

essential

THE UK'S NUMBER 1 DECEMBER 2016 £4.1

# KITCHEN

## BATHROOM BEDROOM

ESSENTIAL  
GUIDE  
HOME  
HEATING

### *A Sense of Occasion*

*Gear up your kitchen for  
entertaining this Christmas*



### *Bathroom DESIGN RULES*

AND HOW TO  
BEND THEM

### *BE OUR GUEST*

GIVE YOUR SPA  
BEDROOM HOTEL CH  
FOR THE HOLIDAYS

### *Real schemes*

*An urban retreat in South London  
Sleek new kitchen for a foodie family  
Bright and beautiful in a 1920s home*



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## BOX CLEVER

Think outside the box when it comes to shower screens. Instead of a traditional single glass sheet, consider a pair of open panel designs with a Japanese feel. This London townhouse was designed by Waldo Works and features a bathroom with single Hebdern vanity basin with black Marquina marble top, £3,300, teamed with a classic pop-up mixer with Mull heads in a nickel finish, priced £630. The Nene shower costs £2,664, all from Drummonds



# Dare to be **DIFFERENT**

Be creative with your bathroom and don't be afraid to bend the rules a little to achieve something really special

FEATURE HAYLEY GILBERT

*W*hen it comes to planning the perfect bathroom, there are plenty of rules to abide by for a successful scheme. Usually, plumbing and pipework will dictate the layout, storage is low key and hidden away while lighting is formed of layers offering dedicated task and ambient illumination. Yet bathroom design is changing and adapting all the time, with new ideas that bend the traditional rules we're all used to.

Today's designs can incorporate everything from water-resistant wallpaper to bespoke fabric wallcoverings and fabric-clad bathtubs, feature pendant lighting and state-of-the-art sensor mirrors complete with demister pads and shaving sockets. Even furniture has taken on a new role, blurring the boundaries between bedroom, dressing room and bathroom. 'Not so long ago, the bathroom was a strictly functional space,' says Charlie Borthwick, founder of Cue & Co of London. 'Given its new role as more of a centre stage space, it makes sense that the bathroom takes its aesthetic cues from living spaces found elsewhere in the home.'

Look for washable wallpaper from the likes of Graham & Brown and choose a vibrant pattern or print to jazz up simple white sanitaryware. Even paint and flooring has evolved thanks to advances in technology, with specially formulated paint finishes offering anti-mould properties and porcelain tiles with a wood or concrete effect. How much of a rule-breaker you want to be is entirely up to you. To really shake things up, consider the natural position of fixtures and fittings then do it differently (be prepared for the extra hassle and cost of moving pipework though). If you only want to dip your toe and bend the rules slightly, look to the extras that make up a bathroom scheme – for instance, swapping shutters and blinds for curtains can look so effective, especially if you're going for the dressing room look. 'During Milan Design Week, which took place earlier this year,' adds Charlie Borthwick, 'we saw plenty of furniture-style vanity units that can serve as a seamless link between bathroom and bedroom.'

Materials are also making waves. Bette has recently launched a concept design that demonstrates how even a basic bathtub can be transformed into something really special. The steel bath is covered in a specially developed fabric by JAB Anstoetz to create instant impact and wow factor. Waterworks meanwhile has just introduced a new tile collection called Magma. This new material is made from glazed lava, which provides great depth and texture. 'We have also developed Lithic for bathtubs and basins in our Formwork collection,' explains Barbara Sallick, Waterworks co-founder and senior vice president of design. 'This is made from 75 per cent crushed marble, which is mixed with other composites and poured to create fabulous sculptural forms.' Waterworks has also introduced an unlacquered brass finish, which looks even better as the years go by as it takes on a patina and begins to tarnish over time.

For Roca, the change is more subtle, as Georgina Spencer, head of marketing, explains: 'Whereas once trends leaned very much towards clean shapes, now rounded edges are increasingly being seen. Curves are now prevalent in every area of a design in a bathroom, from sanitaryware through to baths, showers and accessories.' *EKBB*

