

WHAT'S NEW IN BATH RENOVATIONS

So you think you're ready to tackle your bathroom renovation?
Have you asked yourself these two questions?
How much do I want to spend
and
how long do I want my bathroom to be out of commission.
Hmm...Actually, that's all you need to ask!!
JUST KIDDING!

There are many other things to consider but the first two are the most important. But really, this blog is just to wet your whistle when it comes to what's new in the industry and not so much about the two questions above... Sorry!

You alone know the answers to those questions but PLEASE share that with your designer.
However, once you get a feel for what's new,
Maybe, just maybe, you can be realistic with your budget and are willing to wait for that awesome tile or fixtures or whatever strikes your fancy!

I'm sure you haven't shopped around lately for
bathroom fixtures, countertop finishes, cabinetry, flooring, tiles, etc.

Let me just show you some examples of new products that
might get you thinking about your options

TILES

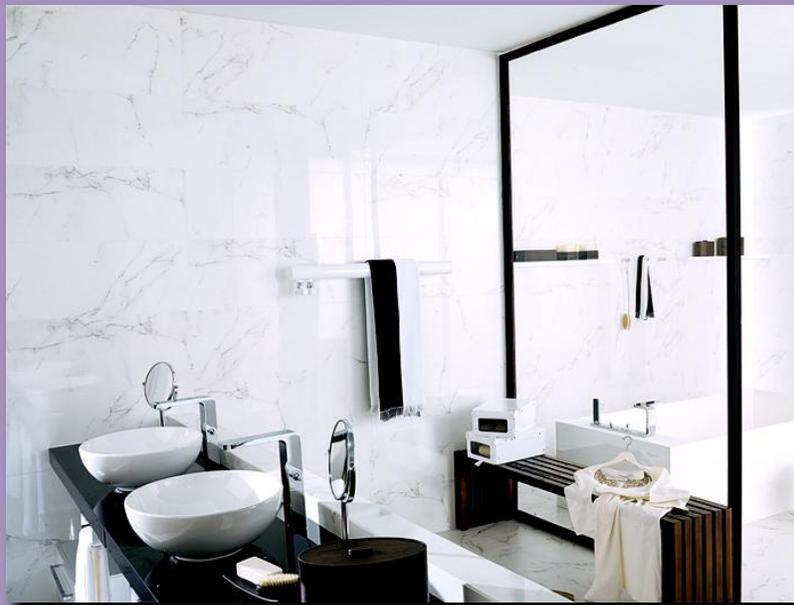


Figure 1 Marmol Carrara Blanco by Porcelanosa

Note: Figure 1 is an example of rectified tile and not a slab of an expensive Carrara marble!

Figure 1: Large rectified tiles. Rectified tiles may be laid very close together down to 0" apart (one edge of tile butting against the next edge of tile)! With recent technology, tile manufacturers can precisely cut tiles so that you can butt edges as close as 0-1/8" grout joint. Some tile sizes are as large as 12" x 25" to 17" x 40" and anywhere in between. The idea of using some of these wonderfully designed tiles is to give you a monolithic look. The possibilities are endless!



Figure 2 Danse Lucido
by Artistic Tile



Figure 3 Toledo Lucido
by Artistic Tile



Figure 4 Ogassian Collection
by Ann Sacks

Figure 2 and 3: Water Jet Technology in tiles. Artistic Tile for example, have introduced this technology in their manufacturing of tiles. It is so precise that they are able to connect-the-dots in so many yummy designs!! I just love the Vetromarmi displayed in **Artistic Tile's** showroom in Chicago's Merchandise Mart. The mix of glass and natural stone in this intricately carved designed by this method produced a simple elegance that you have to add this to your repertoire!

Figure 4: Large Glazed geometric tiles. This bold geometric tile by Ann Sacks is to die for. Well, maybe not to that extreme!

There are also tiles that look like hardwood. There are so many options in the marketplace right now and that might be to be discussed at a later date. Stay tuned.

PLUMBING FIXTURES



Figure 5 Amedee Fixture by Kohler

Faucets. There are many manufacturers with beautiful designs but none stood out at the KBIS 2012 more to me than the Figure 5 shows how color can be introduced to a simple fixture in the Amedee fixture by Kohler. Need I say more!

DECORATIVE HARDWARE

Now the bling,,,you gotta have the bling!

There are so many options for decorative hardware.

Stop!!

Do not go to the big box store and purchase the hardware that everyone else has. You've invested so much in your project already. Why settle for mediocrity! Contact your designer and ask what is new. I'm sure he/she will have oodles and oodles of ideas and none of which will be from that mega DIY store. Most likely, you will need only a handful so this is the the place where the *biggest bang for your buck* happens!



Figure 6 Schaub
\$



Figure 7 Notting Hill
Decorative Hardware
\$\$



Figure 8 Edgar Berebi
\$\$\$

TUBS



Figure 9 Clawfoot Tubs



Figure 10 Pedestal or Slipper Tub (please call for more info)

Clawfoot tubs are making a comeback. Finishes, plentiful! Many ways to show off your clawfoot tubs. Some are just plain classic white. Some are painted and some are fauxed! If you like a bit more on the modern side, there are many other examples such as the slipper foot as well.

Besides all the products mentioned above, there are many more to consider. For example, lighting fixtures, toilets, showers, shower fixtures, cabinetry, cabinetry trims and moldings, window treatments, door hardware, granite, wall finish, color, etc.

So you see, there are many many products out there for you. Once you've figured out your realistic budget, give your designer a call and him/let her know that you are ready to tackle the bathroom! Do not move forward until you've done your research. If you don't want to do your own research, call your designer.