

THURSTAN

Job Description - Head of FF&E

About us

Led by its Founder, James Thurstan Waterworth, Thurstan is a London-based interior design studio known for crafting storied spaces that feel effortlessly lived-in. Based in the historic enclave of Charterhouse Square, the studio is dedicated to creating timeless interiors that seamlessly marry comfort and practicality with a reverence for architectural heritage and surroundings.

Since its launch in 2018, Thurstan's award-winning work - spanning bespoke hospitality projects and private residences worldwide - has earned a place on House & Garden and Country Life's prestigious Top 100 Interior Designers lists. With a multidisciplinary team skilled in interior design, architecture and product design, the studio approaches each project holistically, drawing on a building's history and architectural language to deliver authentic interiors steeped in narrative.

Thurstan's approach to interiors is an exercise in deliberate simplicity, where every element balances both form and function without ever feeling forced. Our designs create a refined yet relaxed backdrop to contemporary living, anchored by a carefully curated palette of natural materials, textiles and nuanced pattern.

We pride ourselves on our friendly and professional approach. Clear, open and personable communication with our clients and project teams from start to finish is key to ensuring the result meets, and hopefully exceeds, aspirations.

Job Summary

Creatively directing FF&E on all Thurstan's projects including hospitality and high-end residential projects in the UK and abroad.

What we're looking for:

- Someone who demonstrates, through every aspect of who they are, a love of design, art and beautiful objects.
- Someone with an exceptional design eye and a passion for antiques and textiles.
- Someone who thrives both working in a team and independently at the highest level on high end residential and hospitality projects.
- A confident, loyal, trustworthy, dynamic, charming person who can hold their own with clients, suppliers and wider project teams.
- Someone with a proactive nature, great instincts and open to feedback.
- Someone unafraid to take responsibility and ensure Thurstan deliver a seamless service to our clients with exceptional communication throughout.

The ideal candidate must have:

- A minimum of 8 years' post-graduate experience within the luxury interior design sector who is comfortable working across a number of projects, client facing and leading a small team
- Ideally experienced across both hospitality and residential projects
- Full proficiency Adobe Creative Suite & Microsoft Suite
- Broad knowledge of FF&E suppliers inc. product and trade costs
- Financial understanding of project costs and budget awareness
- A deep knowledge of Antiques, Furniture, Art, Lighting, Textiles and Objects
- A flair for creative concept generation
- An exceptional eye for scale and balance, detail and colour
- Impeccable and confident communication and presentation skills, verbal and written. They must be fluent in spoken and written English

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Role & Responsibilities

- Working closely and collaboratively with Thurstan's Founder and the company's Creative & Project Directors on the direction of the FF&E department to ensure that all projects are delivered to the highest standard in an effective and efficient way.
- Working alongside the Projects Director, heading up the recruitment, mentoring and performance management of the FF&E team.
- Inspiring the studio team with new ideas, helping to source unique items of furniture, antiques and art, and bring original and fresh thoughts to the studio.
- Staying informed on industry events, current styles, new makers and showroom/brand launches – attending occasional external events as a Thurstan Brand Ambassador and attending fairs for sourcing.
- Preparing and developing (with the support of the FF&E team) exemplary design schemes and detailed presentations inc. compiling mood and material boards
- Delivering strong pitches or presentations to prospective & current clients.
- Sourcing on-brief FF&E inc. developing bespoke pieces aligned with creative direction of project
- Overseeing Design Coordination of live projects inc. site visits and supplier comms to ensure FF&E is delivered as per design intent, client brief and studio standards.
- Building and maintaining good supplier and contractor relationships, liaising with manufacturers/suppliers from concept through to completion, ensuring that client project deadlines are met.
- Managing Thurstan's sample library, ensuring the FF&E team and any interns assist you in its ongoing maintenance, inc. keeping supplier details and samples up to date to maintain the library to its best.
- Overseeing the procurement process inc. programmes, inventories and budgets, managing our in-house Procurement Manager.
- Managing and coordinating FF&E Installation with team and any specialists.
- Working with Founder/Creative Director on photography shoots.
- Working with social media and PR consultants on FF&E narratives, content and quotes.

This is an excellent opportunity for a person who is enthusiastic and passionate about design and is looking for a long-term position. If you think that your skills, experience, and personality make you well suited to this role we'd love to hear from you.

Salary: Competitive, based on experience.

Please submit a CV, covering letter and portfolio in PDF format to careers@thurstan.co with the subject 'Head of FF&E'