

WcoB Judging Criteria - Interpretation

Company competitions are judged with an accumulated score across several criteria. Judges award points in each category out of 5. Total scores are averaged across multiple judges for a final result. The criteria below should assist in making consistent judgements!

Authenticity

- 5 Both design and application are based on period examples. Stitches, scale, construction techniques and materials are all appropriate for the time and the piece.
- 3 Design and/or application based on secondary sources, but supported. Some stitches or construction techniques not ideal, but still generally appropriate and the overall effect is still period. Materials include appropriate substitutions, and are justified.
- 1 Design and/or application based on unsupported sources. Stitches or construction techniques out of context for the time and the piece, or non-period. Modern materials with no justification.

Complexity

- 5 Executes difficult stitches well or moderately difficult stitches very well. Complex design, requiring well-thought approach to work. The piece offers technical challenges, overcome with grace and style.
- 3 Executes moderately difficult stitches well or simple stitches very well. Average design, requiring some thought. Limited technical challenges, or solutions adequate but not inspired.
- 1 Simple stitches only. Simple design, requiring little thought. No technical challenges, or challenges poorly handled.

Aesthetics and Creativity

- 5 Looks like a museum piece (even if you don't like the style!) Applies appropriate design and stitches to appropriate application, drawing on multiple sources to create a new work which is totally believable in context. Applies or interprets designs in a stylistically consistent manner.
- 3 Design, layout and stitches clearly based on period examples, with simple but appropriate interpretation of design, materials and/or stitches. May have some inconsistencies with scale, spacing, balance, use of colour etc.
- 1 Follows existing patterns directly, with no interpretation. Or interpretation has significant problems with scale, spacing, balance, colour. Stylistic conflicts between design, stitches, application.

Workmanship

- 5 Stitches are extremely accurate - neat, even, and well spaced. Work is crisp or graceful, as appropriate. Ground fabric is clean, with no distortion. Piece is complete and well finished in an appropriate manner. If visible, threads are correctly finished at back of work.
- 3 Consistent stitches, but some variation with spacing, angle, tension, etc. Some loss of line. Small distortion of ground fabric.
- 1 Stitches badly spaced, with uneven tension. Design lines badly interpreted. Piece shows errors or corrections. Ground fabric distorted or stained. Not finished or very poorly finished. Threads tangled at back.

Documentation

- 5 All aspects of the piece are well documented – design, application, stitches, and materials. Extrapolations are well argued and supported. References are given in full.
- 3 Major aspects of the piece are well documented. Extrapolations are explained, even if not well supported. References are provided, but may be incomplete.
- 1 Piece is described, but there are no references or support.