

SUPERLOST

GARMENT COMPONENTS

All products are made from 100% reclaimed silks. Most are pre-consumer factory or distribution warehouse remnants of crepe de chine, with a smattering of charmeuse, chiffons and satins. All are rare, vintage, dead stock or end-of-run materials. See below for more information on how silks are selected/curated.

Garment tags are digitally printed in Melbourne. They are hand cut and individually stamped prior to stitching. Every garment has a unique ID code. These are true one-of-a-kind pieces.

We don't use zips, buttons or fasteners on any products.

PRODUCTION PROCESS

DESIGN

Superlost follows zero waste design principles. Our clothes are made to maximise the use of rare silks. Patterns follow a minimalist two-panel design to create as little waste as possible and any leftovers are reused for other products like pocket squares and luxe eye masks.

With clean, simple lines we achieve a relaxed fit with fantastic, flattering drape - we're letting the silk do all the work. Our dresses feature an internal loop and tie and can be worn four ways:

- free and loose for relaxed drape
- internally tied to fit smooth across the stomach (creates drape at back)
- internally tied to fit smooth across the lower back (creates drape at front)
- cinched at waist with external belt.

Our clothes are somewhat 'seasonless' and we hope you enjoy wearing Superlost all year round. They're also designed for lots of different body types, for lots of occasions, for a long time. We have longevity in mind.

CURATING SILKS

Loren hand picks every silk from two suppliers in Phnom Penh. One is based in a popular undercover market, the other in a long-running street market. A small selection of silks are gathered in other cities along Loren's travels. She's always on the hunt. Seriously.

For every silk, it has to be love at first sight. Then she assesses integrity of colour, texture, weave, print and condition.

Primarily, silks are imported to Cambodia from Korea and China via waste textile traders. This means they come from two main sources: factory floors or global distribution warehouses. Pieces range between 2m and 15m in length.

According to selvedge notes, most silks appear to have originated in Korea, Japan, China and Europe and were woven/printed anywhere between the 1960s into the 2000s.

MAKING THE CLOTHES

After buying silk, Loren designates a style and size to each piece. Silks are individually hand cut. Then sewn. Then pressed, packed and shipped.

Superlost's first two collections were made in Phnom Penh at Fair Sew, a small sewing workshop specialising in bridal wear and small-order runs. This is a safe, clean, positive working environment paying fair wages, plus holidays and medical insurance. A daily shift does not exceed eight hours. Training happens regularly to build skills and empower staff across all areas of textile/fashion design, production and retail.

UPDATE: Superlost is now manufactured in Melbourne at LCN Fashion, a medium size family business with accreditation from Ethical Clothing Australia (ECA). LCN was one of the first Australian clothing manufacturers to meet ECA's ethical standards, including annual audits to maintain accreditation. They are recognised as producing high quality clothing across all areas of garment production.

PACKAGING

- Every garment comes with a small silk bag to complement your purchase. Bags are made from offcuts and form part of our zero waste approach to business. They're lovely and useful for jewellery and small items when travelling.
- All cards and packaging is printed on 100% recycled card or paper.

NO TRENDS OR FADS HERE

Because we work with what we find, this means:

- Superlost produces limited runs and we cannot reproduce existing items - they really are one-offs
- we don't always know the exact origin or contents of fabrics
- any fabric imperfections are part of the unique element of each piece.

QUALITY CONTROL

All materials and garments undergo stringent QC during the entire production process.

- Prior to purchase, silk is inspected for marks, stains, colour/print consistency and integrity of weave.
- Where necessary silk is dry-cleaned or hand washed prior to cutting.
- Before cutting, silk is correctly placed to ensure maximum use of printed designs and patterns.
- Garments are checked at each step of construction, but undergo main assessment before leaving the workshop.
- Garments are checked again prior to postage or delivery to customers/retailers.