

FINE JEWELLERY GUIDELINES

1. The Society encourages craft workers to design and create works, using motif, material, inspiration and social commentary drawn from the Australian experience and Australia's cultural diversity.
2. All articles presented for selection or exhibition and sale shall be original in concept and design. The works shall demonstrate a high level of creativity and technical skill and present the highest possible standard of craftsmanship at all times.
3. The Society encourages the craft person to make contemporary work inspired by the artists own ideas and concepts drawn from personal inspiration, influences and experiences.
4. Exhibiting members are encouraged to continually assess their work and to research and experiment with new concepts, forms, techniques, materials and applications.

Acceptance of work is not based on aesthetic appeal alone. The following are the most important criteria for selection:

- Design, creativity and originality
- Functionality and safety
- Strength and durability. Jewellery should be designed and made to last. Assessment will include thickness of metals used, strength and security of stone settings, suitability of findings, such as clasps, hinges, cufflink backings, etc.
- High standard of finish and accuracy in construction of the work.
- Compliance with copyright requirements. All work should be the craft person's original work. Assembly of ready-made parts, however tasteful, is not acceptable.
- Commercial casting is acceptable if the artist has made the original model and the editions are limited, that is in sets or suites and as variations on a theme.
- Hallmarking. All work must be stamped "925". "Silver" or "Stg Sil" alone is no longer legal. Gold is to be stamped with the appropriate carat. On rare occasions where an item is too fine for stamping it may still be displayed, but it must be stated what the item is made of on the ticket and on the stock card.
- Opals should be labeled as solid, doublet or triplet on the ticket and on the stock card. Please include as much information possible on the stock card for any stones used, i.e. carat and origin if possible.
- A title or explanation of your inspiration is optional.

The inclusions of commercial components are only accepted where the major components of the piece are hand made.

- Commercial chains are allowed for a handmade or personally designed cast pendant, and where a hand-made chain would make the item far too expensive. For very fine chains parrot clasps or similar may be used. The chain has to suit the hand-made pendant.
- Commercial earring fittings, brooch pins, cuff link fittings, bracelet fittings, are similarly acceptable.
- Hand die stamped bezels or cast bezels are acceptable with the proviso that they are only used for 4-6 mm stones and are a minor part of the piece.
- If a commercial pearl strand or similar is used, add a handmade clasp.
- If a heavy commercial chain is used, make a handmade catch.
- Neoprene and other non-metal necklets should have handmade ends and clasp. The ends of commercial or hand-made necklets must be secured with a rivet, not just glue, they also should be hall marked. Base metal findings are not acceptable on fine jewellery.

Any substandard work will be removed from display and sale, and a card explaining why will be included with the withdrawn item.