BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING KITCHEN, BEDROOM AND BATHROOM MAGAZINE

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NEW SEASON TRENDS SPECIAL

Graphic rugs.



Your A/W 2018 update: 110 on-trend ideas to refresh your home this season



This deep green shade – our firm favourite this autumn – is great for a modern bathroom. Benjamin Moore's Aura Bath and Spa paint, £23 for 0.94 litres, is shown on tongue-and-groove panelling in Calypso Green.

benjaminmoorepaint.co.uk

Smaller soak

Didn't think you had space for a relaxationinducing bath? Think again. Drummonds has introduced a new compact freestanding roll-top tub, measuring 1500mm-long (as opposed to the standard 1700mm length), 730mm-wide, and 630mm-tall. The polished-finish Asburn is priced from £3390. Thank us later.

drummonds-uk.com

of people would consider building their own home so they can tailor
it to their specific requirements
and future needs*.
So, if you're thinking of starting
a self-build – you're in good



Spa at home

"I absolutely love a relaxing weekend retreat, but how good would it be to have a spa in your own home? Italian bathroom brand Effegibi have created the Yoko modular sauna, an easy-to-install wooden model that comes in three different sizes, starting from 174 x 132cm, and three finishes. Available from CP Hart, priced from £28,000. Worth the investment?" cphart.co.uk



SHOPPING EDIT

Double vanity units

Getting ready for a busy day or enjoying a pamper evening? These designs are an elegant addition to your bathroom – with enough space for two



Dalby double vanity console with Tuscany bowls and granite top, £1326, The Albion Bath Company. albionbathco.com



Double Thames vanity basin suite, £7500, Drummonds. drummonds.co.uk



Burlington four-door double vanity unit with Minerva worktop in grey, £1699.15, Victorian Plumbing. victorianplumbing.co.uk



Arden double washstand, £2160, Waterworks. waterworks.com



Prisma 1200 double basin and metal structure, £1203.31, Roca. roca.com



Linebath pure vanity unit in grey, £749.99, Wayfair. wayfair.com



Mode Hale greystone matt countertop double basin vanity unit, £1189, Victoria Plum. victoriaplum.com



Wide Blues console with white or black ceramic basins, £5196, Devon & Devon. devon-devon.com



Victoria-N double drawer double vanity unit, £687.01, UK Bathrooms. ukbathrooms.com

s more and more of us seek interior solutions to add a touch of luxury into our homes, a bedroombathroom combo could be the perfect answer to our quest. Whether it's by creating an open-plan space as part of a major renovation, such as a loft conversion, or by borrowing space from a neighbouring room, there are multiple ways of creating a more sophisticated scheme.

Where can I find the space?

The first thing to do when planning a master suite is to gauge how and where the new space will come from. Clare Pascoe of Pascoe Interiors suggests commissioning a set of scale plans and technical drawings of the area to help decide whether to take space from one room to benefit another, or how to cleverly use what is already available to best effect. "This way you can clearly see the pros and cons of each layout, against which you can obtain building and supply quotes to make a fully informed decision on how to proceed with a brief to suit your scheme and budget," she says. "Investing time in the design early is a far more effective way to ascertain the best layout than to get out the sledgehammer and work it out physically in situ." And remember, it is always recommended to consult a local structural engineer before knocking down walls. While it may not appear to be load bearing, a wall may still have a structural importance that affects the integrity of the property and if it does, the engineer will be able to design a scheme to resupport any elements you wish to open up, as Clare explains. Their report and its accompanying drawings can be used to obtain building regulation approval, which may prove vital not only to sign off the safety of your proposed scheme, but also to avoid fines.

What is the first thing I should consider during planning?

Once you've worked out the space available, there are practical elements that should be prioritised over aesthetics as Alison Teverini, of Milward Teverini Interior Design, explains. "For example, decide what size bed you need, specific lighting requirements, and where sockets will be placed," she advises. "Storage planning is also a priority." Laurent Drouin, partner of The Heritage Wardrobe Company, agrees and says it can play an integral role in a successful master suite if planned properly. "The option to create a beautiful walk-through from a bedroom to an ensuite via wardrobes is often overlooked as an opportunity to add the wow factor to a master suite," he says. Make sure you consider your wardrobe allocation at the planning stage of your project and, if you can, work with a bespoke design company or local joiner during the early stages to get this right. "With only a minimum depth of 1.5m required, you can section off a dressing room or walk-in wardrobe with some sleek sliding doors to keep a compact feel," says Andy Briggs, resident interior designer and head creative at Spaceslide. "However, if space is an issue, floor-to-ceiling storage with mirrrored doors will still help maintain a clear and serene environment." Another key factor to think about is



plumbing, especially if you are considering an open-plan look. Make sure you discuss your proposed scheme with a qualified plumber and find out what would need to be done in terms of pipes, layout, safety, and sanitaryware before going ahead with construction.

