

## DIY Ugly Sweater Contest - Official Rules & Judging Guidelines



### Contest Overview

Welcome to our DIY Ugly Sweater Contest! Get ready to unleash your creativity and show off your most outrageous, festive, or hilarious holiday sweater. Read below for the official rules and judging criteria to ensure your entry qualifies and stands out from the crowd.

### Entry Rules

1. **Eligibility:** The contest is open to all participants unless otherwise specified. Entries may be submitted individually or as a couple (if permitted).
2. **Originality:** Sweaters must be designed and decorated by the entrant. Store-bought “ugly sweaters” are NOT allowed.
3. **Materials:** Any safe, non-hazardous materials may be used (fabric, tinsel, felt, lights, ornaments, etc.). Avoid sharp objects or anything that could pose a safety risk. You may only use sweaters, sweatshirts, and long sleeves ONLY.
4. **Theme:** Sweaters should fit the “ugly sweater” theme, which can include tacky holiday decor, humorous designs, or over-the-top festive embellishments. **Inappropriate or offensive content is NOT permitted. Remember – this is a family friendly event!**
5. **Submission:** Contestants can register online or at the event (30 minutes prior to judging times).
6. **Participation:** By entering, participants agree to have their sweater and likeness photographed and shared for promotional purposes.

### Judging Criteria

Sweaters will be evaluated by a panel of judges and/or popular vote based on the following criteria:

1. Creativity & Originality (30%)
2. Unique concepts, inventive use of materials, and unusual designs will score higher.
3. Effort & Craftsmanship (25%)
4. Attention to detail, visible effort, and quality of construction will be considered.
5. Theme Adherence (20%)
6. The sweater should clearly embody the “ugly sweater” spirit and fit the contest’s festive or humorous intent.
7. Visual Impact (15%)
8. Overall, first impression and how much the sweater stands out in a crowd.
9. Audience Reaction (10%)
10. Crowd appeal or audience votes, if applicable, may contribute to the final score.

### Contest Process

- All entries must be paraded during the contest event.
- Judges will review each sweater and tally scores based on the criteria above.
- Winners will be announced at the end of the judging period.
- **Categories:** “Ugliest Sweater,” “Most Festive,” “Funniest,” and “Best Couple”.
- **Age Group Categories:** Adults 18 and older, Children 13 to 17, Children 8 to 12 and Children 3 to 7

### Additional Notes

- All decisions by the judges are final.
- The organizers reserve the right to disqualify entries that do not adhere to the rules or are deemed inappropriate.
- Have fun and remember: the uglier, the better!

For any questions or clarifications, please contact the contest organizer.