

October 2017

# Kitchen & Bath Business

Kitchen & Bath Business

OCTOBER

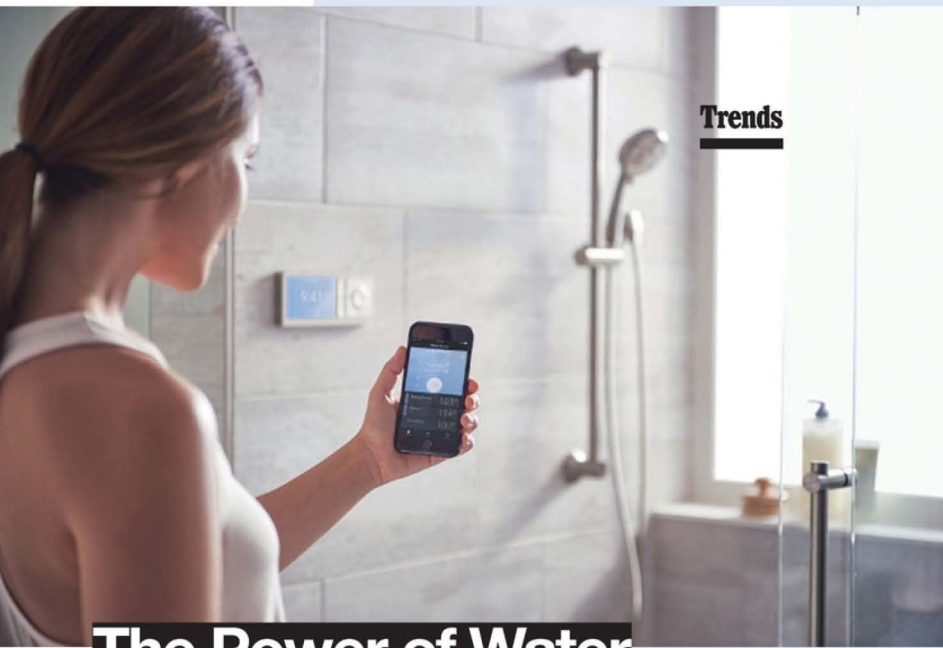
SHOWER SYSTEMS / KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS & BACKSPLASHES / TOILETS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF KBIB

**KBB's 2017 Product Innovator Award Winners**  
**Safe Flooring Choices for Living in Place**  
**Designer and Client Make Bold Color Moves**

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF **KBIB**

## Trends



# The Power of Water

*A look at customization, wellness and technology in the shower today*

**H**UMANITY HAS AN INNATE CONNECTION WITH WATER that goes back to ancient times. From Native American sweat lodges to Roman communal baths, many cultures have long recognized the therapeutic uses of water. Today's stressed-out generation needs its positive effects more than ever, so new technology has made spa-like showers accessible at home.

"As a society, we are constantly busy jumping from one thing to the next, from work to family to social obligations," said designer Collin Kayser of Portland, Ore.-based Garrison Hullinger Interior Design. "A shower has the ability to slow one down and help rejuvenate. It helps ensure a fresh start to the day or a way to wind down at the end."

### FOR OUR HEALTH

According to the University of New Hampshire, the therapeutic use of water can alter blood flow, boost hormonal function, improve circulation and activate organ function. Cold water can soothe inflammation, while hot water can improve mobility and muscle relaxation. When a shower also has steam capabilities or aromatherapy, music therapy or chromotherapy features, the user truly has a task force of healing properties at hand.

"For 90 percent of Americans, wellness is a top priority, and this is evident in how they are enhancing their showers," said Martha Orellana, vice

**ABOVE** The U by MOEN Shower is a Wi-Fi/cloud-based digital shower that offers precise, thermostatic temperature control and enables the user to connect up to four shower devices. The digital shower controller features a 5-in. LCD screen that provides feedback on the shower status through on-screen messaging and notifications.

