

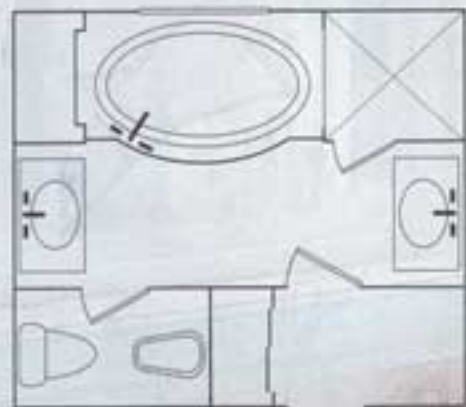
STYLEat**HOME**

October

SPLISH,
SPLASH,
BUBBLE BATH,
BLISSFUL,
FLOATY,
SHEEN,
SHINE,
SOAKED,
DRENCHED,
SHIMMER,
SHOWER,
FRESH,
FINE,
TAKE YOUR TIME,
NICE & CLEAN,
WHAT A DREAM!



Refined and sophisticated, this ensuite gets its luxurious charm from a deluxe tub with a great view of the outdoors, a shower stall/steam room, a crystal chandelier and a curved ceiling.



Grand tradition

Although not a large space, this ensuite designed by Toronto architect Lorne Rose is definitely grand in every possible sense of the word – you even get the impression that you're somewhere else entirely, maybe Paris or Venice.

To bring about the illusion of grandeur, Lorne employed several clever ideas throughout the space. A curved plaster ceiling "enhances the feeling of cosiness when you're in the bath," he notes, and also adds a hint of European elegance. Limestone – featured in the shower stall, on the floor, and around the tub – envelops the entire room and creates a wonderful time-worn mood. The walls were even painted a faux finish to simulate the stone. With the toilet out of sight (it's discreetly placed behind a closed door) and the addition of two custom-made mahogany vanities that flank the room at each end and were "crafted to look like pieces of furniture," says Lorne, the space feels more like a formal dressing area than a bathroom. Together with little touches of luxury, such as an antique footstool and silver-frame mirrors, it's the well-planned details that lend this small space its stately attitude.

Whether you're won over by simple elegance, fresh whimsy or rustic charm, you'll find that the best bathroom designs focus as much on practicality as they do on good looks. If you're thinking about making some changes and are in search of inspiration, look no further: here are five stunning examples.

WRITTEN BY TRISSE LOXLEY

BATHS BY DESIGN



The very picture of old-world style, a Perrin & Rowe satin-nickel-finish faucet sits atop the vanity's limestone counter. A custom-made mahogany vanity lends a timeless sense of elegance. The warmth of wood is a lovely counterpoint to all the stone used in the bathroom.





big fan of renovating a house in keeping with its original architecture, Louise Hucal wanted an authentic look for this bathroom in her 1937 Toronto home. At the same time, she also needed a style that would appeal to her sons, ages 10 and 14, who share the space. The perfect solution? "We went with a '20s YMCA look," says Louise.

Like a bygone locker room, the new bath is filled with a number of blasts from the past: an original '20s toilet (the interior mechanisms were rebuilt), vintage-style light fixtures, simple change-room hooks, the home's original tub, and floor and wall tiles that "are patterned after the bottom of old public pools," says interior designer Arlene Dougall.

The bathroom is bright and crisp, with enough space for two (plus a separate tub and shower area), and "the boys really like it and think it's fun," says Louise. "Now, if only that would inspire them to keep it clean!"

By adding two towel bars, interior designer Arlene Dougall ingeniously adapted this unused hutch as a bathroom cupboard. "Blue and green are my favourite colours," says homeowner Louise Hucal. The glass-terrazzo countertop, which looks decidedly like old-fashioned nougat, adds a playful element. To achieve a look reminiscent of 1920s YMCA change rooms, the shower stall sports locker hooks as well as glass floor and wall tiles patterned on the past. Ideal for two boys, this "men's room," with its simple vanity, unadorned mirror, chrome hardware and vintage-look fixtures, echoes the original era of the home.

"I wanted the bathroom to look like it could have been original"

