

Hooking originated as a way to provide warm and comfortable floor coverings on crudely constructed floors. The first requirement was for warmth and wearability. Over a period of years it has become an art and a means of expressing one's creative ability. That which is done with very narrow strips and with low uncut pile is much lovelier, has clearer detail in design, is softer, hugs the floor better, and will wear longer.

A. Creativity

Motifs in scale with size of rug and space they occupy, well spaced and balanced rug

Design stronger at center and corners - largest scaled motifs at center at corners in borders, becoming smaller as they get farther away from center or corners

All motifs connected by stem, leaves, etc. - turning toward center, whole design radiating from center, some variety in shape and size of motifs is desirable - adds interest, avoids monotmy, too many different forms in one rug - confusing

No realistic motifs - all conventionalized

Border

Should frame and finish design, not have the appearance of having stopped the design

Related in size, scale and design of rug - a part of design

If floral - may repeat some of motifs, if straight bands - division and spacing uneven

B. Color Harmony

One or two colors dominate

Colors balanced, some of all in each section or rug, can be don with 3-9 shades of dominate colors, many shades of one or two colors better than many colors

Small bits of strong color add character - balance in each section

Small amounts of black or very dark colors add depth - balanced in each section

Small amounts of white or very light shades add strength and character - balanced in each section Stems, leaves, and scrolls shaded

Outer edges - middle value or above, neither very dark nor very light, close value to floor

C. Craftsmanship

Rug soft and pliable - hugs floor

Texture of fabrics balanced in all parts of rug

Low uncut loops even in height, same distance apart - high quality and long wearing

Rows of loops close together - no foundation material showing on either side

Ends of filler brought to top

Rows of hooking follow shape or motif

Background hooking shows no set pattern - border hooking follows shape of rug

Foundation material turned before hooking is complete

Hooking done through both thickness, corners mitered

Foundation material hemmed back after hooking is complete, 1 1/2" - 2 1/2" wide, no stitcheds showing, corners mitered

Conventional Hooked Work - Latch Hook - Punch Hook

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improving
Design other of d Some v but Interest Pleasing Border design	ity (40 points) motifs related in size to each er and rug as a whole (unity lesign) ariety in shape and size of motifs, not too many different forms ing space divisions g rhythm (if used) related in size, scale and ign to hooked work oint emphasized by color or ure or both				
Balance of c Pleasin Stems, Small b	Harmony (30 points) ed repetition of many shades color, one or two colors dominate g blending of hues leaves, scrolls shaded cits of strong color add character cits of black or very dark colors add th				
Low ev High ev Rug sof Rug lie No skip Edges f	anship (30 points) en loops in traditional ven loops in primitive ft and pliable s flat - no ripples oped holes inished neatly and appropriately see from lumps				

Judge's Comments: