



Media Specific Guidelines for Metal (Pewter)

The purpose of the guideline is to ensure the continued acceptance/inclusion of well crafted ceramic pieces into the Market Registry, reflecting NSDCC's ongoing commitment to the development of fine craft in Nova Scotia

1. DESIGN

A successful object must be the result of careful designing, with obvious thoughtfulness used in determining the proportions, structural integrity, materials intended use, finishes, colours and decoration.

Thoughtful designing should exhibit:

- Appropriate proportions within the forms
- Appropriate choice of materials for intended use
- Suitable choice of process for fabricating the piece showing a high level of skill
- Unique visual appearance reflecting maker

2. PRODUCTION QUALITY AND TECHNIQUE

Whether produced in quantity or as an individual piece, the object must reflect excellent skill and production quality, being visibly well conceived and expertly executed.

Edges should be smooth and well-finished. Jewellery items should be free of any sharp or picky elements which could damage clothing or cause injury.

Production pieces should actually be of higher technical quality as there has been ample opportunity to improve process through repetition.

Cast items must be properly finished to eliminate casting marks — sprues, bubbles, voids, flashing, vents and parting lines — where possible, Over —finishing can be a problem where detail on the casting is destroyed or partially removed.

Spun items should be free of tool marks and shapes free of facets caused from lack of control. Spun ware should also be finished consistently inside and out and be free of sharp edges.

Solder joints should be clean and complete with no excess solder.

Finishes, whether highly polished, satin, or textured, should be uniform and demonstrate adequate control of the technique, (lack of control in finishing or excessive polishing due to poor quality casting can destroy fine details.)

Findings, either commercial or handmade, must be solidly attached to the piece with solder or other mechanical means (rivets, screws). If epoxy or other adhesives are used, they must be durable and neatly applied without excess.

Backs and bottoms of pieces should be fabricated and polished in a manner that is consistent with the standards of the rest of the piece.

3. SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

The design of an object must be original, or an adaptation of a traditional design which demonstrates the unique skills of the maker and reflects an individual identity of design. The object must be designed and fabricated by the applying maker, or by employees under the direct supervision of that person.

Since, in reproduction, there is no design input, the onus of judgment is upon technical skill alone. Copying currently produced work is not acceptable.

While giving a sense of historical context from which a traditional adaptation has come, the pieces should clearly reflect a personal interpretation.

4. MATERIAL USED

The object must be constructed of materials which are of high quality and are appropriate to the structural integrity, utility and visual appearance of the object.

Materials should be appropriate to the intent of the pieces, both in purpose and visual appearance.

Work must demonstrate a level of technical competence and understanding of the materials used.

5. COMMERCIALY FABRICATED CONTENT

Commercially fabricated elements in objects, including packaging, must be subordinate to the overall design of the object. Objects packaged and sold as a prepackaged unit are defined as gift packages and must be submitted for assessment in the ready-for-sale state.

Commercially fabricated elements must be of fine quality, and if appropriate, fulfill the requirements of other media.

6. SPECIFIC EXCLUSIONS

New forms and innovations will be considered by the Standards Committee. Unfinished items or kits for consumer assembly are not considered acceptable for NSDCC Markets.

Use of molds are permitted only when designed and fabricated by the applying craftsperson, or by those under their direct supervision.

Decals may be used if designed and fabricated by the applying craftsperson, or by those under their direct supervision.

7. IDENTIFICATION/LABELLING

All articles must be labeled with the maker's name, address and the pertinent instructions to the consumer concerning care and maintenance, as well as any information to the consumer required by law.

An appropriate business card or tag should be included with each piece, including any special instructions concerning care or use of the piece.