

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Use card stock (white 110 lb. Hammermill) paper to prevent warping, and to hold form up to three months instead of regular typing paper.
2. Use peel and stick letters for title (office supply stores).
3. Foam board is easy to use, light weight, and cuts easily for making ones own board.
4. One sheet works to make a smaller junior board, while it requires two boards for a larger senior board (office depot, comes in white only).
5. <http://www.framingsupplies.com/MatBoardFoamBoard/FoamBoard.htm>
Black and white foam boards. Purchase the large 96 x 46 boards
6. <http://www.artsupply.com/foamcore/colorfoamcore.htm>
Colored foam boards. Purchase the large 96 x 46 boards
Generally speaking, spray paint will not stick to the new finishes on form boards, so if a color for the board is desired one must purchase the color desired. It is preferable to purchase a board with the color all the way through. If a board gets dinged it will be less noticeable with a color through board.
7. If using foam boards, duct tape works well to attach sides. Piano hinges, or cabinet hinges work well also, but use duct tape on the back side to prevent hardware from eroding the board by movement.
8. When placing a horizontal title piece;
Maximum Size of Project at the Intel ISEF
30 inches (76 centimeters) deep
48 inches (122 centimeters) wide
108 inches (274 centimeters) high from floor to top of project
 - cut a vertical notch on the top of the side panels (one for each side)
 - cut a vertical notch on the bottom of each side of the title piece
 - interdigitate the two pieces together locking the title and side panels into place by slipping one notched groove into the other notched groove
 - make sure to measure the width of the project prior to cutting the panels and title piece to make sure the display board is with in display rules & regulations as stated above
9. Copy your science fair folder (all documents on the board including photos, graphs, and research plan) on to a zip drive so that in the event something is lost or damaged in transportation, it can be reprinted and attached to the display board.

- 10. When transporting science fair boards (especially state and internationals) wrap boards in a water proof covering (garbage bags/tarp) to protect the board from the elements. Anything printed on an ink jet printer will be destroyed if wet.**
- 11. Double matting is recommended to give a polished presentation to the display boards for higher level competitors. This can be accomplished by using construction paper or matte board from a frame shop or craft store. Most boards use one color highlighted by black or white or two complimentary colors.**
- 12. Use a paper cutter for nice clean lines and edges. Most schools will give you access to paper cutters.**
- 13. Font size should be large enough to be read approximately 3 feet from the board. Titles such as problem, hypothesis, procedure generally range from 20 - 28 depending on the amount of material needed for a board. The written usually ranges from 16 - 20 for the written work, and this too varies on the amount of material required for the board.**
- 14 Rubber cement works well for attaching items to a foam board. It requires all surfaces to be liberally covered with the glue.**
- 15. It is recommended to measure and mark at least two corners with pencil where the item is to be displayed prior to placement. Be sure to pay attention to making items level on your board, since repositioning item's may damage the board. Be sure to allow the glue ample time to dry before moving the board. Use the glue in a well ventilated area.**
- 16 If attaching numerous sheets stapled together, due to the weight a hot glue gun will be required securely attach those items.**
- 17. *SIMPLICITY IS ELEGANT* - Keep your board simple (only a few colors easy on the eyes) as it should be able to tell your research story on its own., since judges will be reviewing your board before they ever have a chance to meet you. Use your board as a hook to make the judges want to speak with you!**
- 18. HAVE FUN AND NEVER STOP ASKING QUESTIONS!**