INSPIRED HOME

A Vision for Design

FARGO HOME DESIGNED WITH URBAN APPEAL AND LIVABLE SPACES

**ARTFUL & GRACEFUL
FREE STANDING TUBS**

BEAUTIFUL BONUS ROOMS

**RED RIVER VALLEY
HOME AND GARDEN SHOW**
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OUR 2015 BED & BATH ISSUE

A FRESH APPROACH TO HOME & LIFE

From the Fitzgerald Collection in their new American Standard DXV line, this freestanding bathtub delivers the essence of elegance.

Photo courtesy of American Standard

Elegance in Design

The timeless artistry and beauty of pedestal and freestanding bathtubs

Photo courtesy of American Standard

↑ With a touch of modern sophistication, the Lyndon, from the American Standard DXV line, lends smooth, clean lines.

BY **WANDA PERKINS**

Architects, builders and designers are aware that artistry of design is no longer just about fascinating rooflines, interesting ceiling heights, captivating light fixtures or charming home décor. Today's homeowners are also seeking bath spaces with bathtubs that not only complement their home's design but also make a dramatic statement of their own.

Designed as the focal point in this bath, this freestanding tub by Kohler offers ease of use and cleaning while creating an eye-catching presence.

Photo courtesy of Kohler

"They give the impression of a spa-like atmosphere with feminine or masculine touches while adding decadence, luxury and an inviting warmth to the décor."

~ Tana Hovde,
showroom director at Goodin Company

Photo courtesy of Kohler

↑ This freestanding bathtub by Kohler gives flexibility in placement with dramatic results.

Whether you desire an invigorating massage, the ultimate in relaxation or a not-so-common element of design within your bath space, the selection of a bathtub is one of the most important decisions you'll make. More specifically, implementing the timeless beauty of a freestanding or pedestal tub can create a design sensation simply by the artistry of its presence within the room.

Why are these bathtubs so sought after and popular with today's homeowners? Are today's baths returning to nostalgic designs with hints of modern elegance?

"The glamour of the Golden and Art Deco eras has now returned," explains Tana Hovde, showroom director at Goodin Company. "Both freestanding and pedestal tubs bring timeless and classic beauty to a bathroom. These bathtubs come in a variety of shapes and sizes, from traditional to minimalist designs. They give the impression of a spa-like atmosphere with feminine or masculine touches while adding decadence, luxury and an inviting warmth to the décor. And with complementary fixtures, homeowners are able to customize their baths."

As one of the larger features within our homes, the bathtub has generated quite a bit of recent publicity. Homeowners are looking for unique and captivating designs.

"Freestanding tub designs have grown in popularity largely because they offer great flexibility in terms of placement, and their versatility opens up many options in bathroom configurations," notes Michael Kornowa, director of marketing at MTI Baths. "They are placed under picture windows, tucked into alcoves and corners, elevated on dramatic platforms and literally

Beautiful and nostalgic, the Elise freestanding bathtub from MTI Baths offers a striking appearance and gorgeous design.

Photo courtesy of MTI

Photo courtesy of MTI

↑ With artistry and contemporary style, the Savory freestanding bathtub from MTI Baths offers a striking appearance and stunning design.

stationed as a centerpiece to be appreciated and enjoyed every day you walk into your bath."

Additionally, a return of nostalgia and elegance in bathtub designs includes intricate design details such as claw feet, modestly rolled edges and integrated pedestals. "As contemporary takes on classics," Kornowa adds, "these bathtubs blend well with more contemporary décor to create a seamless, transitional space."

"Freestanding tubs are definitely prevailing with consumers today," agrees Eric Moore, interior designer at Kohler. "They are truly pieces of art that create a statement. Their beauty captures the essence of style within the room. They open up the space, bringing a peaceful sense of rest and relaxation. You can almost imagine yourself soaking in a freestanding tub!"

Unlike the old-fashioned box-styled tubs of the past or those consisting of tile or other materials, Moore explains that ease of cleaning is yet another reason for freestanding tubs' continued popularity. By selecting and incorporating something old and something new with a variety of faucet, any discerning preference can be accomplished and satisfied.

Simplistic in design, graceful in elegance and enchanting in appearance, freestanding and pedestal tubs will likely remain a favorite choice for bathtub style. Why not contemplate the possibilities of adding one into your bathroom space? You will undoubtedly appreciate its luxurious artistry for years to come. ✻