

November/December 2017

# Kitchen & Bath Business

**Catering to the Trade & the Consumer  
Traditional Meets Modern in a Master Bath  
Countering the Skilled Labor Shortage**

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF **KBIS**



**1. ATLAS HOMEWARES** introduces Tom Tom, a funky urban collection of knobs and pulls that takes inspiration from the traditional tom tom drum. The collection comes in two styles – a 1 ½-in. round knob and a long pull that comes in two lengths: 7 ½ and 10 inches. Booth W1355

**2.** Inspired by former designer Doyle Watt, the Olivet Collection of hardware from **BELWITH-KEELER** uses refined subtle curves and a sense of fluidity to capture a natural aesthetic. Finishes include polished nickel, satin nickel and bright copper. Booth S5042

**3. INOX** debuts the Barn Door Lock, a sophisticated yet discreetly integrated locking solution used to secure a barn door for added privacy. The locking mechanism features a small bolt that is easily activated by a thumb turn and can be locked securely from inside the room. Booth S5631

**4.** The Brookfield Collection by **JAMES MARTIN FURNITURE** features hand-carved, accenting filigrees and raised-panel doors. The look is completed with antique brass-finished drawer and door pulls. Booth S3828



**5.** The new line of Drawer-Depth Apron-Front Sinks from **LENVA** features a dramatic 9-in. flat front and commercial-grade 304 stainless steel. The sinks also boast sound-baffling pads and insulation and are available in either a double-bowl configuration or two single-bowl designs. Booth S3805

**6. NIAGARA CONSERVATION CORP.'s** Phantom 0.8 gpf single-flush elongated bowl features a smooth, low-friction ceramic surface and an inconspicuous and durable flush button. This two-piece toilet also has a skirted trapway that simplifies cleaning. Booth S5442

**7. ROBERN** has launched its new Vitality Lighted Mirror Collection, which offers five different shapes and lighting styles in a variety of sizes ranging from 24 to 40 inches. Like Roberm's other lines, Vitality mirrors position lights to the side, creating a more attractive and accurate reflection. Booth W2000

**8.** The **ROHL** Italian Kitchen Patrizia Pull-Down Kitchen Faucet celebrates the female silhouette with slimming details along the spout and a subtle hint of a curve. Available finishes include polished chrome, polished nickel, satin nickel, Tuscan brass, Inca brass and matte black. Booth W2371



## Solutions



**LEFT** The husband's suite was large enough for a shower and a tub, which was incorporated for grandchildren and renters.

**BELOW LEFT** "The blue vanity is great and so unexpected – it's definitely one of our favorite elements," said the designer. "This bathroom is not for someone who is scared of color but is a dream come true for someone who loves these calming shades of blue."

## He Said, She Said



## SOURCES

**DESIGNER:** Jessica Rogers, Simmer and Soak; **PHOTOGRAPHER:** Chris Moncus Photography

**CABINETS:** AWD Custom Cabinetry; **COUNTERTOPS:** Pomeii Extra Extra Quartz; **FLOOR TILE:** Glassos; **HARDWARE & ACCESSORIES:** Atlas Homewares; **PLUMBING FIXTURES:** California Faucets & Kohler; **WALL TILE:** California Art Tile & New Ravenna

BY CHELSE BUTLER

**Homeowners chose individual colors for their separate master bath suites, while the designer overcame some interesting challenges**

A COUPLE LIVING IN THE RESORT TOWN OF SEA ISLAND, GA., wanted to renovate their large, shared master bath into two separate his and her suites – each one with its own vanity, toilet and shower areas. Because this is their second home and is part of a rental program, they also wanted to ensure the bathroom could withstand the wear and tear of frequent vacationers. Their final requirement was to fill the space with beautiful shades of blue to replicate the area's coastal feel.

"We do so many classic white and gray bathrooms, but this was our opportunity to do something totally different," said Jessica Rogers, a designer with Simmer and Soak in St. Simon's Island, Ga. "They made it clear from

the beginning that they liked lots of color, and they wanted to incorporate that love of color into their bathroom."

Before everyone could see the finished project, the design team had to overcome several obstacles.

### CHALLENGE 1: BROKEN MIRROR EQUALS BAD LUCK

The wife wanted a one-piece sheet mirror with a custom frame over her vanity, and its cumbersome size – 93-in. by 60-in. – made it hard to get into the space and navigate around the sharp corners. ↓



## Solutions



"We got it into the room, but when the electrician installed the light sconce that was wired through it, he tightened it a little too much and cracked the mirror," said the designer.

