Welcome to the iF DESIGN AWARD 2026 Registration Guide!

iF DESIGN AWARD 2026

1 Enter your project basic data

2 Register and pay your entry

3 Complete your entry data by 5 Nov 2025

Who can participate?

The **iF DESIGN AWARD** is open to projects that meet all criteria and may be submitted by designers, creators, agencies, brand managers, manufacturers, architects, and third-party individuals and also accepts submissions across a wide range of disciplines and categories.

- We reserve the right to exclude entries from participation, that include or promote the following: weapons or weapon-related products; content that incites or facilitates the violation of human rights or endangers physical or mental health; material deemed harmful to health; pornographic content; and any racist, anti-semitic, discriminatory, or otherwise offensive material that violates applicable laws or ethical standards.

- All individuals named as under „Credits" must have been actively involved in the creation or production of the submitted work.
  The transfer or sale of awards to uninvolved third parties is prohibited and may result in the withdrawal of the award.

- Students and recent graduates must apply for the **iF DESIGN STUDENT AWARD**.

- Projects published or launched more than two years ago are not eligible for registration.

- Projects launching in 2027 or after can be registered in the **Professional Concept** discipline.

- Each participant represents and warrants that their submitted entry complies with all applicable national and international laws and regulations and does not infringe upon the rights of any third party.

- Each participant represents and warrants that they are not included on any national or international embargo list that would restrict or prohibit their participation in events or competitions, including the **iF DESIGN AWARD**.

When is the Award?

Registration Dates

Early bird deadline	**27 June 2025**
Regular deadline	**26 September 2025**
Last chance deadline	**5 November 2025**

Deadline for data submission & editing	**5 November 2025**

Online Preselection Dates

Online Preselection	**1 - 4 December 2025**
Results Preselection	**Mid December 2025**

Final Jury Dates

Shipment	**December 2025 - January 2026**
Jury Session	**10 - 12 February 2026**
Winners Announcement	**End February 2026**

iF DESIGN AWARD NIGHT 2026	**April 2026**

What are the fees?

Registration Fees per entry

Early bird	**300 €**
Regular	**400 €**
Last chance	**500 €**

Jury Fees per entry

All disciplines	**300 €**

Award Winner Fees per entry

Product & Packaging Design	**3300 €**
Other	**2900 €**

Award Timeline Explained

Below you will find a diagram showing how the award process is held.

Registration Period	End of data submission	Online Preselection	Results Preselection	Final Jury	Winners Announcement
1 May - 5 Nov 2025		**1 Dec - Mid Dec 2025**		**10 Feb - End Feb 2026**	

Useful information for your iF DESIGN AWARD registration

DESIGN AWARD 2026

Understanding the Registration Form

Guidance
Our Guidance feature gives useful examples and detailed explanations of the required information.

Translation Tool
Enter information in your native language and use our Translation Tool for automatic translation.

Mandatory / Optional

Field Indicator
These icons mark mandatory & optional fields. Only one will be displayed per field.

Public / Only for Jury

Jury Indicator
Data only available to the jury or available to the public will be marked accordingly with an icon.

Register now

Register Entry
It is mandatory to press the register entry button to officially submit and be able to edit your entry later.

Did you know?

Entries that are submitted physically can be viewed more holistically by the judges!

If you could not send a physical entry for good reasons to Germany, please contact us via logistics@ifdesign.com so that we can take a closer look at your project and discuss the various options.

iF Online Preselection
The iF Online Preselection is a digital-only presentation. To present your entry in the best possible way to the jury, please use our registration form to upload PDFs and high-quality images. We also highly recommend using the opportunity to enter a video. These materials can help you to showcase the project in use, as well as give detailed construction and material information for physical entries, compensating for the fact that the jury cannot touch and feel those entries.

iF Final Jury
After the online preselection, 50% of the entries will qualify for the iF Final Jury.
For entries in the disciplines of **Product Design**, **Packaging Design**, **Product Interfaces**, and parts of **Branding & Communication Design** it is highly recommended to send a physical product if your entry qualifies for the iF Final Jury. This allows the jury to evaluate the entry more holistically.

Entries in all other disciplines (not listed above) can not be submitted as physical products to the iF Final Jury.

Which discipline / category is right ones for me?

Please select the discipline and category for your entry according to the most relevant industry and sector.

