

Stark County 4-H Club Banner Competition

Sponsored by Stark County 4-H Home Economics Committee

**All Stark County 4-H Clubs and 4-H Committees are welcome to design,
construct and enter a 4-H Banner!**

Completed banners due at Extravaganza Judging, July 18, 2009 10 AM

4-H Club AWARDS:

1st Place \$50 & Rosette

2nd Place \$30 & Rosette

3rd Place \$20 & Rosette

What is a 4-H club banner?

- A banner is 3, x 5, and designed to hang vertically.
- A banner must be made of fabric or a material that will hang and can be 1 or 2 sided but only the design on one side of the banner will be judged. A club must indicate which side of the banner they would like judged.
- The club,s name must be visible on the backside of the banner.
- A banner must be completed and equipped with a dowel and yarn or rope tied on the dowel for hanging.
- A banner can carry words, pictures and messages to be shared with others.
- A 4-H banner allows clubs to make a statement and express their felling about 4-H involvement by emphasizing: joining 4-H, a project, benefits of involvement in 4-H, the local club, Stark County 4-H, or 4-H in general.

Plan of Action

A banner message should be simple and without clutter.

1. Do some brainstorming as a club.
 - What message do you want to share?
 - Do you want to portray by picture of words?
 - Do you want color, form, and space to convey your feelings?
 - List any ideas your group might have.
2. Make sketches of at least three or four of the best ideas.
 - What is the simplest way to convey your idea?
 - Who is the audience that will be viewing your banner?
 - Remember the message should be brief and the design bold and simple.
3. In planning your banner, think about the following.
 - Decide what elements will dominate.
 - Size and color elements help.
 - Make sure the message doesn,t get lost.
 - Simple and bold is best.
4. Make a sample banner.
 - Make a 3, x 5, sample banner of paper.
 - Cut and pin the colored parts of design and lettering on banner.
 - Tape the sample banner on a door or wall and stand back and get a visual effect.
 - If the design does not look quite right, change and adjust it now.
 - Remember, your banner will be view from a distance of 20 feet or more. Be sure it is readable from a distance.

Choosing Materials

1. Background

- There are a variety of materials available such as: Denim, canvas, heavier cottons, corduroy, blends of polyester, felt, burlap, wool, and upholstery or drapery material.

2. Lining a permanent banner

- Be creative and think what type of fabric will add interest or accent the theme.

3. Adding accents for texture and special effects

- Suggestions might be: velvets, brocades, knits, leather, lace, sheer materials, felt, burlap, corduroy, or vinyl.
- Consider a variety of textures, quilting, stacking for a three dimensional effect, appliqué, beading or embroidery.

Putting a Banner Together

1. Assembly - Banners may be hanging in windy or humid weather. Durable assembly techniques are needed!

- Hand or machine stitching is more durable than glue and can become an important part of the design if you choose.
- An iron-on bonding tape, such as Stitch Witchery, works better than gluing.

2. Finishing - Allow extra material for a half-inch seam allowance on sides, top and bottom for finishing.

- If lining, the edge-to-edge method is easy because front and back are cut in the same shape.
- Put front piece and lining material together, right sides in.
- Sew side seams and bottom.
- Turn right sides out. Press.
- Finish top after choosing the hanging rod.
- Felt banners can be left un-hemmed but felt tends to curl. If two pieces are put together, stitch along edge. Stitching becomes a part of the design and gives banner the look and makes it more durable.

3. Hanging a banner

- Dowel Suggestions: Wood or bamboo poles, plastic PVC pipes, adjustable metal (brass) rods— 1 inch diameter or smaller. The length of the cord should be no more than 6-12% longer than the length of the dowel.
- Yarn, rope or cord for hanging may be secured to pole by: (1) Cutting a small channel in each end, (2) drilling a hole and running the cord through, (3) inserting an eye screw in each end of the dowel.
- A weight at the bottom will help the banner hang straight. Suggestions are: a rod like the top one or drapery weights sewn in the bottom.

4. Uses

- Parades/Floats
- 4-H club booth at fair
- 4-H/Junior Fair stall decorations
- Promotion ^ window display decorations

Questions?? Contact:

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