

# SariBari

## **Product Designer**

The Product Designer is responsible for creating high-quality production ready designs and introduce and facilitate innovative product lines for Sari Bari in the areas of House and Home, Bags and Accessories and the Baby line to bring to market.. The ideal candidate is highly-motivated, self-directed, enthusiastic, and possesses a positive, can-do attitude. You must enjoy working in a collaborative and deadline-oriented environment; bring the skills necessary to collaborate and work alongside various individuals; and be open to design input and feedback. This position also requires excellent decision-making, customer service and computer skills; and the ability to support a wide-range of projects and activities, while consistently producing high-quality product.

For supervisory purposes, the Product Designer will report to the Creative Director of Sari Bari Private Limited.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Keep up to date with emerging fashion trends as well as general trends relating to fabrics, colors and shapes.
- Work with others in the design team, such as buyers and forecasters, to develop products to meet a brief.
- Liaise closely with sales, buying and production teams regularly to ensure the item suits the customer, market and price points.
- Create rough sketches and detailed drawings of Home Goods, Bags and Accessories, and write specifications describing factors, such as color scheme, construction and type of material to be used.
- Understand design from a technical perspective, i.e. producing patterns and technical specifications for designs. Confer with and coordinate activities for workers who draw and cut patterns and construct garments, to create sample bag or product.
- Source, select and buy fabrics, trims, fastenings and embellishments.
- Adapt existing designs as needed for efficient mass production.

- **Design two collections per year. One Spring/Summer Collection and one Fall/Winter Collection. This includes** planning and developing ranges, and deciding on a theme for a collection.
- **Supervize sampling; ensure a smooth sampling process; ensure quality control; and create a step-by-step process for bag or product production.**
- Draw pattern for article designed, using measuring and drawing instruments.
- Develop a pattern that is cut and sewn into sample products and supervize the creation of these, including construction, detailing and adaptations.
- Oversee production and quality control as new products enter the pipeline.
- Prepare and cut patterns.
- Construct samples using sewing equipment (or work with sample maker).
- May arrange for sample garments to be presented at sales meetings or fashion shows.
- Design custom product for clients as needed and negotiate with customers and suppliers.
- Maintain pricing and costing spreadsheets.
- Write product descriptions, name the product.

## **SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

- **Artistic ability.** Designers sketch their initial design ideas, which are used later to create prototypes. Consequently, designers must be able to express their vision for the design through illustration.
- **Communication skills.** Designers often work in teams throughout the design process and, therefore, must be effective in communicating with their team members. For example, they may need to give instructions to sewers regarding how the garment should be constructed.
- **Computer skills.** Designers use technology to design. They must be able to use computer-aided design (CAD) programs and be familiar with graphics editing software (Adobe Illustrator).
- **Creativity.** Designers work with a variety of fabrics, shapes and colors. Their ideas must be unique, functional and stylish.
- **Decision-making skills.** Because Designers often work in teams, Designers are exposed to many ideas. They must be able to decide which ideas to incorporate into their designs.

- **Detail oriented.** Designers must have a good eye for small differences in color and other details (e.g. materials and hardware) that can make a design successful.

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

The position requires exceptional computer skills, including proficiency in all Adobe Creative Suite (CS6) Macromedia Flash, and MS Office programs. Additional computer program expertise is a plus.

## **OTHER SPECIAL SKILLS**

The position requires excellent problem-solving skills. The Product Designer must be a proactive self-starter, who is also self-motivated, creative and resourceful. They are required to work without guidance; bring fresh and relevant ideas to the table; be committed to continuous process improvement; and produce high-quality work in a demanding and deadline-driven environment.

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The ideal candidate must excel in working within an office environment that requires an extreme amount of flexibility, and be able to focus within a sometimes chaotic and noisy environment.

## **Terms of Engagement:**

1. A minimum 1 year commitment
2. Sari Bari has 20 annual set holidays per year. Additionally, short-term staff will be given 3 weeks of annual leave for vacation and visa-related travel.
3. Sari Bari work hours are 10am – 7pm (with 1 hour for lunch), and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday's 10am – 5pm. Fellows are expected to work a minimum of 30 hours per week. Hours will be set with Direct Report.
4. This is a volunteer position and is self funded.

## **CRITICAL QUALITIES**

- Strong ethic of service and a commitment to the mission of Sari Bari
- Respect and sensitivity towards vulnerable women and families
- Commitment to maintaining knowledge of social and economic issues relevant to women and families vulnerable to exploitation
- Professionalism in demeanor, written, and oral communications
- Cross-cultural competency
- Independent, self-motivated, and has initiative
- Organized, meticulous attention to detail
- Dependable team player
- Commitment to self-care
- Flexibility