

STANDARDS OF QUALITY

TEXTILES: Weaving

Materials

1. Fibres used should be high quality, appropriate to the intended use of the article and meet the N.L.C.D.A. fibre content ruling.
2. If re-cycled fibre is used it must be clean and of high quality. A hangtag must identify the fibres as recycled.

Technique

1. Weaving must be technically correct.
2. Web must be correctly sleyed and evenly beaten, unless irregularity is intended.
3. Selvedges must be neat, even and lie flat without puckering.
4. Joined ends must be secure and buried, unless a tapestry requires them to be left hanging.
5. Rugs must be woven tightly enough to wear well and give the rug a consistent and firm weight.

Finishing

1. Weaving should be correctly finished in a manner applicable to the article. This may include hemming, blocking, washing, pressing and/or brushing.
2. Fringes are acceptable only if the yarn will withstand the intended use and cleaning without deterioration.
3. A serger should be used only to finish inside seams of articles made from hand-woven fabric. A serged edge is not an appropriate exterior edging (i.e. on placemats).
4. Rug ends should be braided, twisted or turned under and taped or threaded back into the body of the rug.

* Weavers should note that standards for sewing and garment construction may also be pertinent and should be consulted.

* Fibre content labelling for textiles is subject to Industry Canada regulation. Articles must carry correct labelling noting fibre content and maker identity. In addition, the N.L.C.D.A. recommends that instructions for use and care accompany each article.

Fibre content

* A minimum of 75% of work to be sold at N.L.C.D.A. 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.