



New York interior designer Robin Wilson's black Furla bag has been carried through dusty construction sites, knocked around in taxi cabs, and spirited into black-tie events—sometimes in a single day.

Interior designer Robin Wilson at her Manhattan office.

"It shouldn't even exist," says Ms. Wilson, who has her own brand of hypoallergenic bedding sold through [Bed Bath & Beyond](#).

She purchased the bag about five years ago for \$760 and likes its structured shape—similar to a classic Hermès Kelly bag—to keep things like documents, contracts and notepads secure. There is a deep pocket in which she keeps her keys, BlackBerry and Coach wallet.

For business, she always has a measuring tape tucked in that she likes for its small, discreet size. She also has a mini camcorder (a Flip Ultra HD) that allows her to take video of a space as she is walking through. "I can see where the light is coming in," she says. She uses her BlackBerry Bold to take still photos.

In another pocket, there's old-fashioned paper and pencil. She sketches out design ideas in her Moleskine red-leather journal, always with a mechanical pencil (Paper Mate Sharpwriter No. 2).

She likes to have a couple of plastic sleeves on hand for protecting paperwork and keeping it crisp. "Otherwise keys, wallet and all that stuff is going to mush it," she says.

For emergencies, she carries a mini flashlight. "There are situations where you have no power," she says. She also sometimes keeps a pair of white art gloves in case she has to handle paintings, statues or other precious objects.

A compact mirror lets her to do a quick face check—sometimes just to get a speck of dust out of her eye—and apply her trusty lip gloss (MAC lip varnish A66). "It's the kind of color you can put on any time, dress up or dress down.