

West Cork Crafts

Membership Application

WHAT IS WEST CORK CRAFTS?

West Cork Crafts is a non profit shop based in the heart of Skibbereen. The shop is run on a co-operative basis by the artists and crafters themselves. 'The Core Group members are the people who take care of the day to day running of the shop (promotion/website/ accounting admin/ facilities/cleaning etc.) in exchange for a space in the shop. The other members (you) then pay a membership fee with a small commission fee added to sales in exchange for space to and sell your work.

Our current commission is 20% on sales, may we suggest that you add 20% to your current prices to allow for this.

We would like to make clear that all fees and commission collected goes straight to the running of West Cork Crafts, by way of overheads, advertising and shop improvements, we are a co-operatively run non-profit group, by the makers for the makers.

AIMS, OBJECTIVES & BENEFITS

1. To provide local artists and craftspeople a place where they can display and sell their work at very affordable prices. The relatively low cost per member relies on having sufficient members, each paying their share and doing their bit to help the project.
2. In conjunction with the actual shop a website has been created to showcase the members work. We provide a free online members directory on the website www.westcorkcrafts.ie which includes a slideshow of each member's work, a brief biography, a link to your own website, and the possibility to sell some of your items in our online shop.
3. We curate and display members work, we try our best to keep all your items together in the shop.
4. We also provide advertising and publicity for our members and the shop. We run ads in the papers, we have a facebook and instagram page. We also have leaflets/ business cards dotted around the county letting people know about us and our whereabouts.
5. We do accept credit cards. We also have an electronic till which provides us with daily/weekly/monthly banking reports allowing us to provide members with a monthly total of their sales. However if detailed sales information is needed (sales of item a, or sales of item b) then members must operate their own stocktaking system.
6. Your payment will be made by direct transfer into your bank each month. Only total sales per member each day/week/month will be recorded,
7. We provide public liability insurance cover/fixtures & fittings & tenants improvements. (The shop insurance covers loss or damage to members stock)

MEMBERSHIP

When joining West Cork Crafts we ask that you join for six months initially, this allows you to see how you are doing sales wise and gives you the opportunity to opt out should things not be working out. We also ask that you give us one months notice before the end of the session, should you choose to leave. We have split the year into two sessions; May to October and November to April. Every March/April and September/October we review our members and if there are people leaving we go through our applications and invite others on board. Keeping the shop at its full capacity is one of our main priorities and paramount to keeping the shop open. On occasion (once/twice per year) we offer a 10% discount to our customers, these discounts will be part of an event organised and advertised by us. We also offer our members a 10% discount on other members products all year round.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Each 6 month session starting May and November: €50 a month + 20% commission charged on sales

FEES & COMMITMENTS

Each member will contribute (by paying their fees/commission) to the funding of the shop. This will cover the shops rent, the shops rates, heating, lighting, insurance, shop fittings, packaging etc. Members who do not wish to renew their membership for the next session must give a minimum of 1 months notice so that their place can be offered to another new member. In exceptional circumstances it may be possible for a new member to join the shop partway through a membership period, this will be at the discretion of the Core Group. In this case the new member will pay a suitable proportion of the 6 month fee.

What do you get for you membership fee?

1. Permanent showcase for your work
2. No Shop sitting required, fully maintained high street shop/gallery in Skibbereen
3. Website/webshop
4. All advertising/promotion included.
5. Promotion through social media (facebook, instagram)
6. Use of credit card facilities.
7. Monthly payments for your sales, at the end of each month we add up your total sales and transfer your takings straight into your bank account.
8. Full insurance on your stock while it is in the shop.

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Minimum membership of six months.
2. All products must be the members own work (nothing imported or not of their own making).
3. All products to be made in Ireland; with preference given to members from `Co Cork
4. Members must provide us with a good quantity of stock.
5. All work must be of a similar standard to the samples initially approved. Major changes to work (e.g. selling knitwear when the original approval was for 2D art) must be approved by the Core Group in advance.
6. Members will pay their six-monthly fees (as a monthly standing order) 2 weeks in advance of each month.
7. Members are to ensure that all items are labelled with their membership code and retail price. (You will be issued with your code at a later date).
8. Members must operate their own stocktaking system.
9. Members will, if possible provide photographs of their work and licence West Cork Crafts to use these photos freely in promoting their work and the shop.
10. Members will be responsible for their own tax/social welfare obligations.

On submission of your application could you please provide a selection of good quality images of your work, and if possible could you also include some samples of your work.

Return this application by emailing it to westcorkcrafts@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Business Name	
Contact Name	
Phone	
Email	
Website	
Facebook	
Postal Address	

Please delete where appropriate.

10% discount of my work for customers once/twice per year **YES/NO**

10% discount my work for other members **YES/NO**

Description of your Art or Craft:

Particular needs for display of work:

Price Range of your products:

List other Stockists:

I would like to apply to become a member of West Cork Crafts, I agree to the terms and conditions of membership to West Cork Crafts.

Signed _____

Dated _____

If accepted I will pay the membership fee two weeks in advance of the period start which is payable by standing order.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or queries

Tel: 083 4404199

Email: westcorkcrafts@yahoo.com