



Guidelines for Sculptural and Three-Dimensional Art

In order to avoid last minute rejection or modification of a work, these guidelines are intended to help you understand the criteria which Risk Management uses in evaluating the hazard potential of an artistic work.

1. Unstable - art work may topple over if impacted or climbed upon. Stability is generally a function of the center of mass as it relates to the footprint of the base of the art piece. Smaller works displayed upon pedestals may also topple if not affixed to the pedestal or if the pedestal itself does not have a sufficiently large base.

While a wide base is often the answer to such problems, it could itself become a hazard if the base extends into the walkway in such a manner as to cause tripping of passersby. In the case of large, heavy art works, it may be necessary to affix them to the floor, ground, or a nearby wall. In some cases a building permit may be required.

2. Sharp - pointed or sharp edges capable of causing lacerations or puncture wounds are unacceptable unless protected by an enclosure or displayed in such a manner as to become inaccessible to viewers.

3. Entrapping - spaces, holes, voids or other design features which might result in pinching, entrapment or entanglement of a viewer's head or limbs are unacceptable unless protected by an enclosure or displayed in such a manner that these design features remain inaccessible to viewers.

4. Toxic - art works containing or surfaced with toxic or hazardous materials are unacceptable. Lead-based paints or asbestos-containing materials are examples.

5. Flammable - art works constructed in whole or part of combustible or flammable materials may be unacceptable for display in certain locations.

6. Suffocating - works consisting of materials, such as sheet polyethylene, entanglement in which could cause suffocation, or works whose design could result in confinement in a small area where insufficient oxygen may be present, are unacceptable. Works containing water features should avoid any mechanism which might lead to drowning.

7. Fall Producing - works constructed in such a manner as they may be climbed upon will be reviewed as to fall hazards associated with their design.

8. Energy Releasing - works which possess the potential for energy release, in particular electrical energy, may be unacceptable. The design or display method of kinetic sculptures must preclude injury to people walking by from moving elements.

9. Trip Producing - works should not be constructed or displayed in such a manner as to cause trip hazards to passersby.

10. Hanging - works which include rope, wire, or cable which could result in injury to passersby are unacceptable.

11. Choking - works should not include small unattached or easily detachable objects which a child might attempt to ingest unless such work is protected by an enclosure or otherwise made inaccessible.