

# Lea Stewart

Lea Stewart believes that Design is multifaceted. It is about creating experiences. She works with companies whose mission is to grow their business through innovation, differentiation, and by meeting consumer needs. She has over a decade of working knowledge in many industries including consumer products, furniture, lighting, commercial products, medical products, packaging, and display design. She is recognized as an ambassador of great design, because her passion to be hands-on in driving challenging and complex development projects, which truly matter to users equals her ability to lead teams and oversee process. She is a leader who has not "put down the pencil"

## Experience

**Newell Rubbermaid** Kalamazoo, MI

Senior Manager, Industrial Design, Commercial and Healthcare Products. 2012 – present

**Masco Design** Chicago, IL

Lead Designer managing a small team in a studio servicing 25+ corporate business units. 2009 – 2012

**Robern Company (Division of the Kohler Company)** Bristol, PA

Senior Level industrial designer for manufacturer of luxury bath lighting and cabinetry. 2005 – 2009

**Lea Stewart Design** Chicago, IL

Independent Designer for a range of clients including Ayre Lighting, Amerock Hardware, & Radius PD. 2002 – 2012

**Inhabitat.com**

Contributing writer for sustainable design blog. 2009 – present

**Smurfit-Stone Display Group** Swedesboro, NJ

Structural designer, graphic designer, and project manager of temporary displays for retail. 2004 – 2005

**The Antiques of the Future, LLC** Philadelphia, PA

Graphic Designer, Web Manager, Research & Development. 2002 – 2004

**Eldon Design Associates** Pennsburg, PA

Industrial designer in a small, full-service firm. 2002 – 2004

**The Art Institute of Philadelphia** Philadelphia, PA

College level part-time Instructor of Industrial Design Technology. 2003 – 2006

**Josh Owen Design** Philadelphia, PA

Entry level industrial designer of housewares, lighting, and furniture. 2002

**Richard Schultz Design, Inc** Palm, PA

Entry level industrial designer of outdoor furniture. 2001

**Joanne Hudson & Associates** Philadelphia, PA

AutoCAD drafter and technician for kitchen and bath showroom and interior design group. 2002

**Michael Graves Studios** Princeton, NJ

Architectural and product model maker. 2000

## Skills

design management

design strategy

project management

design research

innovation leadership

experience design

creative direction

effective communication

strategic planning

design thinking

leading innovation process

vision creation

concept development

problem solving

storytelling

design for manufacture

visual brand development

product development

sustainable design

excellence in public speaking

developing team member talent

graphic design

trend analysis

Adobe Creative Suite

3-D CAD Modeling

(solidworks, Creo/pro-e, rhino)

MS Office Suite

## Education

**Philadelphia University** Philadelphia, PA

*Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design, 2002*

**Glasgow School of Art** Glasgow, Scotland

*Product design, 2001*

**Konstfack University** Stockholm, Sweden

*Sustainable Product Design, 2001*

**Altos de Chavon Escuela de Diseno**, Dominican Republic  
*Display and Environmental Design, 2002*

Certified ServSafe Food Safety Specialist, 2014

Certified Aging in Place Specialist, 2012

GBCI, LEED GA accreditation, 2010

French & Spanish Language Courses 2005-2011

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# Lea Stewart

## Detailed Experience

### Newell Rubbermaid Kalamazoo, MI

I am responsible for product and innovation excellence for Newell's Commercial business segment, which includes the Rubbermaid Commercial Products and Rubbermaid Healthcare brands. I lead a midsize strategic design team in developing "big ideas" through in-depth insights work, envisioning innovation platforms, building stronger, more meaningful brands, jaw-dropping aesthetics, and creating ownable intellectual property. In addition, I coach, mentor and assist my team members in accelerating their career trajectories. 2012 – present

### Masco Design Chicago, IL

Lead Designer. Manager in a studio servicing 25+ corporate business units that specialize in manufacturing home building products. As the leader of a small design team focusing on Masco's Cabinetry business, I helped them grow through innovation, differentiation, and by meeting consumer needs. Beyond managing people and projects, I was heavily involved in design development and implementation of plumbing fixtures, hand tools, lighting systems, storage accessories, cabinet hardware, and digital interfaces. 2009 – 2012

### Robern Company (Division of Kohler Company) Bristol, PA

Senior Level Industrial Designer. Design and development of innovative storage & lighting for the luxury bath market. I led and implemented all phases of user centered product development projects along with a team of engineers and marketing specialists. Within tight timelines, I developed many products simultaneously for in-house manufacturer of aluminum and glass products, and also developed products with outside manufacturing companies domestically and in Asia. Working knowledge of kitchen and bath market, needs of luxury consumers, design for manufacture, and codes and standards for lighting and electrical technologies. 2005 – 2009

### Lea Stewart Design

Independent Designer. Development of graphics, products and other design related projects for a range of clients including Amerock Hardware, Ayre Lighting, Urban Outfitters, and Radius PD. 2002-2012

### Inhabitat.com

Contributing Writer. Research, compose, and format posts for blog that focus on eco design and practices. Occasionally, I use original editorial photography to compliment post topics. 2009 – present

### Smurfit-Stone Display Group Swedesboro, NJ

Graphic Designer and Structural Designer of temporary displays for retail. Duties include managing, prioritizing, and documenting projects for the office's largest national account. In addition to managing a team of designers, I conducted trend research, created display renderings and structures for corrugated and semi-permanent displays, and designed print-ready art. 2004 – 2005

### The Antiques of the Future, LLC Philadelphia, PA

Graphic Designer, Web Manager, Research & Development. Graphic development, marketing and management for a series of product design books. 2002 - 2004

### Eldon Design Associates Pennsburg, PA

Industrial designer in a small, full-service firm. The products developed include juvenile, mobility, tradeshow, packaging, industrial, storage, personal care, and housewares. 2002 – 2004

### The Art Institute of Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA

College level part-time Instructor of Industrial Design Technology. Created all course outlines, lectures and project planning for industrial design & graphic design courses including History of Design, Environmental Design, and Business for Design. 2003 - 2006

### Josh Owen Design Philadelphia, PA

Entry Level Industrial Designer. Computer modeling, drafting, prototyping, product development, graphic work. Design of housewares, gift items, kitchenware, furniture, lighting, as well as aided in company promotion. 2002

### Richard Schultz Design, Inc Palm, PA

Entry Level Industrial Designer. CAD, prototyping, & product development of high-end outdoor furniture. summer 2000

### Joanne Hudson & Associates Philadelphia, PA

AutoCAD drafter and technician. Responsible for demo, mechanical plans and layouts for high-end kitchens & baths. 2002

### Michael Graves Studios Princeton, NJ

Architectural and product model maker. 2000