

BATHROOMS AND THEIR STORIES

A bathroom is an important room in every residential unit, but due to our fast-paced lifestyle, it has started losing its charm. We give you some expert advice on how to give it a personal touch and turn it into your oasis of peace

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A bathroom is the room where we are most often alone with our thoughts. Therefore, the power of this room should not be neglected. Its role is to make us relax, cheer up, accept us, listen to us, wake us up...

Whether you decide on a shower cabin or a bathtub, built-in or freestanding, with or without a bidet, one or two sinks, it is your personal choice, because these are the elements that depend most on our habits, desires, and objective possibilities on the spot. In this text, we will look at the hidden elements of the bathroom that have a significant impact on the final vibe and are

usually overlooked during the initial design of these small, magical rooms that are often given a lack of attention, although, in fact, they have the potential to provide us with a real oasis of peace.

We will focus on some of the important parameters for bathroom design. People often choose a beige combination as a synonym for timeless beauty, but there are so many other possibilities and variations. If we take a peek into that colorful world, new perspectives and ideas will open up for us, and it will be difficult for us to dwell on classic beige tiles or the imitation of white marble.

BATHTUB VS. SHOWER CABIN

Dynamics and lifestyle have influenced the bathroom concept. Previously, a bathroom without a bathtub was unthinkable, but today it is becoming an exception. Most people, due to practicality, speed, and daily routine, in general, opt for a shower cabin. Nobody has time for a hot bath, a glass of wine... And we all secretly wish for that. This hidden desire, however, is not at all unattainable. If we would stop and think, a bathtub, in essence, requires little and yet gives a lot. Half a square meter of space more than a shower cabin and about 15 minutes longer preparation

later, and in return we get an immeasurable feeling of relaxation and comfort.

Where the dimensions of the bathroom allow, the installation of a free-standing bathtub, which is considered the queen among bathroom elements, will not only provide a superior atmosphere but also fill your eyes with its elegant beauty every day. It can be a classic white bathtub, but it can also be a marble one, or transparent, or with stylized legs... We can also combine a bathtub and a shower cabin in the same bathroom and get a completely natural ambiance.



Photo: Vladimir Miloradović



Photo: Višnja Jovanović

THE DIMENSIONS OF CERAMICS AS AN ETERNAL DILEMMA

We often hear that small tiles are more suitable for small spaces because the larger ones will "eat" them. That is a fallacy. If the technical possibilities allow, our sincere advice is to always choose ceramics of larger dimensions because it gives more possibilities and a more harmonious final result. Everything seems more compact and simply more beautiful. Ceramics of large dimensions allow us to better see the pattern on the tile. Also, if we combine it with a mosaic or some narrow, small tiles, we inject a dose of dynamism and playfulness into the space.

Another benefit of larger-sized tiles is the smaller number of joints. No matter how much care is taken and how regularly cleaning is carried out, grouts, especially when they are in lighter tones, inevitably get dirty. Large formats can even visually increase a small space because the absence of joints gives continuity and, therefore, creates a sense of spaciousness, so they are equally recommended for small as well as large spaces. So, throw away your fears and prejudices, and as a result, you will get a surprising effect in the form of large, beautiful pictures on the walls!

POSITION AND SIZE OF THE BATHROOM

Today, mostly small bathrooms are being built, and they are usually crowded and treated as side rooms. But actually, bathrooms can also have fireplaces, while shower cabins and bathtubs can be an integral part of the sleeping area. More and more often, the bathroom is directly entered from the master bedroom, which enables the symbiosis of these two rooms and opens up new possibilities for design.

The position and size of the bathroom are also important because of their functionality and quality of life. If the apartment is already occupied, it is complicated to chan-

ge the size of the rooms because it entails a lot of additional dirty work. But that's why it's always good, when we have the opportunity, to deal for a few more days with the layout of the rooms in order to find some more square footage to expand the bathroom.

In addition to the basic elements, it is important to find towels, bathrobes, dryers, a basket for dirty laundry, personal hygiene items, often makeup, and washing and drying machines in the bathroom. When the position of all primary and secondary elements is well planned, the bathroom itself imposes the minimum required square footage.



Photos: Goran Ivić



Photo: Vladimir Miloradović

Photo: Anja Milojević

COLORS AND MATERIALS

Don't be afraid of colors! We need to listen to ourselves, find out what pleases us, and boldly go in that direction. Color psychology and chromotherapy have been known for a long time, so we can simply apply their postulates to bathrooms. The ceiling is also an important element. By just changing the color of the ceiling, the atmosphere of the entire room is quickly and simply altered.

Ceramics, quartz, stone, washable wallpaper, techniques, paintings, moldings, glass, mosaic, terrazzo... Various elements and materials are suitable for bat-

rooms, and each of them can be used to create a special ambiance. It is important that they are resistant to water and that they are stable in bathroom conditions. For the floor, it is important that the tiles have a non-slip, matte finish, while on the walls, we can play with reflective surfaces with different textures. Actually, the key is to change the perception of the bathroom and start treating it like a room for bathing. Through this paradigm, we will experience this room differently and give it the necessary attention during the initial design.

LIGHTING AND DECORATION

Important elements of every interior are light and the play of shadows. In addition to LED strips that offer us countless variants for discreet light decoration, there are many innovative elements for the bathroom on the market, such as transparent bathtubs and transparent sinks, the possibility of illuminating natural stone or mosaics,... With the function of additional lighting, their decorative power is not negligible either. If we boldly add a mural, picture, photo, or graphic, the bathro-

om stops being just a service room and becomes a stylish personal haven. Just as we decorate rooms with wallpaper and moldings, we can apply the same principle to bathrooms. By changing the wallpaper, for example, which we can place only on one wall of the bathroom, and by changing the color of the ceiling along with the wallpaper, we can change the entire visual identity of the bathroom in a short period of time without major work or costs.



MIRRORS

Bathroom mirrors have a multipurpose function. In addition to the basic role of looking oneself in the mirror, they can also play the role of a complete wall covering. Some would say it's only for clubs. Here again, we encounter prejudices. You should adapt your space to your own sensibilities, not to your own prejudices or to what most people do. We can also hide a cabinet with a mirror. Modern te-

chnique allows us to adapt the size and shape of the mirror to our space, and with the help of LED strips, we can also contribute to the aesthetic value of this element. There are classic white mirrors, but they are also available in various other colors. Bronze and gray are the most common on the market, while if ordered or treated with foils, they can be made as yellow, blue, green,... •