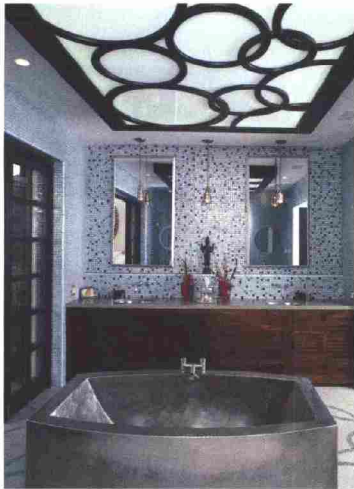


KITCHEN & BATH



# Advice from the PROs

Two kitchen and bath  
designers offer tips on  
creating a spa getaway  
at home



Oceanside Glass Tile; [www.glasstile.com](http://www.glasstile.com)



Jennifer Gilmer, CKD  
JENNIFER GILMER KITCHEN &  
BATH, Chevy Chase, Maryland

#### WHAT IS THE MOST LUXURIOUS NEW PRODUCT FOR BATHROOMS?

I love the new sculptural tubs; Lacava has some nice ones. A new medicine cabinet by Robern has a refrigerated compartment. And the TV hidden behind a mirror by Ad Notam.

#### WHAT IS ONE "MUST" FOR ALL CUSTOM BATH SUITES?

A shaving sink in the shower with a no-fog mirror. A wine cooler and a coffee machine. You choose which one is a must.

#### HOW CAN HOMEOWNERS MAKE SMALLER BATHROOMS FEEL LUXURIOUS?

Since the space is smaller, you can splurge on richer and more costly materials. Use warm woods, such as teak or mahogany, which work great in water conditions. Use the wood to frame out your shower, for the vanity countertop, on the floor or as trim on the walls. Instead of tiles, use slabs of stone, or a combination of slabs and tiles in the shower or tub area. Take the shower door all the way up to the ceiling, or close to it. Find a tub that is state of the art, perhaps a European brand.

#### WHAT ARE THE MOST EXCITING NEW MATERIALS ON THE BATH MARKET TODAY?

Stone and wood sinks; all kinds of new tiles to select from including wood, bamboo and back-painted glass tiles; and 3form panels.



Jim Lynch, CKD, CBD  
F. A. MCGONEGAL  
Falls Church, Virginia

#### WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE MOST LUXURIOUS NEW PRODUCT FOR BATHROOMS?

I have seen countertops made of Onyx and Lapis Lazuli and accessories plated in every conceivable finish.

#### WHAT IS ONE "MUST" FOR ALL CUSTOM BATHROOM SUITES?

The one must for all custom bathroom suites is a long, thoughtful discussion with the people who will be using the bathroom. The colors, the textures, the patterns all make the finished product beautiful. But if the layout allows users to move comfortably within the space, the room will be great.

#### HOW CAN HOMEOWNERS MAKE SMALLER BATHROOMS FEEL LUXURIOUS?

Once function is in place, the fit and finish become important. A well-coordinated collection of materials that takes into consideration not only the colors but also the textures, finishes and scale of all parts will produce a feeling of luxury.

#### WHAT ARE THE MOST EXCITING NEW MATERIALS ON THE BATH MARKET TODAY?

The number-one reason people are unable to stay in their own homes is their inability to take care of themselves in the bathroom. Yes, there is a giggle factor, but a bidet toilet seat will give us independence, dignity and luxury as we age. After all, what is more luxurious than being able to remain in one's own home in style?

**HomeandDesign.com**  
For more tips from these experts  
visit [HomeandDesign.com/Idea-Center/](http://HomeandDesign.com/Idea-Center/)  
and click on: Expert Advice