**RIGHT** MilanoSlim, designed by Franco Sargiani for FANTINI, features a multi-functional in-wall shower panel with a thermostatic mixer, rainfall showerhead, body sprays and a hand shower. This product is meant to go beyond the modern look and leans toward a futuristic design.

BY ERINN LOUCKS



president of marketing and sales at MrSteam. "No matter their age, income or gender, adding a steam shower has become the primary element for their wellness retreats."

Steam showering – historically a luxurious activity – offers numerous health benefits, including increasing metabolism, eliminating toxins and relaxing muscles. While the basics of steam systems have not changed drastically in recent years, the technology and options available have evolved and expanded.

"At an entry point you can get just basic steam," said Jeff Carney, vice president of sales and marketing for Steamist. "You then can add features and functionality, such as instant steam and steady steam, to make a more pleasurable experience that is quieter, more consistent and more relaxing. From there, you can add spa options to truly tailor your [clients'] total spa experience to exactly what [they] want."

Some of these additional options include aromatherapy, which uses aromatic essential oils in the shower – such as lavender, peppermint and lemon – to improve physical and psychological well-being. Color therapy, or chromotherapy,



draws on the positive effects of colors; blue for example, invites peace and relaxation, while red and orange inspire energy. Music in the shower can also strongly affect mood and health, including helping the immune system and reducing stress.

### CUSTOMIZING THE EXPERIENCE

Many manufacturers offer these spa options – such as aromatherapy and massage jets – with even more personalization. Digital controls and speaker showerheads allow the user to easily stream music from iHeartRadio, Spotify and Pandora, while other showerheads even diffuse essential oils like citrus into the water itself for an extra boost of vitamin C.

“Working individuals do not have time to go to spas,” said Abbas Poonawala, sales director at Isenberg Faucets, who explained that in the past these therapies were only offered professionally. “They can instead purchase products that give them exactly the effects they want at home for a reasonable price.”



It’s no question that while the shower can have many benefits, each person prefers a different way of experiencing them. Thankfully with today’s technology, multiple inclinations can be experienced in the same shower.

“Each and every one of us has our own preference when it comes to taking a shower, such as heavy rain effects covering the entire body, soft showers of water, multiple jets for a massage-like experience, steam and other spa-like therapies,” said Gaelle Marrassé, marketing director of Aquabross. “The world of the shower really is [you and your clients’] oyster.”

Today’s showers cater to the individual with a multitude of options from which to choose; steam technology, water pressure and temperature control are just a few of the choices available. The trend stems from a culture now accustomed to having many choices in nearly every part of life, but it also comes from a recent need to cater to multiple people using the same shower.

### TECHNOLOGY FOR EVERYONE

“As more homes become multi-generational and seniors move in with adult children and their families, there are new trends dominating home remodeling, especially in the bathroom,” said Jean-Jacques L’Henaff, vice president of design, LIXIL Americas, the business unit under which DXV, GROHE and American Standard operate. (His position includes the DXV and American Standard brands.)

It is therefore important to provide users of all mobility levels easy access to shower controls, whether that is through remote control features, easy-touch technology or incorporating hand showers on a slide bar for convenience. As manufacturers have refined universal design elements, more of these features boast better, subtler designs.

“Technology is the unseen factor that has transitioned the shower from a conscious experience where you need to think about what you are doing, to an immersive, almost subconscious experience where the mind and body just naturally relax,” said Alex Miller, the architect and artist behind Alex Miller Studio. “I believe that the successful use of technology in the shower is when you are completely unaware of its presence.”

This technology is meant to make busy schedules easier to manage and to make luxurious ex-

**TOP** The iSteam3 Home Steam Shower Control from MRSTEAM offers the bather a wide array of features with the touch of a finger, including temperature, duration, AromaSteam, ChromaSteam3 and AudioSteam3. The iSteam3 now also provides the option to choose a black or white display screen mode.

**RIGHT** The AQUABROSS 8-in. Rainhead Showerhead features a 16-in. arm; multi-functional, directional body jets; and a handshower set. This matte black finish, Montreal Black, is Aquabross’ newest addition.



