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HOMES

78 DRAMATIC FAMILY KITCHEN *

Dark cabinetry, striking worktops, and dashes of colour create a welcoming space that is sure to wow family and friends

86 LIGHT-FILLED EXTENSION

Katharine and Adrian created a bright kitchen overlooking their beautiful courtyard garden

92 GLAMOROUS ENSUITE

Linda Adams transformed the cold, tiredlooking master bathroom of her Arts and Crafts home into a luxurious, warm space

98 SOCIABLE OPEN-PLAN SPACE

When the pandemic stopped Susan and Clive Tyldesley's passion for travel, they turned to a different project: creating a new kitchen-living-diner

PROJECT planner

106 BEEN THERE, DONE IT

Jennifer Hitchman tells us all about her beautiful bathroom makeover

108 MATERIAL OF THE MONTH

Everything you need to know about brass

113 DRAWING BOARD

Our designers remodel a new-build property's kitchen to create a sociable space suited to busy family life

118 BEFORE YOU START

Why is assessing your space so important? And how do you do it correctly?

121 YOU ASKED

How can I create a fun and stylish cloakroom?

122 BUYER'S GUIDE

Your new shower tray sorted

127 CHECKLIST

Tick off your to-dos with our handy list to cut out and keep

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By their very nature, bathrooms are where we 'bare all'

– so if you have a design where you don't feel comfortable in your own skin, it's time for a change. Homeowner Linda Adams can attest to this. "The master bathroom wasn't a place one wished to dwell – or to be naked – due to the sense of exposure, with reflective surfaces at every angle," she laughs. "The décor was from the 1990s, with lots of chrome and tired-looking white and grey marble floors, shower and walls. Overall, it was very cold due to the colours and materials."

As part of works to their 19th-century Arts & Crafts property, the new design features bold brass finishes, striking onyx-effect wall tiles and statement pieces from Drummonds. Linda's brief was to increase warmth using textures and colours, while also creating a sense of opulence. "The ensuite is accessed via a secret wardrobe door from the bedroom and so we also wanted the two spaces to speak the same design language," she adds.

The starting point for the design were the large-format floor and wall tiles — with a marble-effect and onyx-effect finishes — which minimise grout lines. "The ensuite is as large as the adjoining bedroom, so we embraced the grandeur of it, using a showpiece bath, traditional high-level cistern, extra-large showerhead and double basin, which suited the dimensions," Linda says.

The standout brass-clad bateau bath has been placed in the middle of the room and angled to take full advantage of the view from the window. The finish has been matched with the tall towel radiator and large overhead shower. "We love the warmth and elegance of brass, as opposed to chrome," Linda says. It is also the perfect accompaniment to the striking blue onyx-effect wall tiles.

Finally, a double vanity unit is both practical and stylish. "We had plenty of space, so a large unit with matching mirrors added a lifestyle element – both of us can communicate while getting ready to go out, with no compromise in terms of space for products." On the final design, Linda summarises: "We believe in making a home better than we find it – and as this is an Arts & Crafts house, it is our duty to give it a timeless, quality treatment." >



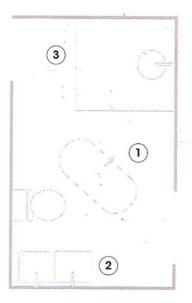
The FACTS

Who? Linda Adams with her family What? A new ensuite as part of a total renovation to a 19th-century Arts and Crafts house

Where? Cheshire

Cost? A similar bathroom would cost around £100,000

Time? Six months



The PLANS

The ensuite, accessed through a secret wardrobe door via the bedroom, was transformed from a tired, uncomfortable space to feature warm finishes and opulent fixtures and fittings.

- 1 Bateau bath The tub takes centre stage and has been positioned at an angle to make use of the views outside.
- 2 Layout A double vanity is practical for getting ready.
- 3 Finishes The walk-in shower offers a generous footprint for a luxurious feel. It also features brass fixtures and fittings, matching the rest of the space.

SOURCEBOOK

Fixtures and fittings

Drummonds 020 7376 4499 drummonds-uk.com

Wall and Floor tiles Tile By Tile

tilebytile.shop For full stockist information, see page 126. Search for more suppliers at thesethreerooms.com/directory >













left A large walk-in shower, featuring Drummonds' Classic wall-mounted shower arm and 30cm shower rose, adds to the feeling of luxury.

below Accessed through a secret wardrobe door from the bedroom, the space was to have an opulent feel.



