4-H Fair Exhibit Labeling Instructions

All 4-H Static Exhibits must follow steps 1 through 4 below, plus special instructions on following pages.

1 - All 4-H static exhibits (except clothing) require a regular 4-H Exhibit Tag (see picture of tag below).

![4-H Exhibit Tag](image)

2 - Each static exhibit (or piece of an exhibit) must also be permanently labeled with the member’s name, county, and class number somewhere on the exhibit (i.e.: back, underside, etc.). See special information for labeling of clothing exhibits.

3 – When two articles make up the exhibit each must be permanently labeled as in step 2 and items must be attached together.

4 - Many exhibits have labeling requirements in addition to the exhibit tag listed below. Make sure you follow the exhibit guidelines for each class as specified in the county or state fair premium book.
Exhibits Open to All 4-H Members

Educational Displays – Include the completed “4-H Educational Displays Exhibit Explanation Card” on the back of the educational display in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Club displays must include names and county of all members and leaders in the club (may be on back of display). No larger than 30” wide, 24” deep and 36” high (or clubs no larger than 60” wide, 24” deep and 36” high).

Educational displays can be free-standing or posters that will be stapled to a wall. Displays may not include the following items: books or notebooks; living organisms – plants or animals or dead parts of animals or plants; any liquids; aerosol bottles or other pressurized gases; glass; hazardous substances; sharp items.

Science/Technology Projects – Include the appropriate “Project Description Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Print version of the program must be submitted. Disks/CD/s may be submitted but will only be viewed for judging and must be PC compatible. Programming projects should submit a hard copy with all exhibits. Choose the appropriate Project Description Explanation Card from the following list:
- Computer Software Application Project Description
- Computer Programming Project Description
- Computer Hardware Project Description
- 4-H Lego Project Description
- Robotics Project Description
- GIS Map Project Description
- Geography Project Description
- Aerospace/Aeronautics Project Description
- Rocketry Project Description

Home Economics

Clothing – Complete both sides of the “4-H Sewing/Clothing Exhibit Card.” Generic exhibit tags not required. In addition all garments/articles must be labeled with the member’s name, county, & project level, typed or printed in indelible pencil or ink on a piece of white fabric & sewn/fused to the bottom inside of each piece. All exhibits must be in the same level or phase. Each entry will be evaluated on ALL features, not just the skills listed in the respective enrollment levels, but will neither be given extra credit for consideration for increased difficulty nor disqualified during judging. It is in the best interest of the member to stay within the suggested guidelines.

Knitting & Crocheting – Include the completed “4-H Knitting or Crocheting Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. In addition to the tag and exhibit explanation card, all items must be labeled with the member’s name, county, and phase, typed or printed in indelible pencil or ink on a piece of white fabric and sewn on the bottom inside of each piece. All exhibits must be in the same level or phase. Members must mark skills on the level in which they are enrolled. If they show skills beyond their level, they will not receive extra consideration. Swatches are not acceptable. To qualify for the wool award, attach an “all wool” manufacturer’s label or a statement from the merchant or spinner indicating that they yarn is 100% wool or a minimum of 60% wool.

Home Environment – Attach the completed “4-H Home Environment Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Exhibits may include a photo of the exhibit in the home (recommended).
Foods – Attach a recipe on the “4-H Foods Exhibit Recipe Form.” This 8½” x 11” form includes information on source, servings and storage. Exhibit must be securely wrapped in plastic wrap or a zip lock bag on a disposable plate. Exhibits must be suitable for keeping at the fair without excessive spoilage or change of appearance. High perishable foods are not acceptable. No commercial mixes, toppings or icings allowed. All exhibits must be in the same level or phase.

An exhibit is:
- 4 cookies
- 3 individual items (rolls, scones, etc.) or 1/3 of a large item (breads, cakes, etc.)

Recipe Collections – Write year on top of each recipe. Make sure each recipe includes a title, list of ingredients and amounts, directions, safe storage instructions, source and number of servings. Pull all current recipes to front of box or mark with paper clips so they are easily identified.

Food Preservation – All products (canned or dried) must include the “4-H Food Preservation Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. In addition, all containers should have a label or tape with the member’s name, county and class number. Include rings on all canned products. Dried foods should be exhibited in jars or sturdy plastic bags, with labels securely attached. For more guidelines, see “Labeling Preserved Foods” (4-H 93313). Gift packs must include a “4-H Food Preservation Explanation Card” for each home processed product and include information on who the gift is intended and for what occasion. The gift package may include products made or purchased by the exhibitor to complete the theme.

Expressive Arts

Original Art and Non-Original Art – Attach completed “4-H Art Exhibit Explanation Card” to the exhibit in addition to the generic exhibit tag. If the exhibit includes more than one piece, attach pieces together. For exhibits that are meant to be hung, a means to hang the exhibit must be securely attached to each item. For non-original art exhibits the explanation card must also explain how the member made the decisions about how to incorporate these pieces into the total design.

