**BURR HOUSE SPINNERS AND WEAVERS SALE STANDARDS 2022**

**Quality Control in Woven Articles**

**The following are guidelines, standards that weavers & crafters should work toward. It is realized that perfection is rarely achieved.**

1. Weaving should be free of errors: threads should be entered in correct heddle and

dent, the weft passes should be accurate and free of skips.

2. Thread, reed and sleying should all harmonize to produce a web suited to the purpose intended.

3. Warp tension should be even across the entire width of the warp.

4. The weft beat should be uniform throughout the length of the piece.

5. Selvedges should be even, without distracting weft loops or uneven edges caused by tightly drawn-in wefts.

6. All weft joins should be neatly lapped or feathered so joins are not obvious.

7. Knots in either warp or weft are not permitted.

8. Joins in pieced articles should match inconspicuously or joins should be obvious and decorative.

9. Any woven item must be suitable to its purpose and finished in a manner appropriate to its function.

10. All woven items must be pre-washed or steam pressed according to their use.

11. Content and care labels must be attached to articles.

12. Designs for woven articles found in books, magazines, etc. are for inspiration and personal use only. Exact reproduction for commercial or display purposes is contrary to the spirit of good craftsmanship. Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns

13. When repurposed materials are used, it must be stated on the label.

14. For safety reasons, items that will be used near heat sources (lamp shades) must not be made from readily combustible materials.

15. Sharp or small decorative objects are not acceptable on articles for infants or children. Fringes are not acceptable on baby blankets. (Toys must not be a swallowing or choking hazard. The eyes on toys must not be buttons or similar notions. Embroider such detail.)

*Revised April 2022*

Spinning Guidelines:

1. Yarn should have as even and consistent a grist or size as possible
2. Loose strands or ends are discouraged
3. Knots are discouraged
4. Overspun coils and bumps are discouraged unless part of the Art Yarn design
5. Hand-dyed items should be free of any extra colour/dye
6. Yarn should be washed/finished
7. Yarn should be presented so the majority of the length is visible to see colour and grist
8. Care and Content and weight/length information must be included/attached with the item
9. Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns

**Felting Guidelines:**

1. Felt should have as even, consistent, and solid thickness as possible based on the design
2. Fabric should have a drape/hand appropriate to its use
3. Loose strands or ends are discouraged unless part of the design
4. Joins and turns must be finished and stable
5. Item must be finished to ensure piece is functional and or structurally sound
6. Care and Content and size information should be included/attached with clothing items
7. Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns.

**Knitting and Crochet Guidelines**:

1. Item should be free of pattern errors
2. The finished fabric should have a drape/hand appropriate with its use
3. Stitch gage should be even across the entire item,
4. Edging should be even, without distracting loops or uneven drawn in edges
5. Joins should be neatly woven in so they are not obvious
6. Knots are discouraged and should not be visible
7. Joins, seams, or turns in articles and hems should be matched and free of gaps or bumps, either inconspicuous or decorative as per the design.
8. Finishing is to be appropriate to the use of the item and should ensure that the piece is functional
9. Items should be finished/washed according to their end use.
10. Hand dyed items should be free of any extra colour/dye
11. If using a sewing machine for edging/hemming, it must be neat and tidy stitches, either inconspicuous or part of the design. All thread ends must be sewn in and no yarn ends should be visible
12. Care and Content and size information must be included/attached with the item
13. Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns.
14. The Ministry of Health requires that all **finishing** material be new. These include zippers, linings, stuffing, and buttons.
15. For safety reasons items that will be used near heat sources (lamp shades) must not be made from readily combustible materials
16. Sharp or small decorative objects are not acceptable on infants or children's goods. Fringes are not acceptable on baby blankets. Toys must not be a swallowing or choking hazard. The eyes on toys must not be buttons or other similar notions. Embroider such detail.