She ended up having to demolish what was there and buy a new mirror to be reinstalled – much more carefully the second time, and it was flawless.

"That was an important lesson we learned and will remember forever," said Rogers. "We are leery about doing large pieces of glass now, but we will discuss these instances ahead of time with our electricians so we all understand the expectations."

### CHALLENGE 2: TUB DECK, MEET SHOWER BENCH

The design team wanted the material for the tub deck and shower bench in the husband's suite to feel like one continuous design element, but according to the designer, they hadn't planned for adding slope to the section of slab that functions as the bench. Trial and error on the job site added a day to the schedule, but the end result was an impeccable installation.

"Luckily for us, we have a true artisan for a countertop fabricator," she said. "He made the top in two pieces; the tub deck side is flat, and the shower bench side is slightly sloped for drainage. He connected the two together flawlessly, and we installed the shower glass over the seam to further conceal it."

### CHALLENGE 3: TILE TROUBLES

The design team specified a large-format, crystallized glass tile for the shower flooring in his and her suites but didn't realize it would be difficult to perform such an intricate installation.

"The fragile glass tile had several spider cracks, as well as a backer," said Rogers. "Through more trial and error, the installer decided to remove the mesh backing – a painstaking process – which eliminated the cracks."

The tile on both of the shower walls was also a challenge to install – his being only 1/8-in. thick and hers featuring an intricate five-piece pattern.

"The tile on her shower walls is an arabesque and key design in five separate pieces," said the designer. "It was uneven, and our installer had to do a lot of detail work to wrap it around the center and corner areas and book-match the ends."



### CHALLENGE 4: A HATEFUL HURRICANE

At about the halfway point on this project, Hurricane Matthew wreaked havoc on the coastal town for a few days. There were leaks in several areas and some water damage in the master bath, which involved additional waterproofing and relining the crawlspace.

"We lost about two weeks on the project," explained Rogers, "but we were forthcoming with the homeowners about the extent of the damage, and they understood certain things needed to be dealt with."

### CHALLENGE 5: AGING IN PLACE - OR NOT

Although the wife wanted to incorporate some universal design elements like grab bars in her walk-in shower for safety reasons, her husband was not ready for those additions in his.

"What we decided to do was add additional structural blocking for grab bars in his shower," said the designer. "We also ordered the grab bars and created detailed drawings of where those can be installed in the future. As homeowners are aging, this is an added value we can offer."

Both showers feature built-in benches for seating, the doorways are larger than the standard width, and the design team eliminated a knee wall that served no purpose for better access to the closet and her suite.

### THEIR COLOR STORIES

The clients wanted slightly different blue hues for their individual suites. A bold wall of blue glass mosaic tile sits behind his soaking tub and shower, and a complementary hand-molded subway tile in the toilet area features a contrasting white chair rail. The floor and side shower/tub walls mimic the look of Thassos marble, and the overall walls on his side are light blue.

The walls and vanity in her suite are painted in different shades of blue, and the same glass tile in the herringbone pattern continues from his side. The wall tile in her shower is a custom blue arabesque tile with a white key. Her toilet area features a white, hand-molded subway tile with a contrasting blue cap that is similar in style.

"There was a certain amount of innovation involved in creating such a colorful design," explained Rogers. "Choosing the colors was a long process with the clients, who are very particular, and we wanted to incorporate their style in this bathroom with a lot of variation. We really enjoyed the process – it was so refreshing to think outside of the usual white and marble classic master bathroom design."



## Before and After



## Family Friendly

### ***Kitchen renovation provides ample function and an open layout for a party of four***

**ABOVE** Decorative elements in this kitchen include a farmhouse sink, polished nickel cabinet hardware, a white quartz countertop and a large island pendant.

**MIDDLE RIGHT** The former 90s kitchen was closed off inside a peninsula with a tiny island. The designer replaced the cherry oak flooring with a wide-plank oak with a matte finish, which she says disguises dust specks.

A LEAK IN AN UPSTAIRS BATHROOM was the impetus of this early 90s kitchen renovation when all the floors on the main level needed to be replaced. The clients' main goals with their new kitchen were to improve its functionality and flow, incorporate a larger island and connect it to the adjacent breakfast seating area and living room. They also wanted an open, airy space with some thoughtful design elements that cater to their two active children.

