

# Guide to making an ED-Board

by Tina Seher



## Purpose...

Many members and clubs choose to present information in the form of a display rather than a speaking demonstration. Participating in your club or districts ED-Board competition is a way to build upon valuable communications skills we use throughout life. Learning to create an eye-catching and effective display that features your message to an audience is essential. Here are some rules to follow while creating your masterpiece.

## Making your board

Educational displays are judged in these 4 areas...

### 1.) Subject and title:

- In your title you want to make sure that your message and purpose are easily understood
- Your title should be short and catchy
- A 4-H emblem and your club name needs to be included on your board
- Materials and information need to be accurate and complete

### 2.) Design and Layout:

- Contains a "centre of interest" or focal point
- Choose colours that are effective, and in harmony with each other
- Equal distribution of materials on the board is important, as judges are looking for overall balance according to the layout
- Simplicity is really important; as objects need to be relevant to the message and not cluttered
- Make sure that your board has unity and sticks to one idea
- Your message should be told quickly to the audience: after about a minute of reading they should understand your idea
- Your board needs to have rhythm and carry the eye easily through the display

### 3.) Workmanship:

- A neat appearance: straight lines, neat writing
- Well finished and quality work
- Pictures and writing properly spaced and not crowded
- Printing needs to be brief, readable, and well worded
- The board needs proportion: printing, pictures and objects should be all the right size in relation to each other

#### **4.) Originality:**

- Original and unique subject matter
- Original design and layout
- Display attracts attention and arouses interest

### **Specifics of the board**



A specific size is not required for a board; however the following maximum sizes apply:

Height: 120cm (maximum height of display panel)

Depth: 90cm (maximum depth of display)

Length: 180cm (maximum width of standing display panels)

Often members buy cardboard display boards from local office supply stores, or they use the dimensions of those boards to make one from scrap materials.