If you have difficulties finding the most suitable discipline / category, you can select '**to be decided**' in the corresponding input field of the entry form. The iF team will then get in touch with you.

Don't panic if you don't yet know where your project fits best. You can still register at favourable conditions, such as early bird, and adjust the category and discipline until **5 November 2025**.

If you choose the wrong category, the iF team can change the category for you during the selection process. This is to ensure that your entry is categorised correctly and can be judged by the right group of experts.

Please note that the registration form may vary depending on the chosen discipline and category! If you change your discipline or category later on, you should check the form again!

What makes a good entry description?

- Describe unique features and innovations that are not recognisable at first glance. Technical features, Patents & Production methods.

- Focus on the most important innovation! What makes your contribution special and different from the competition? What makes it relevant?

- Avoid descriptions of design quality, that is up to the jurors.

- Avoid describing something that the jury can already see when they look at the entry.

Data Fields explained
Please fill out the entry fields in English or use the Translation Tool if necessary.

◈ Basics
The minimum required information about your project.

Entry Name
Max 50 Characters

Enter the official title of your project or a model name.
Example: iPhone 16 Pro Max

Discipline
Choose one

Choose a discipline for your project.
If you are unsure, select "to be decided" - we will get in contact and help you!

Category
Choose one

Choose a category for your project.
Categories change depending on the chosen discipline.

Entry Type
Max 50 Characters

Briefly tell us what type of project you're registering.
Example: Fitness application, bluetooth speaker, neck massager.

Degree Of Realization
Choose one

Select which degree of realization describes your project best.
If your project has yet to launch, what stage of realization is it currently?

Project Launch
Choose one

Select the launch date for your project.
When was or will be the market introduction of your project?

Please note that the registration form may differ depending on the chosen discipline and category.
Some disciplines and categories have customised fields, while others have different description texts, for example.

▣ Media
The types of media you can include about your project.

Images
JPG / PNG
Max 5mb / 15 Megapixel

Upload a minimum of 4 images, up to a maximum of 7.
Include all aspects of the project. Captions on images are not allowed. You can rearrange images after uploading.
Please include at least one image in portrait format for social media.

PDF
Max 8 pages

For additional info, feel free to submit a PDF of the project in english.
The PDF may contain images, plan drawings, layouts, and descriptions. Please ensure that the PDF provides only additional information.

Web URL

Submit a link to the project or product website in english.
The website must be accessible during the registration and jury period. Provide additional login credentials if necessary.

Project Video
Max 2 minutes
English or subtitles

Submit a video for jurors to understand your project better in english.
Please publish videos on platforms accessible in Germany, such as Youtube.
Videos for download will not be accepted. Do not submit pure advertising videos with little information.

💬 Description
Provide a design statement and descriptions for each criteria.

Design Statement
Max 650 characters

Describe your project for the public and jury.
What is it for? What problems does it solve? What characteristics might not be evident at first glance?

Idea
Max 650 characters

Tell us why your idea is relevant.
What task is your project addressing? Why is the idea appropriate?

Form
Max 650 characters

Tell us why your project looks the way it does.
Why did you choose this aesthetic? How is it made?

Function
Max 650 characters

Describe the usability benefits and efficiency factors.
Is it easy to use? How well does it work?

Differentiation
Max 650 characters

What sets your project apart from others?
Why is it innovative? How does it support the brand?

⟲ Sustainability
Social and environmental considerations of your project.

Sustainability
Max 650 characters

Describe the significant sustainability factors and their impact.
Are there social benefits? What makes it sustainable?

Sustainability Questions

Answer up to three optional questions to describe the sustainability aspects of your project in further detail.

Eco Labels
Multiple answers

Select all applicable eco-labels (max 5). Please leave empty if not applicable. Download Eco-labels

Data Fields explained

Please fill out the entry fields in English or use the Translation Tool if necessary.

🏷 Details

Give the jury a better understanding of the scope of your project.

Target Group
Multiple answers

Select the core target group for your project.
Who benefits the most from your project?

Market Region
Multiple answers

Select all regions where your project will be marketed.

Retail Price

What is the retail price (€) for your core target group?
Leave empty if not applicable. Please ensure the price is in Euros.