The Lyndon Showerhead from DXV offers spray and center massage patterns with a toggle button to switch functions. The showerhead also boasts a CALGreen-compliant 2.0 gpm flow rate.



The Aurora Showerhead from ALEX MILLER STUDIO is available in five finishes – polished chrome, polished nickel, satin nickel, polished gold and satin gold. The showerhead comes with a soft-touch drain with ½-in. valves, and there are coordinating fixtures such as a Roman tub, bidet faucet and hand shower.



ISENBERG is releasing its new Isenberg Welle Waver Sprayer in the U.S. for the first time. The collection is available in chrome, brushed nickel and polished nickel and lists at \$600.

## Trends

periences even more enjoyable—especially for the elderly, the disabled and the young. To accommodate this, digital controls often have a format similar to a smart phone or tablet, and they seem familiar to users who are looking for controls that are easy to operate and individualize.



### SHOWER FASHION

Manufacturers are also appealing to the consumer's desire for choice in their shower fixtures with different shapes, designs and colors available.

"In terms of style trends, clean, contemporary lines continue to be popular; these designs are easier to clean and maintain," said L'Henaff. "More specifically, we see a movement toward pure, simple forms that provide elegant utility, offering truly functional spaces for the user."

Homeowners are gravitating toward new bilateral shower and steam heads, which usually include a handshower and rainhead in one piece. Companies are expanding upon these simple pieces with different shapes, such as square and round models, to create a fixture that operates multiple water sources from one control. No matter the shape, this minimalist trend is meant to contribute to the rejuvenating shower experience.

"There has long been an assumption about the aesthetics of a showerhead: that it is a circular object attached to a pipe," said Miller. "I think the shower is such an impactful experience that the designer can really dig in deeper to the meaning and poetry behind the experience."

In addition to the shape of the fixture, manufacturers are introducing new choices in color. Recently there has been an increased interest in dramatic luxury finishes, such as black, copper and gold. Rich, textured finishes are also growing in popularity for luxury settings.

"More than 50 percent of our custom finish production is based on shower components," said Marrasse, adding that Aquabrass' most popular finishes are gold, black and nickel.



**ABOVE RIGHT GROHE's** Rainshower SmartControl System gives users a fully customized experience through a double-button design that allows the user to easily control and set all desired shower settings. These settings include water outlet, volume and temperature, which can be controlled even with wet hands.

**ABOVE LEFT STEAMIST's** newest, most advanced control system, the 550 Digital Control, is equipped with a high-definition touchscreen display with multiple language capabilities and easily adjustable font sizes. The 550 can operate several spa options such as AromaSense, ChromaSense, AudioSense and ShowerSense.

### WHAT'S NEXT IN THE SHOWER

As technology advances, homeowners are expecting more benefits, style and ease from their homes, particularly with such integral elements like their showers.

"As smart home functionality continues to evolve, tech-savvy consumers will demand that the routines of daily life offer the same personalization options, speed of access and optimum operation," said Orellana. "We also anticipate more water conservation and energy-efficiency awareness. Homeowners will expect both from the products installed in their bathrooms."

Although sustainability—particularly water efficiency—is still not the first priority for some homeowners in certain areas of the country, awareness is growing, and manufacturers are staying ahead of the curve. Most companies expect that sustainable choices will eventually become a high priority for all consumers, and they are starting now with their offerings.

"Water savings continues to be top of mind in our industry, so it's essential to incorporate innovations that provide this," said Michael Poloha, senior product manager for Moen, who added that the company offers a self-pressurizing system that channels water into a circular pattern for consistent water pressure. "This allows consumers to save water without sacrificing performance."

In the future, it's also arguable whether or not these subtly high-tech, water-efficient showers will continue to have a minimalist design. According to Miller, it makes sense that the shower—which is all about cleanliness—maintains a sleek appearance, however, this progress might eventually begin to reverse itself.