How can I blend all the different aspects of the master suite?

It's important for a scheme's different spaces to feel connected. If your bedroom merges into your ensuite, a flowing colour scheme works well says Ripples designer Dena Kirby. "Think about what colours, patterns, and textures you have in the bedroom and incorporate elements of them through to each area within the suite," she says. Another way to create a link is to use the same flooring throughout. This will result in a subtle, continuous flow, giving the illusion of space – even if some of the rooms are quite small says Jo Oliver, director of The Stone & Ceramic Warehouse. "In the bathroom, you will need to consider the size, style, and colour of wall and floorcoverings such as tiles and whether they suit the other rooms and the design or period of the house." For a versatile finish, wood-effect flooring works well within most schemes, and porcelain is suitable for underfloor heating - a great alternative to radiators that can also save on wall space. For little touches, Karen Barcoo, marketing supervisor at Catalano, advises updating small accessories and towels in the ensuite to match the bedroom scheme.

What about if I want an open-plan master suite?

Modern master ensuites tend to be open or partially open to the bedroom. This can be a great way to share light, create the feeling of more space, and employ multi-functional furniture to serve both areas. "This is something we're seeing more regularly and is certainly influenced by hotel design," says Jonathan Carter, marketing director for Victoria + Albert Baths. "Blending the bathroom and bedroom, creating a seamless look, is a clever idea if you have a smaller ensuite which you can knock through to open the space up. A freestanding bath is synonymous with luxury and creates an elegant centerpiece in any bathroom - or, indeed, any bedroom. If you're going open plan, consider using contrasting flooring to demarcate the bathroom from the bedroom section - this is essential if the bedroom is carpeted."

Also take care to maintain privacy as Benjamin Peak, managing director of The Watermark Collection, explains: "Open plan does have one distinct drawback: if, for instance, one partner gets up in the middle of the night to use the toilet or has to get up early, turning lights on in the ensuite can wake the other. To get around this, you'll need to design some very low-level lighting into the space, just enough to make your way around." Other tips include using a partial room divider as a device to shield the vanity or washbasin area and having enough dedicated storage for two. If you are planning a freestanding bath, make sure your floors are able to carry the waste pipe. Also think about locating a secondary towel heater closeby, so you don't have to walk far and drip water everywhere.



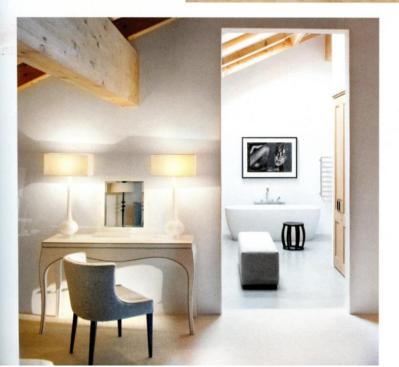
"What's more luxurious than a bedroom-bathroom suite where you can close the door and unwind at the end of the day? Even if space is limited, think about how you could zone your room to create areas for a small bathroom or a dressing area."

Lindsay Blair,

editor

- ↑ Spey freestanding bath with a polished and lacquered exterior, £3570, Drummonds.
- → Max storage bed, from £950 for a double, Furl.





← This bathroom, created by designer Nicky Dobree, serves as a spacious ensuite to the master bedroom. A similar scheme would cost around £18,000.

↑ Parquet Bruno wood-effect tiles, £67.20 per sq m, and Parquet Bruno 02 wood-effect tiles, £67.20 per sq m, both Stone & Ceramic Warehouse.



← Two Dalby showers with straight 300mm arm in rose with a nickel finish, £2700, Drummonds.

Planning a BATHROOM FOR TWO

With ideas for your master bedroom sorted, here's what you need to know when it comes to the ensuite design

What is the first thing to consider?

A bathroom as part of a master suite can be a perfect sanctuary for a couple looking for both functionality and a little one-onone time. "Features such as double-basin vanity units and 'his and hers' showers provide a symmetric, aesthetically pleasing space," Phil Etherden, The Albion Bath Company's managing director, says. "Doubling up on these vital essentials also guarantees peace in the midst of a busy family morning routine." Jonathan Carter of Victoria + Albert Baths adds: "Designing an ensuite perfect for two is all about the planning, especially considering the usually compact space. Think about what you want to store; will you both be using it at the same time; and are you looking to install a bath as well as a shower? The answers will help you form a brief for your design."

"A bathroom for two doesn't just have to be about increasing efficiency – it can also act as an ideal way to reconnect and spend time with loved ones." Georgina Townshend, features editor





↑ Spey freestanding bath with painted exterior, £5220, Drummonds.

↑ Bathroom designed by Leanne Ford Interiors, featuring Aegean Bath, from £4063, The Albion Bath Company. KBB

For stockists turn to p156 🔊



HOME STYL

HOMES | KBB





STOCKISTS

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