
Fashion Show Essentials

The 4-H Fashion Show allows members to exhibit their skills in wardrobe selection; clothing construction or comparison shopping; fashion interpretation and understanding of style; good grooming and poise; and modeling garments and the presentation of themselves and their garments, at the county, district, and state levels.

The state 4-H Fashion Show is held during Texas 4-H Roundup.

Basics

The county fashion show is an optional activity open to all 4-H members who have completed a clothing project. Senior 4-H members who have won at the district Fashion Show competition can also compete at the fashion show at state roundup.

The fashion show has three divisions: buying, construction, and natural fiber. The buying division has four categories: business/interview, fantastic fashions under \$25, semiformal to formal, and special interest. The construction division also has four categories: everyday living, refashion, semiformal to formal, and theater/costume. The natural fiber division has two categories: cotton and wool/mohair.

Each district may send one contestant from each of the four in the construction and buying divisions, and one contestant from each of the two categories in natural fiber.

Construction: A 4-H member applies knowledge and skills in garment construction to make a garment to exhibit in the fashion show. The participant may sew, knit, or crochet a garment using new or recycled materials.

Buying: A 4-H member applies knowledge and skills in comparison shopping to select a garment to exhibit in the fashion show.

Natural fiber: A 4-H member applies knowledge of a fiber's characteristics and the use of that fiber in apparel. Garments may be constructed or bought. To be entered in the natural fiber contest, garments must meet the specific fiber requirements.

4-H members must select a category to compete in at the county level and compete in that category throughout the levels of competition. **Note:** Refer to the *District 4-H Fashion Show Guidelines* or ask the specialist about other categories that may be available.

Entry paperwork is required for the fashion show. Check with the district specialist about these requirements for your district fashion show.

At the state level, the required paperwork is part of the total score. 4-H members must provide information on their project goals and activities, leadership, and community service, as well as a project summary—all related to their clothing and textiles project experiences.

Conducting a fashion show

A fashion show requires much planning. Many county and district fashion shows also host the Fashion Storyboard contest on the same day as the fashion show. A planning guide is available for your task force.

Space and equipment needed

- 1 large room for group assembly and the awards program
- 1 room for judging each category
- Dressing rooms
- 1 room for tabulation
- 1 holding room for parents and leaders
- 1 table for registration
- 1 table per interview room for judges to use during the interview process

Possible locations are churches, schools, community centers, county fair buildings, and county Extension offices.

Volunteers needed

- **Fashion show coordinators:** Help coordinate the fashion show, modeling, and awards program
- **Judges:** Evaluate 4-H members during the interview process; possible judges are Texas Extension Education Association members, FCS teachers, former 4-H members, former 4-H clothing project leaders, or club managers, elementary school teachers, professional seamstresses, clothing store owners, clothing and textiles majors, and others interested in fashion
- **Registration personnel:** Work at the registration table to greet and check in contestants, judges, parents, leaders, and guests
- **Runners:** Take scorecards from the judging room to the tabulation room
- **Tabulator:** Tabulates scores from judges' scorecards
- **Timekeeper:** Keeps time during judging and indicates when the contestants have completed their interviews; if necessary, a judge can serve as the timekeeper

Resources

- *District 4-H Fashion Show Guidelines* (contact your district 4-H specialist)
- State 4-H clothing and textiles packet: fcs.tamu.edu (updated and distributed annually):
 - Fashion show entry form
 - Fashion show natural fiber entry form
 - Fashion Storyboard contest information and forms

Specialists

- Angela McCorkle, Extension Program Specialist–Family and Youth, armccorkle@ag.tamu.edu, 979-845-1150
- District 4-H specialist

