

Ergonomic considerations for working women's handbags and their impact on their functional performance

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Abstract:

The research addresses the ergonomic considerations of the working women's to determine the requirements and conditions that must be met in designing handbags and their functional suitability and to determine the sound, scientific and proper rules and bases for the ergonomic considerations of the handbag which the industry relies on the aim to achieve a high quality and competitive product. The research problem can be formulated in the following questions: 1- What are the factors that affect working women's choice of handbags? 2- What are the problems working women face while using the handbags? 3- What are the ergonomic considerations that must be taken into consideration when designing handbags for working women? 4- What are the proposed design for the handbags for working women following the ergonomic considerations? 5- What are the opinions of both specialists, and producers regarding the proposed designs? 6- What is the degree of the expected use of the proposed designs? Objectives: 1- Determining the factors which affect working women's choice of handbags. 2- Determining the problems which working women face while using handbags. 3- Determining the ergonomic considerations in designing handbags for working women. 4- Developing the proposed design for working women's handbags following the ergonomic considerations. 5- Measuring the opinions of both the (specialists, producers) regarding the proposed designs. 6- Measuring the degree of acceptance of the consumers (working women) of the proposed designs. Methodology: This research utilizes the descriptive and analytical methodology with the applied study for its suitability to achieving the objectives of the research. **Results: The study concluded the following results:** Eight innovative proposed designs were developed by the researcher for women's handbag product which is suitable for working women. The researcher relied on performing her inner and outer structural design of the handbag on the ergonomic and functional design of the handbag. - The statistical results showed statistically significant differences between the opinions of all the sample groups in some designs and the difference in others, as all the sample members who agreed on only one design, which is the (fifth) design, which came in the first place. While all members of the sample differed regarding three designs, they are: the (second) design which came in the third-place according to the specialists' opinions, and came in the fifth place according to the producers' opinions, and came in the second place according to the consumers' opinions, and the fourth design, which came in the fifth place according to the specialists' opinions, and came in the fourth place according to the producers' opinions, and came in the sixth place according to the consumers' opinions. As for the (seventh) design which came in the sixth place according to the specialists' opinions, and came in third place according to the producers' opinions, and came in fifth place according to the consumers' opinions. That is to say that the specialists and producers agreed on only two designs, they are the (fifth) design which came in the first place, and the (sixth) design which came in second place.

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