

KITCHENS BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

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KITCHENS

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How to improve
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Vanity unit made bespoke by Harriet Hughes Interior Design. Usk bath in burnished copper, from £4710; Leawood three-hole wall basin mixer in unlacquered brass, from £1536, both Drummonds.



Stylish storage

A clutter-free bathroom creates a soothing vibe synonymous with a spa. Start with a good clear so you only have the essentials and luxuries left. Next, stash everything out of sight in a vanity unit complete with drawers or cupboards and conceal medicines behind illuminated storage mirrors or in tall wall-hung units. Invest in high-quality pieces for longevity as well as aesthetics. Spending more will buy you features like soft-close drawers and dedicated compartments, which help you keep everything in order and easy to find.

DRAWING BOARD

Interior design studio Cor London's founder Camila de Oliveira Rodrigues and Ripples Bournemouth's senior designer Faye Young create space-maximising designs for a master bathroom

Words: Rachel Ogden

The client

Noelle Wylie, who works in medical publishing, lives with her partner Jérôme Garcia, who has a wine and spirits shop, in a renovated barn in the south of France. They're both 45 and currently trying to modernise their house while preserving its character. This includes the master bathroom, which has both space and plumbing limitations, making a new layout difficult.

The space

The bathroom sits in the smaller of the two buildings the couple are linking. It measures 2.63 x 2.08m, while the window reveal adds another 20cm of depth around the radiator, and faces east. The plasterboard walls either side of the door could be moved 30-40cm to gain some room to accommodate a new design.

THE WISHLIST

- Noelle and Jérôme would like their master bathroom to feel classic but modernised. Although it's a small space, they want to include a double vanity, so they can use the room at the same time, and for the lighting to be improved, especially around the basin area.
- The current floor is the building's original painted pine. Noelle is open to stripping it back to the pure wood, but Jérôme would prefer it to be tiled. Style wise, the couple are open to some colour, such as blue, green, monochrome or lots of classic white oak. Noelle likes wainscoting or panelling around the walls.
- Designers should avoid basins mounted on top of a vanity, as the couple dislike this look. Both Noelle and Jérôme love zellige tiles and are willing to spend a portion of their budget on them.
- The couple wish to replace the existing bath with a shower: however, the position of the window would limit a shower's width to 58cm, making it too narrow. They're open to the idea of an enclosure, a walk-in shower, or a design with waist-high walls as long as they don't reduce the natural light.



Claremont small wall light in fluted glass and polished nickel, £86.40, Corston, corston.com



Belgravia thermostatic shower kit in chrome, £1625, Crosswater, crosswater.co.uk

THE MOODBOARD



Blue Jean patterned zellige tiles, £288 per sq m, Otto Tiles & Design, ottotiles.co.uk



Milano Elizabeth black traditional heated towel rail, £524.99, Big Bathroom Shop, bigbathroomshop.co.uk

Eucalyptus, Hummingbird, Malachite and Manor White bathroom emulsion, £42.95 for 2.5 litres, Victory Colours, victorycolours.co.uk



Double Buttermere vanity basin, from £4680, Drummonds, drummonds-uk.com

THE BUDGET
£8000, excluding installation >