

Tips for County Fair Exhibitors

When you enter a Small Engine exhibit at the county fair, you'll be showing the public, and the judge, what you've learned in the project. Make your exhibit the best it can be. Here are some tips.

Preparation before painting

Before an engine is painted, the parts should be scraped and degreased to remove oil and dirt deposits.

Sanding to dull the finish on original paint will improve adherence of new paint.

Quality of paint job

Paint is usually done with hand-held spray cans. Paint job should be free of paint flaws such as runs, poor coverage, and painting of dirt and oil deposits.

Decals

Decals improve appearance of display and give information to fair viewer on engine name and type.

Original decals may be protected with masking tape or new decals may be ordered from the dealer or manufacturer.

Mounting base

All engines should be supported on a mounting base of plywood or pressed board. Horizontal crankshaft engines should be bolted to a board larger than the engine base. Vertical crankshaft engines should be bolted to a board with a 2'x 4' or 2'x 6' board support on each end to hold the PTO shaft away from the ground.

The mounting base should be sanded and finished with paint, oil stain or varnish for attractive appearance.

Batteries: Engines that require a battery should be entered with a battery.

Gasoline: Engines should not be entered with gasoline in the fuel tank.