About Kelly Harris Smith

Kelly Harris Smith is an independent designer and creative director specializing in natural and sustainable materials in commercial and residential interior design. By balancing intricacy and simplicity, Kelly’s designs are distinctive for their pattern, color, and innovative functionality. Whether she’s creating small accessories or large interior architecture installations, Kelly begins her design process with a thoughtful analysis of how people will interact with the product or environment. A co-founder of FilzFelt, she was Creative Director and VP of Design for Spinneybeck | FilzFelt.

Named one of the Boston Globe’s 25 Most Stylish Bostonians in 2008, Kelly was a recipient of New England Home’s 5 Under 40 Award in 2011. Under her direction, FilzFelt received Interior Design Magazine’s HIF Award in 2014 and 2016, and Spinneybeck’s Beller Collection received Metropolis magazine’s Metropolis Likes Award and Interior Design Magazine’s Best of Year Award in 2016. She is a founding member and board organizer of Boston Design Salon, a women’s design business leadership organization, and sits on the advisory council of the Design Industry Group of Massachusetts (DIGMA), an organization dedicated to strengthening the relationship of design to business, education, and leadership.

Prior to founding FilzFelt, Kelly was the founder of Etozera Media, a product design company that focused on textile decor and home accessories. From 2007 to 2011, she curated an annual gallery exhibition and sale for Boston’s pinkcomma gallery called Design Nearby, focusing on local designers. She has a BS in Architecture from Northeastern University and spent several years working for Machado & Silvetti Associates, an award-winning architecture and urban design firm. She also gained experience in interior architectural details while working on educational and museum projects at Utile and graphic design and branding skills at over,under. She has been crafting beautiful things out of unexpected materials since she was growing up in Northern Virginia. She lives with her husband, two children, and two vizslas in Boston’s South End.
“I’ve been designing with this gorgeous, natural, sustainable material for over a decade and its qualities continue to surprise me. Wool felt’s structural nature and the ability to cut intricate patterns away from the material inspires innovative design.”

– Kelly Harris Smith
About Hanging Panels

Hanging Panels offer the soft texture, thickness, and density of 100% Wool Design Felt that allow these no-nonsense panels to hang freely without a backing or additional support. Plus, this nifty nonwoven textile can be cut with intricate patterning without finishing the edges. All this comes together in a modern screening system that provides varying degrees of privacy and enables flexible space division with visual and acoustic separation. Pair with FilzFelt’s Hanging Panel Track System to create stationary or sliding installations. And because FilzFelt loves a good custom (and color), panels can be modified in size or wholly new designs created in 63 colorways of wool felt.
The seven hanging panel designs by Kelly Harris Smith—Arch, Arrow, Dash, Dot, Loop, Pitch, and Square—begin with the seemingly straightforward circle, triangle, and square. But by combining, repeating, and scaling, the shapes form complex patterning inspired by halftone reprographic techniques from when newsprint was king. This age-old technique reproduces a photograph or other image where the various tones of gray or color are produced by ink dots. In the Kelly Harris Smith collection, repeated shapes shift in scale and spacing to create this gradient-like effect. And to make things even more interesting, shapes are mirrored here and there to bolster the patterning. The intentional location of each pattern’s opacity allows a bit more privacy at seated height, while light and views are filtered above. Need to tweak it? A large pattern repeat allows for easy customization (and privacy at seated versus standing) by simply moving the repeat higher or lower, making this collection endlessly versatile while being downright cool.
Arch Hanging Panel

A half circle atop a square feels a little fancy when repeated and mirrored. The not-so-simple shape varies from 1/2 inch (1.5 centimeters) to 2 1/4 inch (5.7 centimeters) to create complex, secondary patterning that takes on surprisingly organic forms.
Arrow Hanging Panel

Arrow features equilateral triangles pointing both up and down, this way and that. All about straight lines, the pattern evokes movement and energy in shapes from 1/2 inch (1.4 centimeters) to 2 inches (5.1 centimeters).
Punctuation just got a tad bit hip. Never to be confused with a hyphen or minus sign, Dash, when repeated, creates a slightly striped linearity and an open pattern with shapes 1/2 inch (1.3 centimeters) to 3 inches (7.6 centimeters).
Dot Hanging Panel

With the basic circle of Dot, the scale shifting creates a fun and whimsical pattern. The gradation from 1/2 inch (1.3 centimeters) to 2 inches (5.1 centimeters) creates an authentically halftone view.
Loop Hanging Panel

The ever-so-simple circle gets elongated and repeated in Loop. This shape leaves plenty of panel behind for more visual and acoustic privacy with cutouts ranging from 1/2 inch (1.2 centimeters) by 2 inches (5.1 centimeters).
Pitch Hanging Panel

A simple triangle on a square creates Pitch. When rotated and mirrored, the shape creates forms that take on a life of their own in rectilinear shapes varying from 3/4 inch (1.6 centimeters) to 2 inches (4.8 centimeters).
Square Hanging Panel

With rounded corners, Square gets a bit softer with openings vary from 3/4 inch (1.7 centimeters) by 1 3/4 inch (4.2 centimeters) to allow light and views just where you need it.
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