



Rubrics - Why and How

A rubric is a scoring tool, designed with specific outcomes for any specific task, such as 4-H project records. Rubrics in project records provide a clear guideline for what is expected in a member's 4-H project work and reflection. They allow young people and the adults who work with them, to have common understanding about intentions and goals in terms learning in any 4-H project work.

Pros

- Provides clear guidelines for what is expected.
- Provides details on what is needed to be proficient, or "meet the grade."
- Supports 4-Hers to see what their own strengths and weaknesses are.
- Allows parents and volunteers to see where a 4-Hers strengths and weaknesses are.
- Can be used for all project areas.
- Can be motivating for 4-Hers to know in advance what they need to do in project work.
- Rubrics support fairness in judging criteria.

Cons

- Rubrics can take more time, especially at first.
 - Becoming familiar with, and understanding what each bullet/expectation in a rubric means will take time and work.
 - Scoring, whether for self, or as an awards committee, will take more time as more detail is provided in what is expected.

Parts of a Rubric

