and ends darned into the seam before pressing. When new yarn must be joined in the centre of the work, ends should be darned or carried horizontally along the row over the same colour. Knots are not acceptable.
3. An even tension must be maintained in both cast on and cast off edges.
4. When using more than one colour in hand knitting or crochet, the yarn not in use should be anchored on the wrong side with the yarn in use at least every third stitch.
5. When using more than one colour in machine knitting, floats should be no longer than one inch.
6. When changing colours or picking up stitches, care must be taken to avoid puckers and holes.

7. Knit or crocheted fabrics should be washed, blocked, pressed and/or brushed as appropriate.

8. Products knit on a knitting machine must be clearly labelled as "Handcrafted/Machine Knit".

\* Fibre content labelling for textiles is subject to Industry Canada regulation. Garments must carry correct labelling noting fibre content and maker identity. In addition, the Craft Council recommends that instructions for use and care accompany each article.

#### Fibre content

\* A minimum of 75% of work to be sold at Craft Council sponsored events, in either content or volume, must be of natural fibres.

\* Exceptions to the fibre content ruling may be made in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Standards Committee. Specific application must be made for such exceptions and each case will be judged individually. Generally, such circumstances occur in the suitability of the fibre/fabric to the function of the article, or in the innovative use of new and exciting materials. Craftspeople wishing to have the Standards Committee consider a request for an exception should state the reasons for their request in writing with their submission of samples.

\* Mixtures of fibres should be compatible for care and durability.

\* Wrappers, labels or a written statement of fibre content must accompany all samples submitted.