

Midwest Scrollsaw Show Woodturning Judge Guidelines

Judging Criteria	Beginner Level	Intermediate Level
Feedback	Beginner items should be an initial attempt at creating something on a lathe. A critique at this level is focused on helping the turner better execute basic turning skills so they become "rote".	Intermediate items should be reasonably-executed pieces that receive no criticism on Level 1 checklist items. A critique at this level is focused on helping the turner become a craftsman, building on the pure execution skills to bring more creativity and artistry to the turning.
Function (Usability)	Too thick (form does not relate to function). Too light (piece is not usable or too fragile to be practical).	Function shouldn't be an issue for turners at this level.
Form (Shape, Movement, Center of Interest, Balance, Rhythm, Harmony, Contrast)	Inside lines are inconsistent (inside and outside shapes are inconsistent). Flats or high spots (lines that do not flow smoothly or transition smoothly). Balance (object is too top heavy or bottom heavy to be pleasing).	Shape does not achieve potential for form: certain shapes can be deemed more effective for pieces in a given style. Curves do not complement each other Minor areas where lines do not flow (unintended discontinuities: minor curve issues characterized by subtle bulging or straightening). Form is not of consistent quality when viewed from all angles. Some elements appear to be over-sanded.
Fit (Scale, Proportion, Consistency of Design Elements)	Lack of consistency (style elements do not fit together). Wrong size (style elements not sized correctly to be aesthetically pleasing or practical for use). Proportions are not balanced or visually pleasing.	Inconsistent style elements (features clash with the artistic style or intent). Overall design below potential. Piece would be better with different materials used for construction, different selection/execution of design elements, or changes to color/finish. For laminated/glued items, grain does not match or glue lines are not tight. Sizes of some elements do not add to the work's quality.
Finish (Sanding, Color, Texture, Type of Finish)	Lack of consistency (style elements do not fit together). Wrong size (style elements not sized correctly to be aesthetically pleasing or practical for use). Proportions are not balanced or visually pleasing.	Inconsistent style elements (features clash with the artistic style or intent). Overall design below potential. Piece would be better with different materials used for construction, different selection/execution of design elements, or changes to color/finish. For laminated/glued items, grain does not match or glue lines are not tight. Sizes of some elements do not add to the work's quality.

	Professional Level
Judging Criteria	Advanced items should generally be well-executed pieces that receive no criticism a critique at this level is more focused on helping the craftsman use it as a springboard for new directions. Therefore, this level has different criteria.
Function	Originality Lacking evidence of originality in shape, use of materials, or post-turning enhancements. Item does not demonstrate sufficient artistry and creativity.
Form (Shape, Movement, Center of Interest, Balance, Rhythm, Harmony, Contrast)	Technical difficulty Piece does not demonstrate degree of difficulty appropriate for a professional turner (overly simplified).
Fit (Scale, Proportion, Consistency of Design Elements)	Aesthetics Piece is not pleasing to the eye or to the touch. Piece does not execute all of the design principles well: center of interest, balance, harmony, rhythm, contrast.
Finish (Sanding, Color, Texture, Type of Finish)	Craftsmanship Transitions in shape are not smooth when required (for example, ogee curves). Transitions in shape are not crisp when required (for example, curve of bowl into foot of bowl).