**Basketry Guidelines:**

1. Materials are well suited to the intended use (functional or artistic), design and size of the basket.
2. Finished product should be structurally sound and be able to support the intended weight for use.
3. Technique:

* Consistent weaving tension, making basket sturdy, not wobbly.
* Joins are as inconspicuous as possible.
* Addition of spokes neatly done.
* Weave is tightly packed (if applicable).
* Uniformity of stitches in coiled baskets.
* Base is well shaped. Basket sits level or as appropriate to design.
* Upsett of spokes is cleanly defined (if applicable).
* Uniformity of shape, design & technique.
* Well-defined corners, symmetrical circles (if applicable).
* Spokes used for rim/border in wicker technique are trimmed and secure without cracks.
* Overlapping ends of the rim should be scarfed or beveled so that the area of overlap is no thicker than the rest of the rim.
* Handle (if applicable) is well inserted/attached and uniform in shape. Sanded smoothly (unless wrapped) Appropriate to design of basket.
* Spacing of spokes/weavers are equal distanced and consistent .There should be no wide, irregular spaces that catch the eye and compromise the integrity of the woven structure.
* Spokes must be kept straight unless otherwise determined by design.
* Structure/design elements must support the intended us of the basket.

1. Finishing

* Care and intended usage of basket should be indicated
* All tucked stakes must not be visible.
* All woven rows are to be finished/hidden away, so that no overlap, loose ends are visible
* Baskets are three dimensional objects and as such must be cleanly finished on all surfaces, not just the exterior.
* No bleeding of dyed reed (unless artistic intent).
* “Hairs” should be trimmed or singed away.
* No metal slivers.
* Finished 3 dimensional items must look finished on all sides.
* Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns.

**Sewing General Guidelines**:

**1. Garments**:  
1) SEAMS   
a. The type of seam is appropriate to the type of fabric, the position of the seam, the projected care of the garment, quality, and design.   
b. Thread color matches or blends and is of an appropriate weight for the fabric.

c. Seams are stitched with the correct stitch length and balanced tension.

d. Seams are smooth, with no puckers or pulls, and should lie flat.

e. Seam allowances are trimmed evenly unless graded to reduce bulk.

f. The seam allowance is appropriate for the type of seam, seam finish, and garment design.

g. Intersecting seams are aligned.

h. Seams are well pressed, with no imprint on the outside.

**2. Traditional Quilting**: CQA

Definition: made with two layers of fabric with a filler/batting; three layers joined by stitch.

1) **Seams**a. construction should be smooth and firmly stitched.  
b. seams should be sharply pressed with no thread showing.

2) **Piecing**   
a. points should be sharp.  
b. intersections should meet evenly and be flat.  
c. curves should be smooth.

3) **Applique**a.edges should be firmly attached with consistent stitches.  
b. where stitches are meant to be inconspicuous, the thread should blend with the appliquéd piece.  
c. where stitches are meant to be visible, such as running or decorative, the thread may be coordinated or contrasting.  
d. shadows showing through appliquéd pieces should be visible only where appropriate.

4) **Filler/Batting**a. should be evenly distributed.  
b. should be suitable to the technique used.

c. should be suitable for the end use.

5) **Border and Sashing Strips**a. should be straight and even if appropriate to quilt design.  
b. sashing segments should align.

6) **Quilting and other traditional means of joining**a. stitching should be uniform and evenly spaced; no knots or thread build-ups.  
b. design marking lines should not be visible.  
c. stitches on the back should be as neat and even as those on the top.  
d. thread tension should be evenly balanced.  
e. spacing of the quilting should be appropriate to the type of batting chosen and the quilting design.

7) **Binding**a. should be neatly and securely stitched, front and back.  
b. should be uniformly filled.  
c. should be appropriate to the design of the quilt top.  
d. curved corners should flow smoothly without puckers.  
e. square corners should be 90 degrees.  
f. mitered corners should be 45-degrees front and back, lie flat, and be neatly finished.

8) **Art Quilts** (in additional to Traditional Quilting guidelines)  
a. must hang flat when intended as a wall quilt, unless deliberately 3D.   
b. Any loose threads and/or embellishments must be an integral part of the overall design.

9) Care and Content and size information must be included/attached with the item

10) Follow all copyright and design acknowledgements included in commercial patterns.

11) The Ministry of Health requires that all finishing material be new. These include zippers, linings, stuffing, and buttons.

12) For safety reasons items that will be used near heat sources (lamp shades) must not be made from readily combustible materials

13) Sharp or small decorative objects are not acceptable on infants or children's goods. Fringes are not acceptable on baby blankets. Toys must not be a swallowing or choking hazard. The eyes on toys must not be buttons or other similar notions. Embroider such detail.