

Livingetc

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

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AT DESIGNERS GUIDE

STYLISH SPACES

Gorgeous homes brimming with ideas

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IDEAS toSTEAL

Mix metallics with plush materials to create an industrial look with a luxe vibe

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Striata travertine **floor/wall tiles**, £110 per sq m, Mandarin Stone; Lattice Gunmetal embroidered **linen-mix**, £110 per m, Mark Alexander; and Crocodile Black **wallpaper**, £20 per 10m roll, Graham & Brown



KEY FEATURE Stone splashback

White fittings won't blend into the background if you have a standout splashback like Mike's. Creating a platform for the bath to rest on is also a smart tactic that separates it from the other areas in the room, making it a strikingly prominent feature. Fired Earth (firedearth.com) has a good selection of tiles that are suitable for both walls and floors, so you can create a similarly seamless link between the two. The South Beach Delancey unglazed porcelain tiles, £79.97 per sq m, are a good match.

KEY PRODUCTS



1



2



1 Farmhouse pewter **ceiling light**, £89, Industville 2 Decorative deer **antlers**, £55, Cox & Cox 3 Single Hebdern Marquina black marble and brass **basin**, £3,630, Drummonds 4 Faux mimosa **plant** in pot, £40, Abigail Ahern 5 Aldo walnut **side table**, £69, Made.com with Livingetc 6 Winter Palace alpaca and merino wool **throw**, £200, Designers Guild at Houseology 7 Spencer leather four-seater **sofa**, £3,700, Habitat



4



5



7

6. FUNK IT UP

A bright, bold pattern adds a further layer of luxe, especially when worked in rich Moorish shades that recall the mood of indulgent hammam bathing. 'Patterned tiles have been used to add a sense of grandeur throughout the centuries, from Ancient Greece and the Alhambra to the dazzling monochrome arrangements of the Art Deco era,' says Lee Thornley, founder of tile company Bert & May. For added oomph, reflect the pattern back in the buffed surface of a centrepiece bath.

GET THE LOOK The Vallette Encaustic Carmelo floor tile, £224.70 per sq m, Fired Earth, has a similar motif. This is the Tay bath, from £3,570, with the Classic bath and shower mixer, from £1,434, both by Drummonds.



GET THE LOOK This wallpaper is from Cole & Son's Fornasetti collection, now discontinued; the Teatro design from the company's Fornasetti II range, £140 per 10m roll, makes a good alternative. Laura Ashley's Arielle mirror, £300, is in this style. →

8. GET SERIOUSLY CHIC WITH MARBLE

Marble remains the go-to material for a luxe backdrop – and with good reason. ‘Using different types of stone can create stunning visual effects,’ says Dan Cook, designer at CP Hart. Whether you love the perfect symmetry of two book-matched slices, or the more abstract patterns of a single slab, marble can say cool contemporary or classical Italianate. For less outlay, porcelain tiles can re-create the palazzo look – and these come with anti-slip finishes, so you can retain a regal composure at all times.

GET THE LOOK See Bathstore’s Marble Arch porcelain tiles, from £30 per sq m. This is the Eleganza bath, from £8,252; side table, £1,920; and bath filler, from £1,390, all by Gessi at CP Hart.

STYLE SECRETS FOR TOP FLOORING

COMBINE BEAUTY WITH PRACTICALITY. ‘A bathroom floor should be gorgeous, but also safe, so ask about tiles with extra grip,’ advises Jules Archard, showroom manager at Surface Tiles.

EXPERIMENT WITH ON-TREND SHAPES such as hexagons, herringbone and chevrons, that turn a floor into a feature. Look out for Patricia Urquiola’s dynamic Tierras designs for Mutina, from £189 per sq m.

INVEST IN UNDERFLOOR HEATING. ‘It works brilliantly with ceramic tiles that re-create the look of wood,’ says Kirsten Wain, senior designer at West One Bathrooms, Clerkenwell.

CAN’T RESIST REAL WOOD? Then get it treated professionally. Jeandré du Toit of Ecora advises installing timber unfinished and sealing it on site.

‘This way, you also seal between the boards and prevent water getting through any gaps,’ she says.

THINK BIG – EVEN IN A MODEST ROOM. ‘Go for the largest format tiles possible, as this always makes a space feel larger,’ says Alma Small, director of Mandarin Stone.



*‘Quite simply, a roomy, freestanding bath announces
that this is a space to be enjoyed’*

JAMES LENTAIGNE, DIRECTOR, DRUMMONDS

9. USE MIRRORED SURFACES

Space-expanding tricks with mirrors are a bathroom staple, but for true decadence, add texture to the glass. Bespoke glass designer Marion Labbez says: 'The reflection you get from unusual mirror surfaces tends to be gentler on one's flaws.' Oh joy...

GET THE LOOK Dominic Schuster makes bespoke bevelled mirror tiles for approx £350 per sq m. The IO Moon bath, £5,653, at West One Bathrooms, is a match.

Source a glossy poured-resin floor, from £120 per sq m, from The Resin Flooring Company.

GET THE LOOK Marion Labbez can create bespoke antiqued, or verre églomisé mirror panels from £600. Drummonds' Lowther basin stand, £4,200, has this look. The Antique Floor Company sells similar reclaimed floor tiles, from £185 per sq m.