"I think that what comes next involves designers' other instinct—the celebratory instinct," said Miller. "There is so much inspiration to draw from that it just doesn't seem right to completely hide away all the different pieces that make a shower a shower. The next step is expressing the shower experience in all of its elements." ●



## What's Hot

# What's Hot in Toilets



1

1. The Edgemere two-piece, high-efficiency toilet from **AMERICAN STANDARD** features PowerWash bowl-cleaning technology to scrub the bowl with pressurized water from the rim. The toilet meets stringent WaterSense-certification requirements by using 20 percent less water for each flush than the standard 1.6 gpf toilet.



2

2. **TOTO** has just launched a new addition to the NEOREST suite – NEOREST AC. This 2017 upgrade includes a wall-mounted system and a customizable height in addition to the original features, such as heated seats, auto open/auto close and aerated water.



3

3. **SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS INTL.** has announced NO CLOG POINT 8, its new water-saving, single-flush, high-efficiency toilet. This ADA-compliant, easy-height toilet has a trapway that is double the industry standard size to eliminate clogs.



4

4. The new Stealth Phantom from **NIAGARA CONSERVATION** is a whisper-quiet, two-piece unit that only uses 0.5 or 0.95 gpf. This narrow, smooth tank also has a skirted, easy-to-clean bowl, and there is an extended design that easily covers the existing footprint.



5

5. **GERBER**'s Hinsdale Suite includes a two-piece, high-efficiency toilet that operates at 1.28 gpf. This WaterSense-certified toilet is the first Gerber product to feature the brand's proprietary QuietClean flushing system, which pushes water down through the top of the bowl instead of up from the bottom for better cleaning and a discreet flush.

6. **KOHLER** has taken its Veil Intelligent Toilet one step further by creating a wall-mount model with a contemporary, sculptural appearance. This new toilet also has all of the options of the original, such as a heated seat, stainless steel cleansing wand and an LED nightlight.

7. **DURAVIT** has launched HygieneGlaze 2.0, a ceramic glaze that eradicates 99.9 percent of bacteria after 12 hours. Baked into the ceramic, HygieneGlaze 2.0 extends from the interior of the basin to the rim of the toilet or urinal.

8. The new **GEBERIT** Dual-Flush In-Wall systems for toilets reduce the full flush to a maximum of 1.28 gpf. These low-consumption, in-wall systems are available for 2-ft. by 4-ft. and 2-ft. by 6-ft. spaces and 2-ft. by 6-ft. pre-wall installations.

9. **ICERA** announces the Richmond II, now featuring a skirted bottom and 1.28 gpf. Crafted with MicroGlaze coating for easy cleaning, the Richmond II also includes a soft-close and quick-release seat, as well as a fully glazed trapway for flushing performance.



6



7



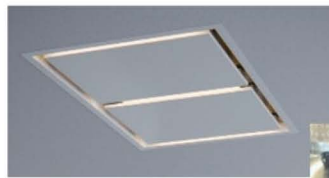
8



9

# Kitchen & Bath Business product innovator AWARDS 2017

by CHELSIE BUTLER



KBB is proud to announce the winners of our 2017 Product Innovator Awards. Our esteemed panel of judges chose the winning products based on meeting market needs, engineering advancements, aesthetic merit and innovation. Awards go to both the Kitchen and Bathroom Products of the Year; Second and Third Place Kitchen and Bathroom products; and six Honorable Mentions. This year's trends include products that help make a home accessible to all people; products that provide ease of use and peace of mind; extremely durable, flexible surfaces; affordable, multi-functional appliances; functional hardware; full-spectrum lighting; and technological advancements.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S WINNERS!**



## MEET THE JUDGES



**LAUREN LEVANT** is an emerging leader in the luxury kitchen and bath design industry, and her designs have claimed

more than 20 awards. She has been named among HGTV's top 10 American Designers under 35 and has been selected as a Viking Kitchen Designer of the Year. Her projects have been featured in several publications, including *Elle Decor*, *Architectural Digest* and *The Kitchen Bible: Designing the Perfect Culinary Space*. Her firm is based in Pittsburgh, Pa.



