



iven the limited size of some urban bathrooms, a design revolution is called for. Boutique hotels have been in the vanguard, slotting epic schemes into minimal spaces with aplomb and now it's our turn. By reimagining a bijou wash space as an exquisite jewel, its full potential can be exploited; smart layouts, the finest fittings and inventive finishes will combine to create an impressive room that reflects your personality.

## **CLEVER USE OF SPACE**

A sense of spatial awareness is essential when planning a small room. Fixtures can be resited if the plumbing permits, a door can be rehung or replaced with a pocket version, or an over-bath shower can be included.

## STAR OF THE SHOW

When space is at a premium, all attention will be focused on the bath, so select one that will give a star performance. Drummonds' luxurious Baby Tyne bath goes all out for drama. Just 1500mm long and styled on the 18th-century bateau bath, it has a classic roll top yet is made entirely from gleaming copper. The timeless Ashburn and Tweed baths also come in a petite size, yet are deep enough for an indulgent long soak. Since each Drummonds bath is cast, polished and finished by hand, a huge number of bespoke choices are on offer.

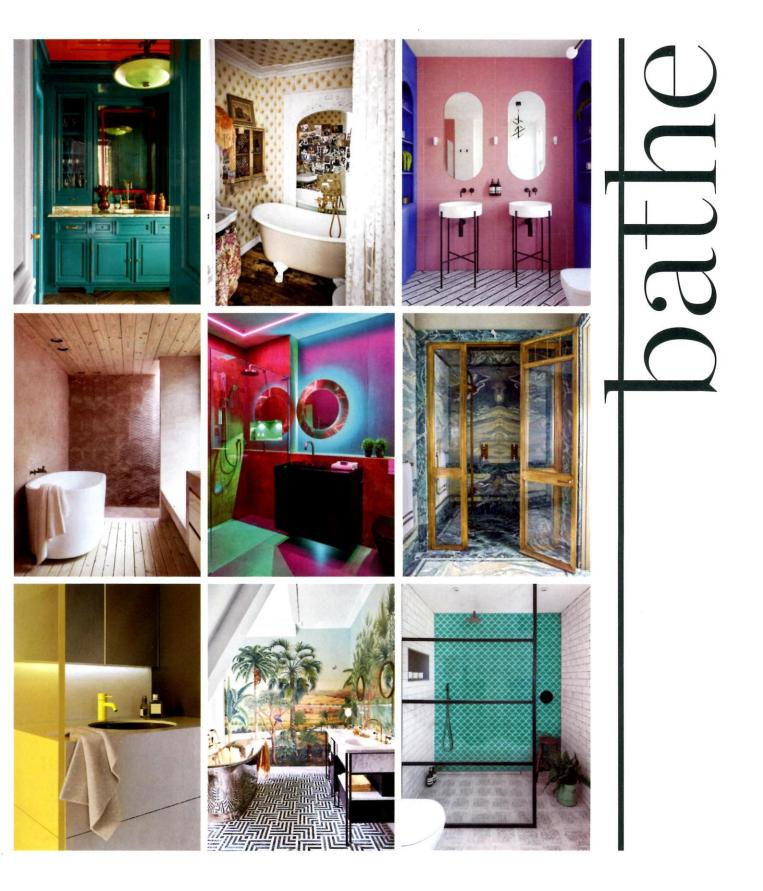
## **DISTINCTIVE DESIGNS**

For a washstand with a light, elegant appeal, consider Drummonds' Single Locky. Its slim legs and metallic finish are space-enhancing. Even the tiniest room can be kitted out sumptuously with a wall-hung Bourne basin. At Drummonds you'll find everything a luxe bathroom requires, from wall-mounted taps in nine tempting finishes to classic mirrors and sparkling lighting. Drummonds' cast-iron baths and classic chinaware and brassware are made in its own factories, every piece displaying the hallmarks of craftsmanship and longevity.



## TRANSFORM YOUR SPACE

Creating a new bathroom is just a click away at drummonds-uk.com, or call 020 7376 4499. Instagram: @drummonds\_bathrooms It's time to big up the bathroom and it starts here...