#### **UPDATING THE ISLAND & LAYOUT**

The first rule of business for Allison Jaffe of Austin, Texas-based Allison Jaffe Interior Design was to remove the restrictive peninsula and make room for a larger, better-functioning island. She incorporated an induction cooktop into the side of the island's quartz countertop instead of in the middle so the homeowners' children could have access to the largest amount of counter space. The island also features another aspect that keeps the kids in mind.

"Adding rustic, engineered wood plank to the backside of the unit was a well-thought-out decision," said Jaffe, who used SketchUp to renovate this kitchen. "This was selected not only as a decorative feature but also to serve as a protective barrier to withstand the everyday use of two small children."

The existing passageway between the kitchen and the formal living room was quite narrow in the former layout, so the designer opened this up an additional five feet by moving the double ovens away from that area to the wall adjacent to the two-column refrigerator.

"The upgraded refrigerator, undercabinet microwave and the oven/steamer were relegated next to each other to condense the amount of travel time around the kitchen and to create the perfect work triangle," explained Jaffe. ▾



**BY CHELSE BUTLER**



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## SOURCES

**DESIGNER:** Allison Jaffe,  
Allison Jaffe Interior  
Design, LLC  
**PHOTOGRAPHER:**  
Reagen Taylor

**APPLIANCES:** Thermador;  
**CABINETS:** Custom;  
**COUNTERTOPS:** MSI;  
**HARDWARE:** Atlas  
Homewares; **LIGHTING:**  
Visual Comfort; **PAINT:**  
Sherwin-Williams;  
**PLUMBING FIXTURES:**  
Kohler & Rohl

### Before and After



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#### CREATIVE STORAGE, LIGHTING & TILE SOLUTIONS

What was formerly an outdated, dysfunctional walk-in pantry was converted into a multifunctional, built-in storage unit and a beverage station for guests and the kids. The designer retrofitted a hidden broom closet into the side of the storage unit to accommodate cleaning items.

The white Shaker upper cabinets take advantage of the 11-ft. ceiling, and decorative glass doors were added to some units to display the wife's crystal collection. Jaffe explained that the lower cabinets were converted into drawer space for better ergonomics when accessing everyday items.

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**ABOVE & RIGHT** Organic elements include a gray mosaic travertine tile backsplash.

As glass upper cabinets could not be installed to the top right of the sink because of the beam, that area was converted into display space.

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To improve the lighting plan, she redistributed the ceiling cans for better placement and replaced the former bulbs with LEDs. She also chose a polished nickel pendant over the island that provides ample light for various family activities.

After seeing various images from Jaffe's other projects, the clients were drawn to the look of silverthorn limestone, but they kept it simple so as not to overpower the kitchen's neutral color palette. She decided to take the tile all the way up the window wall in what she calls an unconscious way of taking advantage of the ceiling height.

Although there were limited challenges to overcome in this kitchen renovation, the designer said she was pleased with what she calls one "happy accident."

"The cabinetmakers measured for the cabinets before the beam was installed, so we could not add the two upper units to the right of the sink because the beam was in the way," explained Jaffe. "Rather than retrofit them, we decided to nix those upper glass cabinets and create a display space." ●



## What's Cool

# What's Cool in Everything Else



1

1. Inspired by the hard and beautiful outer shell of the tortoise, the Tortoise Washbasin from **MAISON VALENTINA** features black, gray and golden tones. This colorful pattern contrasts with a golden tap and black legs.



2

2. **ICERA** has unveiled Muse II, an enhanced version of its Muse Toilet, with a new sleek look featuring clean lines and a sophisticated vibe. Crafted of vitreous china, this one-piece toilet has the same footprint of a traditional round toilet with the comfort and style of an elongated seat.

3. **GRAFF**'s innovative Sospiro Faucet Line offers a contemporary twist on traditional style with the classic silhouette of a bridge faucet paired with sleek, curvilinear lines. Sospiro is available in polished chrome, brushed nickel, polished nickel and olive bronze.

4. **SIEMATIC**'s frame design concept for the new Pure Lifestyle Collection grants the minimalist kitchen design completely new contours and character. Features of the handle-less kitchen design include a textured lacquer finish and onyx oak and java oak wood-grain laminate options.



4



3

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