

Beautiful bathrooms

THEY BOTH START WITH 'B' BUT THAT'S AS CLOSE AS YOUR BATHROOM NEEDS TO GET TO BORING *Words Gena Tuffery*



FLEXIBLE LUXURY

Take one freestanding bath, add a floor-mounted bath spout, and you have a luxurious home spa in a site of your choosing. Wall-hung storage adds versatility to this kind of bathroom, but the idea is to let the bath take centre-stage - even if it's slightly to the left of it.



2 INDUSTRIAL CHIC

The modern bathroom doesn't have to be minimalist. Stockholm's Oscar Properties has turned a grand old factory into apartments such as this one, each embracing the building's original industrial details. A combination of classic porcelain with black-and-white tiles reflects the elegant and rustic bathrooms of the 20s, with a 'hot right now' round mirror completing the look.

PHOTO Oscar Properties



PHOTO Larnie Nicolson PRODUCTION LeeAnn Yare

4 VINTAGE VERVE

Take an old ladder and turn it into a towel rail. Trade in the idea of an expensive oversized mirror for a bunch of quaint secondhand ones from the era you want to recreate. Turn up at auctions and score a vanity and claw bath under the hammer – as the owners did here – rather than on your credit card. An upcycled bathroom requires a bit of time and creativity, but it gives your renovation-stressed bank account a breather. And, if you do it right, the results will provide another breath of fresh air.

5 ROOM WITH A VIEW

Create the ultimate reading nook by making a window-enclosed area for your bath. Soaking in a tub with late afternoon sun streaming in on you from all sides will have you so relaxed you can forgo the glass of wine. Or not. Although it's not the greatest option for city dwellers, this kind of bathroom is perfect for those baths surrounded by trees – such as this one in West Auckland, by Context Architects.



PHOTO Sam Hartnett



PHOTO Larnie Nicolson

3 NATURAL BEAUTY

Sandii and Jared McDonald put new meaning in 'natural bathroom', by creating this basin with their own hands. Jared made the frame and Sandii hand-rendered the shape in black concrete to form a smooth surface. This is a look best completed with black tiles, industrial fittings and all the plants you can fit in the room.

6 CUSTOM-MADE SPECIALNESS

Too often, lounges, bedrooms and kitchens get the full treatment, while bathrooms get a new set of taps. This one, by Robert Nebolon Architects, features a shower room with a low window to reflect light off the water; a custom-made pendant light with a twisted fabric-covered power cord; a teak-topped cabinet with a 'live edge' (the actual edge of the tree) and an Australian cypress floor with a tung oil finish. Take that, Scandi kitchen.



PHOTO Matthew Millman

7 BACK TO THE FUTURE

These basins by Kos and taps by Zucchetti will give your bathroom a futuristic feel, right now. A modern makeover of classic Victorian-style washbasins, the Kos look is almost steampunk; looking back, yet ahead, while remaining very now. Featuring their characteristic velvet touch and matt finish, these basins are best complemented with a lick of jet-black paint and a porthole mirror or two.



PHOTO Colin Poole/Gap Interiors

8 CLASSIC CLASS

When renovating a traditional home, such as a villa, you can update it in all kinds of ways. But do you know what really suits a classic home? A classic bathroom. Wall panelling plays off against rustic floor tiles, while warm classic colours, such as Resene Biscotti, suit ornate cream finishings.

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