## French fancy

There's noquickerroute to a French-industrial aesthetic than by way of Sammode's Borosilicate glass-meets-stainless steel Musset wall lights. First patented in 1967, they can be seen in the national library in Paris, so they'll hold serious design weight in your bathroom, too. Musset wall lights L5, £480 each, Sammode Studio at Made in Design (madeindesign.co.uk)





Drummonds' Bute freestanding bath fuses a traditional cast-iron shape and plinth detailing with bang-up-to-date acrylic sides hand-sprayed in your colour of choice. We're smitten... £6,792 (drummonds-uk.com)

Wrap party
Want every moment in your bathroom to feel like you are in a boutique hotel? Then play vacay with a luxe robe. Treat yourself with Piglet's stonewashed flax linen piece or, if you're a real glamour puss, Olivia von Halle's couldn't-be-softer silk design. Now, just to find the slippers and mini shampoo... Oatmeal linen robe, £80 (pigletinbed.com); Mimi Oyster silk kimono, £415 (oliviavonhalle.com)



## Shapely standout designs for long, leisurely soaks

# FEATURE MAUDIE MANTON

## shopping

TOP ROW Le Giare freestanding bath, £8,771, Cielo at CP Hart. Corinthian bath in Farrow & Ball Hague Blue, £2,173.80, Ashton & Bentley SECOND ROW Avon bath, £3,810, Drummonds. Portman Stone bath, £11,940, Porter Bathroom THIRD ROW Stand freestanding bath, £6,084, Ex.t at Tanini Home. Belle de Louvain Rembrandt copper and nickel bath, £3,299, VictoriaPlum.com **BOTTOM ROW** Primo Lux bath, £6,718, West One Bathrooms. Teardrop Grande bath, £2,499, Clearwater



## FEATURE SOPHIE BAYLIS PHOTOGRAPH DRUMMONDS

## A well-designed wash space in seven steps...

At the start of any bathroom project, you will need to measure the dimensions of the space and make a sketch of the layout. 'Mark down the position of existing plumbing and any other elements, such as doors and windows,' says Adam Chard, bathroom expert at Victoria Plum. 'There are both recommended and required clearance guidelines for bathrooms and your installer should be aware of these.'

Once you have your measurements, think about what your dream space contains. 'Decide exactly what you need from your room,' says Michael Sammon, sales and marketing director at Frontline Bathrooms. 'With your requirements written down, you can start to plan what goes where. An online 3D planner will allow you to experiment with products and layouts.'

'Larger items such as the bath and shower will often take centre stage, so position those first,' advises Merlyn's commercial director Barry Hoyne. 'Make sure there's sufficient space between each fixture; for example, there should be a minimum gap of 60cm between the WC and anything in front of it.'

'Fit in as much storage as possible,' says Irene Gunter of Gunter & Co Interiors. 'If we build out a wall to conceal the WC cistern, leaving only the bowl on show, we always try to use the space inside the stud wall for hidden storage. Niches in the shower are another must, as they keep to iletries close to hand.'

Large items may take centre stage, but it's important to think ahead about essentials, such as brassware, too. Choose high quality if you can, as it will look better and last longer. It's also worth getting plumbing advice for the best shower and bath experience. 'Most products require a minimum pressure to work, as well as an optimum pressure



to operate at full potential. Make sure you check this with your retailer before you buy,' recommends Duncan Yardley, design director at Perrin & Rowe.

Ventilation is another important consideration. 'Extractor fans can be noisy, so it's worth investing time and money in a discreet model and seeking advice from your contractor before purchasing,' advises Caitlin Nicol, senior interior designer at Kitesgrove. 'Likewise, it's worth keeping the extractor fan on a separate circuit to the lighting to avoid it whirring when it's not needed.'

And, finally, the fun part – decorating.

'Many people are following the "more is more" maximalist ethos when it comes to bathrooms and are experimenting with bold colours and patterns,' says James Lentaigne, creative director at Drummonds. 'Green is having a moment – both for small accent features as well as for larger areas, such as walls or floors.'

## planning