

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS**Getting Ready**

Get a Sketchbook.

Be curious, observe, think objectively, make notes, sketch and draw your ideas. Take things apart and put them together to learn about how they were made and work. Draw everything you can. Sketch design ideas, sketch what you observed, sketch what you like and sketch what you feel can be improved on. Think about all sorts of things and sketch them. Sketch the forms of nature and its creations. Sketch how you see the future.

Note everything in your sketchbook and later draw them, developing them into a sophisticated form of medium for presentation.

Find portfolios from other students on the Web from around the world. Check out Coroflot.com and read articles on Core77.com

Admission to Industrial Design

- Applicants to the BFA in Industrial Design must first submit an application to the MSU Office of Undergraduate Admissions. After the preliminary application review, students may be contacted with instructions for scheduling a portfolio interview with the Industrial Design faculty. The portfolio interview is an opportunity to present the applicants' creativity as well as meet the faculty, tour the facilities, and learn more about the Industrial Design program. [Note: Students may also wish to tour the campus while here.] Since admission to the BFA in Industrial Design major is highly competitive, students are strongly urged to complete applications and schedule appointments for the earliest possible dates. [Intended freshman should do so for no later than March, and transfer students by May]
- Portfolio reviews for the BFA in Industrial Design major are not held during the summer months of July and August, so be sure to have yours completed before then. [During the summer, you may only schedule a portfolio review for acceptance to one of the BA in Studio concentrations, and then apply to the BFA in Industrial Design during the fall semester. This however does not guarantee acceptance to the BFA in Industrial Design major and will delay your studies.]

Portfolio Tips for Industrial Design majors

Do not rely only on the assignments you completed for your art classes, they may not be appropriate for this major. Consult with your teachers and ask them to advise you.

Your portfolio is a mirror of who you are as a designer. Since design is a highly interdisciplinary profession, your approach to presenting yourself and your work must take this factor into consideration. The portfolio communicates your interest for the profession, demonstrates your enthusiasm and gives evidence of your readiness to start your industrial design studies. We encourage you to include a selection of your most recent projects, which best represent your ideas and your visions, while also demonstrating a range of essential skills necessary to be successful in the major.

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Be proactive and demonstrate that you are serious about becoming a designer by drawing objects on your own. Do not trace! Devote considerable amount of time to prepare your portfolio.

We expect to see between 15 and 20 pieces done in any media applicable to Industrial Design. (Pen, marker, color pencil) The Faculty of Industrial Design prefers that you include as many self-directed pieces as possible.

Freshman students:

When applying to the BFA in Industrial Design, in your portfolio you must include works that demonstrate your interest and aptitude for the profession. These are drawings of objects and/or initiatives in product development. The intention is to demonstrate an understanding of proportion, aesthetics, and structure, through applied knowledge of **two-point and three-point perspective**. The drawings should be free hand line drawings, studies of three-dimensional exploration of objects in space.

Compulsory material:

- All applicants must include a **minimum of three** finished drawings of objects in three-point perspective from each of the following product design categories:
 - ✓ Furniture (home , office, public places)
 - ✓ Lighting, (show resourcefulness with your selection)
 - ✓ Transportation (bicycle, car, scooter, baby stroller, wheelbarrow, etc.)
 - ✓ Consumer products (Toaster, coffee maker, sporting goods, communications devices or power tools)

Emphasis should be on the aesthetics and function of the product, as well as the originality of the design. Show off the designer in you, by paying attention to details.

- Inclusion of photos of 3D models is optional. Of primary importance are exploratory sketches that show a variety of solutions and ideas for each product presented. You must be able to demonstrate an equivalence of the BFA in Industrial Design First-Year Design Stream. Include your **best** most recent projects that demonstrate creative exploration, concept development as well as some awareness of human anatomy.
- Explain briefly and articulately your ideas behind each project. We expect that as part of this visual presentation you also submit pages from your journal or sketchbook that indicate your process of research, thinking and investigation.
- In addition, be prepared to discuss the reasons for choosing the BFA in Industrial Design program.

Writing Samples

Submit two examples of writing, each between 200 and 400 words. In your first sample, please look ahead and address this question:

- ✓ How do you hope to have changed at the end of your time as an MSU ID student?
- ✓ Is there something you love to do, can't stop thinking about? Write about a personal passion or obsession other than visual art or design.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS**Transfer students:**

- You may be considered for the sophomore level studies, if you completed the first year studies in B.ID or BFA at a university in an accredited Industrial Design program and you achieved at least a C+ or higher in each of the major subjects. It is expected that the majority of your presented work directly applies to the Industrial Design area and demonstrate adequate knowledge of related subjects.
- Applicants transferring from community colleges must complete the four-year sequence of major studio studies of the BFA in Industrial Design major, unless they demonstrate excellence in visualization, model making, problem solving and human factors, and completed courses that focus on these subject areas.
 - ✓ **Note:** The same compulsory portfolio requirements as for freshman apply.
- If you believe you are eligible for placement at the third-year level of study, you must have the equivalent of two years of study at an accredited Industrial Design program. It is critical that the work in your portfolio indicates specific knowledge in Industrial Design. The work should reveal a maturity in ideas and development, as well as skill in presenting them. In dept knowledge of relevant media, materials and processes is expected.

Note:

- A maximum of **nine** credits of 100- or 200-level Industrial Design coursework taken at other institution may be accepted as Major Studio Courses in the BFA in Industrial Design major, depending on the presented competence level. Equivalent transfer courses for New Jersey Community Colleges can be found at <http://www.njtransfer.org> that can be applied to foundation and general education.
- After being notified of a request for a portfolio review, transfer applicants are encouraged to email a link to their portfolio web site, their biographical statement, and their college transcripts for a preliminary review. This is not a requirement, but will help us in evaluating your work and your abilities, and determine the best place for you to start in our program.

The Interview:

- Portfolio interviews are held between the applicant and one or more industrial design faculty. Interviews generally run for thirty minutes and provide an opportunity to discuss your work with our professors, see our industrial design facilities, and ask questions about the program. Parents and/or friends are not allowed to be a part of the actual review, but may come along and ask any questions after the portfolio review has been completed. Transfer applicants who bring a copy of their transcripts with them will be provided with advisement on where to start in the Industrial Design program.

Note to out-of-state applicants: Where long-distance travel for an in-person interview is prohibitive, the department will sometimes explore alternative options with an applicant. Special circumstances should be addressed with the department's [portfolio review coordinator](#).

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Information in the ID program can be found at

<http://www.montclair.edu/arts/art-and-design/academic-programs/undergraduate-programs/industrial-design-bfa/#industrial>

General portfolio guidelines

<http://www.montclair.edu/arts/art-and-design/admission/portfolio-preparation-guidelines/> Pay special attention to the “Things to Avoid in the Portfolio” paragraph.

Preparation resources

<http://www.idsketching.com/>

<http://www.sketch-a-day.com/>

Books

<http://www.designsketching.com/>

[Sketching: The Basics](#)