

PolkaPants



PolkaPants launched in London, in February 2016.

Founder Maxine Thompson worked in the fashion industry, before re-training as a chef. One of her first chef job's involved participating in service and engaging with the guests. In this more public space Maxine was particularly conscious of the ill-fitted chef trousers that they all wore in the kitchen, made from cheap material where the dye would bleed into her chef whites from scrubbing down kitchens. From this, PolkaPants was born.

PolkaPants has now gone beyond the practical. As well as a clothing brand it is a platform that celebrates the individuals that wear the trousers to their workplace – be it the kitchen, classroom, bakery or bar.

PolkaPants is a Made in London brand with quality at the heart; like good ingredients make excellent dishes, so does fabrics create comfortable and durable clothing; and they are designed to compliment the wearer and the work environment. PolkaPants has created a community and is a brand built on the people who wear them. Striving towards sustainable fashion, PolkaPants focuses on the people throughout the PolkaPants business.

With a focus on quality, design, community and ethics, PolkaPant aims to be the go to brand for workwear – trousers are just the beginning.





Maxine Thompson

Maxine grew up in a small town called Woombye on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, Australia. Her parents had 10 acres and so most of her childhood was spent with her siblings running through rainforest, building forts out of sticks, riding motorbikes and living an adventures' life.

Maxine studied Fine Arts and received a BA in Fashion Design in Queensland. After which she work for CHANEL's head office in New York as a customer relationship manager. She left CHANEL to study at the Culinary Centre, in New York, graduating with a degree in Professional Culinary Arts in 2013.

At the time Maxine and her two sisters (twin sister and older sister) had been writing a food blog, which had landed them a cookbook deal. This made Maxine realised that the food world was a dream and a calling. The book, *The Bookery Cook: Art to Eat* was published in 2013.

Maxine has dual citizenship, Australia and UK, and after New York – and a nine month stint cooking in a beautiful, zero waste restaurant in Tasmania, Australia – she packed her packs and moved to London. At this point PolkaPants was a kernel of an idea, but Maxine knew that if she wanted to make it a reality, a big city like London was the place to make this happen.

Whilst researching and planning PolkaPants Maxine worked as a freelance chef in London, and then as an in-house chef at a private bank with three other women “it was the perfect testing ground for the product!”

PolkaPants launched in London in February 2016, and is available worldwide.



PolkaPants original

The brand launched in 2016 with a trouser line aimed at women working in the hospitality industry. The trousers are high waisted and fitted, that is a nod to a 1940s silhouette.

With a dovetail waist band, pleated pocket detail and two slanted belt loops for cloths – these trousers are perfect for the kitchen, but wonderful in any situation.



PolkaPants are made from 100% cotton, the seams are reinforced with a double stitch to make them even more hardwearing.

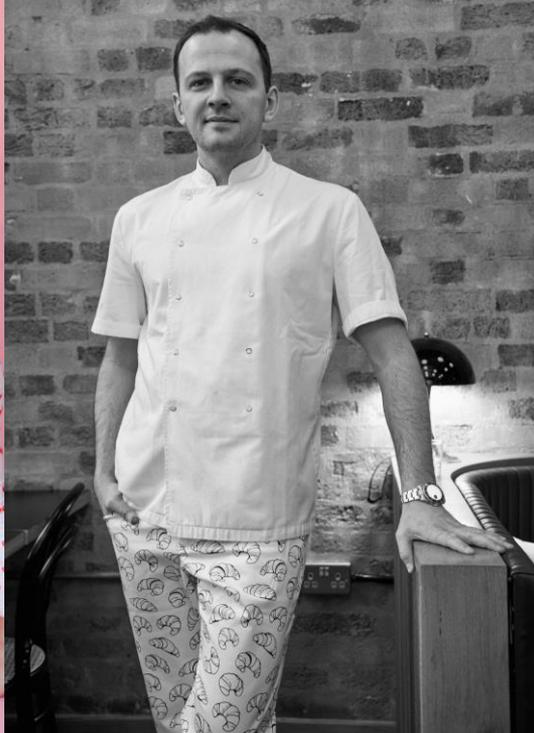
These are trousers designed for movement.

PolkaPants 2.0

PolkaPants launched their second line in November 2020. Founder Maxine spent 12 months working to develop a style of pants that can be worn by women, by men, by anyone and everyone and for every occupation from the kitchen, to the studio to the garden.

PolkaPants 2.0 have the signature dove tail waist band and are a more relaxed fit. The range features 5 pockets; 2 front, 2 back and 1 side pocket.





At the heart of the PolkaPants brand is the community that has built up around the trousers. Collaborating with various people, both in the hospitality industry and outside, has been a natural progression.

Founder Maxine is constantly inspired by the work of so many of the people she has met; they have connected, created and designed ideas around colours, patterns and fabrics. It is always a surprise to see where a collaboration can lead.

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