



Poster-Making Tips

Posters are a great way to present information in a visual format. The poster's topic should be clear at a quick glance and appealing so that people will stop and read more. Here are some tips to make sure that your poster looks good:

- Make sure your poster is attention getting. Remember you want people to take the time to read about what you have done.
- Include information that is brief and easy to read.
- Make it neat! Even if you have really great information on your poster, no one is going to take time to read it if it is messy!
- Watch out for clutter! Don't try to put too much information or graphics on a poster.
- Include pictures or charts if they help explain your project work.
- Check your spelling and then check it again. Misspelled words can be very distracting.
- Use intense colors. Try dark lettering against a light background. This is usually easiest for people to read.

Before you begin designing your poster, think about what the audience needs to know about a single subject or topic. Create a list to help narrow your main points.

Also consider places where you might place your poster on display - a school bulletin board, doctor or dentist offices, shopping malls or stores, or in a public building -- like a library, post office, courthouse or Extension office. Make sure you ask permission before putting your poster up for display.

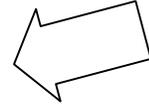
Begin work on your poster by sketching out a few rough drafts on plain paper. Ask your family or friends which draft they like best and then begin work on your poster.

On the reverse side of this page you will find a small version of a poster with some additional tips.

POSTER

(The title of your poster should be in large print. People should be able to read it from a distance.)

Posters should attract attention and get an idea across quickly. You don't need to be an artist to create a great poster. The key to a good poster is simplicity. Simple Words -- Simple Message -- Simple Design.



Use horizontal letters; they are easier to read. Vertical lettering can be hard to read.

Read

Read

Lettering Guides: If viewed from 8 feet, letters should be 1/4-inch tall. If viewed from 16 feet, letters should be 1/2-inch tall.

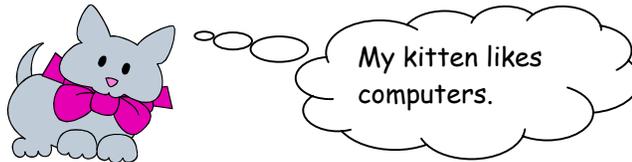
Allow for fairly large areas of unused or open space (sometimes referred to as "white space"). A design begins to look crowded when the open space falls below 20 percent of the total area.

Consider using dark letters on light backgrounds or light letters on a dark background.

letters

letters

Illustrations or pictures should relate to what you are saying in your poster and should be easy to understand.



Use a letter style that's easy to read. Fancy letters are neat, but they can be hard to read.

Sample

Sample

SAMPLE

Neatness does count. Watch out for fingerprints and smudges.

Spelling counts too.

This is my drawing of an eletric circuit borad.

Watch out for clutter! It is tempting to include all of the information we know about a topic. Remember if your poster doesn't look easy to read people aren't going to read it.