Sizing Matrix

Select the item that comes closest in size to your project.
This information helps the jury and iF to determine exact proportions.

Dimensions
Dropdown menu

Enter the maximum dimensions for your project.
This information helps the iF Team reserve a fitting place to assemble your entry for the jury.

Context Dimensions

Optional upload of a contextual image that shows your project in real proportion or in use.

Publishing Restriction
Pick a date

Pick a restriction date for publishing your entry.
The project will not be disclosed until the publication date!
Entries will be published in the spring after the winners are announced if no restriction is set.

👥 Credits

Designer, Company, Manufacturer, Client, Engineers.

Designer
Max 150 characters

Enter personal and design company credentials.
If an entry is awarded, this information will appear on certificates and on the iF entry detail page.
Enter up to two design companies. If your company has already participated, please use an existing company from the list.

Please include involved designers or engineers.

Client / Manufacturer
Max 150 characters

Was this project fulfilled on behalf of a client?
If an entry is awarded, this information will appear on certificates and on the iF entry detail page.
If you are part of an in-house team, please enter your company in both Designer and Client fields.

Ranking
Choose one in each category

Let us know who will receive the ranking points.
Only one company from each field can receive ranking points.
Ranking points are distributed when an entry qualifies for the iF Final Jury and when it is awarded.

→] Register and Payment

Complete your registration

Order Summary

A brief summary of your entry.

Contact information

Your contact details from your myiF account.

Invoice address

If different from your contact data, you can enter a new invoice address here.

Purchase Order Number

If you want you can add a PO number optionally.

Payment methods
Choose one

How do you want to pay?
We support many international payment methods, such as paypal, alipay, credit card and via invoice.

Congratulations!

You have now registered your entry for the iF DESIGN AWARD 2026 and are taking part in the competition!
We will email you with details of all the important steps in the award process.

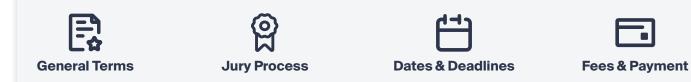**Please make sure that you have access to the email address you provided!**

Terms for participation in the iF DESIGN AWARD 2026

By registering your project for the **iF DESIGN AWARD 2026**, you automatically accept the below terms

necessary for participation. Please read the following information carefully.

Terms are separated into the following categories:

General Terms   **Jury Process**   **Dates & Deadlines**   **Fees & Payment**

General Terms

The **iF DESIGN AWARD** is open to projects that meet all criteria and may be submitted by designers, creators, agencies, brand managers, manufacturers, architects, and third-party individuals and also accepts submissions across a wide range of disciplines and categories.

- We reserve the right to disqualify any entry that contains false or misleading information, including but not limited to incorrect declarations in the area of sustainability.

- We reserve the right to disqualify entries that are generated exclusively by artificial intelligence without verifiable human involvement in the design or creative process.

- We reserve the right to exclude entries from participation, that include or promote the following: weapons or weapon-related products; content that incites or facilitates the violation of human rights or endangers physical or mental health; material deemed harmful to health; pornographic content; and any racist, anti-semitic, discriminatory, or otherwise offensive material that violates applicable laws or ethical standards.

- All individuals named as under „Credits" must have been actively involved in the creation or production of the submitted work.
  The transfer or sale of awards to uninvolved third parties is prohibited and may result in the withdrawal of the award.

- Students and recent graduates must apply for the **iF DESIGN STUDENT AWARD**.

- Projects published or launched more than two years ago are not eligible for registration.

- Projects launching in 2027 or after can be registered in the **Professional Concept** discipline.

- Each participant represents and warrants that their submitted entry complies with all applicable national and international laws and regulations and does not infringe upon the rights of any third party.

- Each participant represents and warrants that they are not included on any national or international embargo list that would restrict or prohibit their participation in events or competitions, including the **iF DESIGN AWARD**.

Jury Process

A jury of leading international design experts evaluates each submission against a defined set of criteria. The two-step process will determine the winners of the **iF DESIGN AWARD 2026**.

iF Online Preselection

During this first step of the process, the jury will review all digitally submitted material to identify the finalists of the **iF DESIGN AWARD 2026**.

While the number of submissions will be reduced by fifty percent, all participants will receive a jury judgment scorecard (**iF Jury Feedback Chart**) for each entry.

