

VINYL SIGN MAKING

(Missouri only Demonstration Contest)

Purpose:

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of vinyl sign making.

First, refer to General Regulations.

Clothing Requirements

Contestants must wear the official SkillsUSA attire, Class E (business casual). As it can be rather cool in the contest site, contestants are allowed to add a sweatshirt, hoodie or jacket as long as such item does not present a safety concern.

Eligibility:

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with computer graphics as the occupational objective.

Equipment and Material (*per team, not per school*):

Supplied by the contestants:

- Squeegees
- Rulers
- Cutting and weeding tools
- Colored Pencils or Markers
- Sketch pad or paper for thumbnails and rough
- Additional tools or supplies (No printing allowed. Use only the supplied vinyl.)
- 1 Computer with appropriate design software installed. Teams may use another computer for running their vinyl cutter, but no design work may be performed on the second computer. *Computer must be able to accept a USB thumb drive/flash drive (bring your own adapter if necessary).*
- Vinyl cutter
- Masking tape
- Pencil or black pen, one per contestant

Supplied by the technical committee:

- Extension cord and power strips (STC)
- Sign material (Missouri SkillsUSA)
- Vinyl (3-M, Nevada)
- Application tape (3-M, Nevada)
- Cutting surface (Eldon Career Center)
- Tables and chairs (STC)

Scope of the Contest:

1. Contestants will demonstrate their ability to perform jobs or skills selected from the following list of competencies as determined by the SkillsUSA Championships technical committee.
Committee membership includes:

Competencies for Evaluation on Scoring Card

1) Communication (DOK)

- a) Demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend instructions. (3)
- b) Demonstrate the ability to plan and communicate ideas through thumbnails and roughs. (3)

2) Concept/Principles of Sign Design (DOK)

- a) Create a message to communicate, convince, reassure, or sell to a target audience. (3)
- b) Apply typography elements (letter family and size for readability). (3)
- c) Apply appropriate color use (contrast, thematic, psychological). (3)

3) Create Artwork (DOK)

- a) Create a layout consistent with design principles. (1)
- b) Create an impositions layout (lay out multiple objects when making pieces like stickers or labels). (1)
- c) Generate a cut line for cutting around a shape when sending a design to a vinyl cutter, laser or print-cut solution. (1)
- d) Apply Design Concepts (e.g. Whitespace, color, focal points, headlines, design principles, layering). (1)
- e) Manipulate graphics and images (scale, crop, rotate, group/ungroup). (1)
- f) Create and use color registration marks for layering vinyl. (1)

4) Plotter/cutter (DOK)

- a) Demonstrate correct settings on a plotter/cutter. (2)

5) Vinyl prep (DOK)

- a) Apply correct cutting and weeding techniques. (3)
- b) Select and apply proper application tape for vinyl and substrate application. (3)
- c) Demonstrate waste management in utilizing vinyl and tape. (3)

6) Vinyl Application (DOK)

- a) Demonstrate ability to accurately measure for placement of vinyl using guide markers.
- b) Demonstrate vinyl placement techniques (substrate prep, laying/layering pieces, squeegee technique, removal of application tape, cleaning). (4)
- c) Remove bubbles and other imperfections using proper tools. (4)

7) Job related practice (DOK)

- a) Check specifications and planning. (3)
- b) Keep work areas organized and neat. (3)
- c) Orientate jobs to eliminate waste. (3)
- d) Organize and utilize scraps when applicable. (3)
- e) Time management

8) Employability skills (DOK)

- a) Produce a creative resume. (4)
- b) Demonstrate professionalism. (4)
- c) Demonstrate ability to work as a team

2. The scenario, size, product and vinyl colors will be standardized. The technical committee will supply logo art for the project.
3. Contestants will not be allowed to use any reference materials that are not supplied by the technical committee.
4. Contestants will not be allowed to use cell phones at any time during the contest.
5. Contestants will not be allowed to use the internet at any time during the contest.

Note: No national competition is available for this event.