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2027 Made in Montana Trade Show Bag Contest

The Made in Montana Trade Show is excited to showcase the creativity and talent of Montana artists through our shopping bag logo artist contest. We're seeking a unique, eye-catching design that reflects the spirit of Montana craftsmanship, community and entrepreneurial pride. The winning design will be printed on official MIM trade show shopping bags used by attendees and exhibitors.

Artists who are part of the MIM Program are encouraged to submit original artwork that celebrates what it means to be Made in Montana, Grown in Montana and Native American Made in Montana. This is a great opportunity to have your work featured prominently at one of the state's largest showcases of local products and makers.

OVERVIEW AND KEY RULES

Sponsor

The Contest is run by the Made in Montana Program, Montana Department of Commerce ("Sponsor"). Void where prohibited by law.

Skill-based contest

This is a skill-based art contest. Entries are judged only on the criteria below; chance does not play any role in choosing the winner. All entries will be input into an AI checker; all AI submissions will be immediately disqualified.

Who can enter

- Open to current Made in Montana Program members in good standing.
- You must have been a member for at least three months as of the contest start date Aug. 1, 2026.



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- Individual artists may enter; collaborative works are allowed but must list one contact person.
- The contest is administered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion or other protected status.

Membership must already be in place when the contest starts; there is no separate fee or purchase required to enter or win.

What we're looking for

We're seeking a unique, eye-catching design that reflects Montana craftsmanship, community and entrepreneurial pride that celebrates "Made in Montana, Grown in Montana and Native Made in Montana."

Artwork must:

- Be original, unpublished and not submitted to other contests.
- Reflect Montana-made goods, Montana culture or the Made in Montana Program.
- Be suitable for printing on shopping bags in single or limited colors.
- Be submitted as a high-resolution PNG, JPG or PDF.
- Be available as a vector file (EPS or SVG) if selected as the winner.

By entering, you promise that you created the work without the use of A.I., that it does not use anyone else's protected material without permission and that you can grant the usage rights described below.

Usage Rights

- By submitting artwork, the artist grants the Made in Montana Program the right to reproduce, display and use the design for promotional purposes related to the Made in Montana Trade Show and Program.
- Artist retains copyright to the design but agrees that the winning design may be used on official materials without additional compensation.



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How to enter and deadlines

Email your entry to **madeinmontana@mt.gov** with:

- Email Subject: 2027 Made in Montana Trade Show Shopping Bag Design Contest
- Your name, MiM Account Number (MIMBPXXXXXXX) and MiM business name
- Contact information (email and phone)
- A short description of the design's meaning or inspiration
- Your design file attached (PNG, JPG or PDF)

Failure to attach any of the above information will result in submission not being considered. All entries will be checked for membership status at the time of submission.

Key dates:

- Contest starts: Aug. 1, 2026, at 12:00 a.m. Mountain Time
- Entry deadline: Aug. 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Mountain Time.
- Anticipated judging period: Sept. 1–Oct. 12, 2026.

Late or incomplete entries will not be considered. Sponsor's systems determine whether an entry is on time.

How entries will be judged

A panel of Made in Montana Program staff and trade show organizers will score eligible entries on a 100-point scale:

- Creativity and originality (0–25 points)
- Connection to the Made in Montana mission (0–25 points)
- Visual impact and clarity (0–25 points)
- Suitability for printing on shopping bags (0–25 points)

The highest-scoring entry will be the potential winner. In case of a tie, tied entries will be re-judged until the tie is broken.

Judges' decisions are final. Entries that do not follow these rules may be disqualified.



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The winner will receive:

- Recognition on the official Made in Montana Trade Show website, social media and trade show marketing.
- The winning design printed on Made in Montana Trade Show shopping bags
- A Complimentary booth at the 2027 Made in Montana Trade Show, Apr. 15-17, 2027 at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds