



*League of N.H. Craftsmen*

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Fiber: Rug Braiding

## STANDARDS CRITERIA FOR RUG BRAIDING

League standards for rug braiding require that the materials be fundamentally transformed by the craftsman into finished work that demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result, and a spirited sense of personal vision.

These guidelines cover rugs, mats and trivets, wall hangings, accessories or other objects. Requirements vary based on the type, design, and intended use.

Successful rug braiding pieces are made from high quality materials appropriate for their primary function whether expressive, decorative or utilitarian. The League accepts both traditional and innovative rug braiding.

### Technical Guidelines:

1. Applicants must present at least 4 pieces which demonstrate a good sense of color, technical mastery (spiral method and/or all-butted method) as well as an individual style. If one's body of work includes rugs, then one of the pieces must be a rug at least a total of 6 sq. ft. and demonstrate a shape other than oval or round. If the applicant uses both the spiral method and the all-butted method, then each technique must be well represented in the pieces brought to jury.
2. Pieces must demonstrate evenness, consistency, control and mastery of braiding, lacing and finishing. The outside edges should be even and straight and not show any open folds.
3. The finished product must be made from high quality materials suitable for the intended purpose. Enhancements to the finished piece (hanging supports, garment findings, purchased components) must be well made and not dominate the work.

## **Standards Guidelines for Juried Work - Applicable to all media categories**

### Commercial Production Techniques

The League's focus is on work made by individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods used solely for high volume output are not acceptable for League standards

### Truth in Labeling

Labels must provide fabric content and care instructions, as well as other specific legal requirements. Labeling must comply with League juried standards. Tags or labels must accurately reflect the method of production.

### Aesthetic Concerns

The work must demonstrate more than technical proficiency, more than the reproduction of a recognized style. It should express the personal aesthetic and vision of the maker and demonstrate a coherent stylistic development, with every attention to detail, design, function and finish. A harmony of intent, process and result is the measure of successful work.

### Components and Accessories

Components or accessories are parts that are not made in the studio of the juried LNHC member, which are incorporated into craft objects. Such components and/or accessories are acceptable and appropriate only if: they are of high quality construction and materials; they do not visually dominate the finished object; and they would not be reasonably interpreted, based upon appearance, as objects created by juried LNHC members.

### Commercial Production Techniques

The League's focus is on work made by hand by individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods used solely for speed or high volume are not acceptable by LNHC Standards, although exceptions may be made. Craftspeople who utilize machine assisted production methods must maintain an extremely high level of originality and expressiveness of design. The juried craftsperson must create the imagery, color choices, and design.

### Health and Safety Guidelines

The craftsperson is responsible for assurance that craftwork meets all federal, state, and local health and safety requirements.