Remember that how you display the art exhibit is part of what the judge considers when judging art exhibits. Artwork may not be framed, with the exception of work done with chalks. Framed chalk exhibits should use light frames with plastic rather than glass. No glass is allowed unless it is an integral part of the art exhibit (ie: etched glass pieces). Backing or mounting is strongly encouraged, if appropriate, especially for drawn, painted and some other art exhibits. Exhibits should not contain parts that expose the public or volunteers to injury (ie: sharp edges or points).

Fiber Arts – Attach a completed “4-H Fiber Art Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. For exhibits that are meant to be hung, a means to hang the exhibit must be securely attached to each item.

Exhibits are classified by technique rather than article. Articles using more than one technique should be exhibited in the class for the technique that is most prominent or that the member desires to be emphasized in the judging. Please note the differences between patchwork quilts and quilting classes.
**Photography** – *Include the completed “4-H Photography Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.* All photos must have a plastic hanger on the back. The exhibitors’ name, county, and the class number should be printed on the back of the display. All single images/photos must be between 5” x 7” and 13” x 17” unless otherwise noted in the rules.

*Photos must have a backing for protection. They may be mounted only or mounted and matted, but may not be framed. No additions or embellishments to mats or mounts are permitted. The surface that shows behind mounted only photos or around matted photos must be mat board.* Foam core is acceptable as a backing board behind matted photos. Poster board is not acceptable for mounting or matting.

Final exhibit with mat or mount must be no less than 8” x 10” and may not exceed 16” x 20”. Any commercially available pre-cut mats that accommodate these size ranges are acceptable. Mats cut by the member must meet the size specifications. Exceptions to photo size limits include Panaromics, Series or Story, Creative Process, and Creative Uses (see premium book for specifics). Captions may not be used except in Series or Story and Scavenger Hunt classes.

**Leathercraft** – *Include the completed “4-H Leathercraft Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.*

If a project qualifies for more than one class, the member should decide which part of their work they would like to emphasize by selecting the appropriate class. Overall appearance of the entire article will be considered during judging.

**Cast Ceramics** – *Attach completed “4-H Cast Ceramic Exhibit Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.* For slip cast items only. Hand formed or thrown items are exhibited in original art.

**Horticulture**

**Container Gardening** – *Attach a completed “4-H Container Garden Exhibit Information Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.* The exhibit information card should be covered with a closeable sandwich bag (ziplock) to keep the card dry. Attach to the container with clear packaging or duct tape. Containers must also be labeled on the bottom with the member’s name and county. Containers should not exceed 30 pounds or measure larger than 30” by 30”.

For container gardening display classes 716 200 012 and 716 200 013 (Intermediate & Senior Displays) include a written explanation of what was done and a summary of what was learned. The container gardening commercial exhibit class 716 300 013 must include planting dates, costs incurred, and suggested retail pricing.

**Flowers** – *Attach a 4-H flower exhibit tag and indicate on tag the kind of flower.* Flowers must have foliage attached or include foliage. The number of flowers required for each exhibit can be found in parentheses after each flower type in the premium book. **In an exhibit of 3 blooms, all blooms must be the same color.** Vases will be provided for cut flowers, do not bring or leave your own vase. Arrangements will be exhibited in containers provided by the exhibitor.
Vegetables – Attach a completed “4-H Vegetable Exhibit/Collection Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Plate exhibits should be displayed on 9” paper plates. Vegetable collections must fit on a tray 18 ½ x 14 ½ x 2 ¾ inches. Number of vegetables required can be found in parentheses after each vegetable in the premium book.

Dried or Fresh Cut Herbs - Attach a completed “4-H Herb Dried, Fresh Cut Exhibit Information Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag for the potted herb. Display all dried herbs in a self-closing bag.

Natural Science

Outdoors – Include the completed “4-H Educational Displays Exhibit Explanation Card” on the back of the educational display in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Also, include an explanation of such things as: how to use exhibit, how made, where found, identify parts, etc.

Sports Fishing & Aquatic Ecology – Attach a completed “4-H Sports Fishing and Aquatic Ecology Explanation Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Read the rules carefully for each area such as fishing poles, flies, lures, aquatic fauna specimens and fish prints for specific labeling requirements.

- Fishing poles must include an explanation of cost of materials or components, where materials or components were purchased, how made, and number of hours for construction. All parts must be identified. May not exceed 108” in length.
- Flies, Lures & Knots should be displayed on an 8½” x 11” black matte board.
- Aquatic Fauna Specimens – preserved specimens must be displayed in specimen jars in display boxes. Each specimen requires a label outside the jar for easy reading. Labels on all specimens (including photos and drawings) must include the name of the collector, date collected/photographed/drawn, scientific name, common name, name of body of water from which specimen was found, county and state.

Engineering

Electric Energy – Attach a completed “4-H Electric Energy Exhibit Information Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Intermediates and seniors must include a schematic diagram.

Tractor Project – Attach a completed “4-H Tractor Project Information Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.

Woodworking – Attach a completed “4-H Woodworking Exhibit Information Card” in addition to the generic exhibit tag.

Wool & Mohair

Fleece – Attach a completed 4-H Wool Show Tag in addition to the generic exhibit tag. Place in clear plastic bag with name and county written on the bag.

Revised – June 2010