The jury's decision is final, and there is no legal recourse. The jury and the organizer reserve the right to annul or revoke any award or decision granted to a participant if there is sufficient reason to believe that the submitted entry, the award, or any associated actions violate national or international laws or regulations or infringe upon the rights of third parties.

iF Final Jury

A jury of over 100 experts from around the world will gather behind closed doors for three days in February 2026 to select the **iF DESIGN AWARD 2026** winners.

For disciplines Product Design, Packaging Design, Product Interfaces, and parts of Branding & Communication Design it is highly recommended to send a physical product if your submission qualifies for the **iF Final Jury**.

The jurors will examine, touch, explore, test, analyze, and, most importantly, thoroughly discuss all entries.
If you could not send a physical entry for good reasons, please contact us so that we can take a closer look at your project and discuss the various options.

Use of the iF winner's logo is restricted to iF DESIGN AWARD winning entries only.

📅 Dates & Deadlines

Please note that you agree to the dates specified below when registering your entry.

Registration Dates		**Online Preselection Dates**	
Early bird deadline	**27 June 2025**	Online Preselection	**1 - 4 December 2025**
Regular deadline	**26 September 2025**	Results Preselection	**Mid December 2025**
Last chance deadline	**5 November 2025**		

Deadline for data submission & editing	**5 November 2025**	**Final Jury Dates**	
		Shipment	**December 2025 - January 2026**
		Jury Session	**10 - 12 February 2026**
		Winners Announcement	**End February 2026**

💳 Fees & Payment

With each registered entry, you agree to pay the corresponding fees for each phase of the selection process, as outlined below.

- Registration fees must be paid for entries to be considered for the **iF Online Preselection**.
- Jury fees must be paid for entries selected for the **iF Final Jury**.
- Should your entry be selected as an **iF DESIGN AWARD 2026** winner during the **iF Final Jury**, the winners fee will be charged.

Failure to pay invoices in full will bar you and all associated parties from future participation in the **iF DESIGN AWARD**.
All fees can be paid by using various payment methods. When paying by invoice, the payment deadline is 14 days after receipt of invoice. Outstanding balances must be paid to reactivate participating accounts. This includes a reactivation fee of 100,00 EUR, as well as any charges incurred from debt collection agencies by **iF International Forum Design GmbH**.

All fees are net amounts. VAT may be included, depending on the service type and participant's country of residence.

💳 Fees at a glance

Registration Fees per entry		**Jury Fees per entry**		**Award winner Fees per entry**	
Early Bird	**300 €**	All disciplines	**300 €**	Product & Packaging Design	**3300 €**
Regular	**400 €**			Other	**2900 €**
Last Chance	**500 €**				

① Registration Fee (per entry)

This fee covers the following costs:

- Organization of the iF Online Preselection.
- Unlimited number of service requests.
- Manual entry check by iF.
- Individual jury feedback for each entry (**iF Jury Feedback Chart**).

- iF Design reserves the right to exclude entries from the iF Online Preselection phase. Entries can for example be excluded, if, you fail to pay the registration fee or correctly fill out all mandatory fields in the registration form.

② Jury Fee (per entry)

The jury fee covers all costs for organizing the iF Final Jury phase.

- Participation in the iF Final Jury phase is mandatory for all selected entries.
- Mandatory for each selected entry.
- Unpaid jury fees will not result as cancellation of entries.
- iF Design reserves the right to select an entry for the iF Final Jury phase even if the jury fee has not been paid.

③ Fees for award winners (per entry)

Fees collected from award winners enable iF Design to deliver outstanding service and benefits to our participants.
This is mandatory for each entry and failure to pay the winner's fee is not an official cancellation.

Benefits included in the winner's fee:

- Unlimited usage of the iF winners logo
- Points for the **iF Design Ranking**
- Inclusion in the iF winners campaign
- Ticketcodes to the **iF DESIGN AWARD NIGHT**
- Ticketcodes to the **iF Trend Conference**
- Publication of winning entry and company profile on the iF website
- iF Award Certificates + iF Award Plaques
- Comprehensive press coverage and PR

🐷 Cancellation Fees

- Entries can be cancelled free of charge within 14 days after registration in myiF.
- Entries canceled after the 14-day grace period will not be refunded.
- Entries selected for the iF Final Jury can not be canceled.