**CHRIS DREITH**, CMKBD, CRPM, is the president of the Home Improvements Group, Inc., one of the premier remodeling companies in Northern California. She is a California licensed general contractor specializing in remodeling and a charter member of the SEN Design Group, the first national buying/marketing group in the kitchen and bath industry. Her enthusiasm and dedication to the industry is evident in her numerous design and business awards, both locally and nationally.

and Los Angeles. His projects have received numerous accolades and have been published in countless magazines, and his design advice can be seen regularly online, on television and in print. McClain has fueled his passion for custom furniture design by launching Gilded Home in 2016, a to-the-trade line of home furnishings with showrooms in Atlanta and High Point, N.C.



**JOHN MCCLAIN** is principal designer of John McClain Design, a residential interior design firm with offices in Florida

and Los Angeles. His projects have received numerous accolades and have been published in countless magazines, and his design advice can be seen regularly online, on television and in print. McClain has fueled his passion for custom furniture design by launching Gilded Home in 2016, a to-the-trade line of home furnishings with showrooms in Atlanta and High Point, N.C.



**BOB BORSON**, FAIA, is a principal of Malone Maxwell Borson Architects, a full-service architectural firm based in Dallas. Since

1992, his firm has specialized in the design of retail and commercial interiors, single and multifamily homes and corporate marketing centers. The award-winning practice is frequently published in professional and shelter publications and is widely recognized for its thoughtful designs. In 2013, Malone Maxwell Borson Architects was honored as the AIA Dallas Firm of the Year.



# BATHROOM PRODUCT OF THE YEAR

THE ELDON BACK-TO-WALL TUB offers the curvaceous lines of a freestanding tub, but it sits flush against the wall to save space and makes installation a breeze. It is wrapped with an edge that forms a natural shelf against the wall to conceal pipework and provide a platform where plumbing can be deck mounted if desired.

“Those looking for elegance linked to practical ease of living will love the Eldon,” said Jonathan Carter, marketing director for Victoria + Albert Baths. “The full-width faucet deck is the perfect space for a scented candle and bath oils to create the home spa feel or a great spot to store kids’ bath toys. However, the best bit is never having to clean behind the bathtub again.”

## The Eldon Tub by Victoria + Albert

The tub has a molded upstand to allow for retrofit installation without disturbing the existing flooring and is made from the company’s Englishcast material. It is available in seven exterior color finishes, may be installed with or without an overflow and is ideal for more compact spaces found in large cities.

“This tub is adaptable to many floor plans and allows for the popular look of the freestanding model in areas where it might not have previously been installed without major floor prep,” said John McClain, one of this year’s judges. “I also love all of the hidden stuff under the base.”

According to Carter, the \$5,600 Eldon checks a number of boxes on the must-have list – it’s beautiful and chic, it’s practical, and it’s easy to install in different settings and space constraints.

“I love the look of this tub,” said Chris Dreith, one of this year’s judges. “The shelf edge makes it much more comfortable than stand-alone tubs but offers a curved, sophisticated style.”



# "Ooh La La"

# I

**I**N A CUSTOM HOME, FRENCH COUNTRY-INSPIRED DESIGN takes center stage and provides an elegant setting for a family of five, including three teenagers. Located in Bethesda, Md., a Washington D.C. suburb, the new residence features a kitchen, several bathrooms, an ultra-mudroom and a laundry room by Shannon Kadwell, CMKBD, Allied ASID, project designer with Anthony Wilder Design/Build. With the vast possibilities granted by a custom home, the homeowners were able to tailor each space to their needs, while Kadwell incorporated design elements personalized to the family.

Throughout the home, architectural features create the background of this contemporary take on a vintage style. With an open floor plan and plenty of natural light, the home also features a neutral color palette. Kadwell focused on making sure the kitchen, bathrooms and workspaces flowed together seamlessly by using key elements that coordinated with the architecture in the other rooms. The dark wood of the beams in the family room were picked up on columns and windows in many rooms in the home, including the kitchen. Mixed metals like bronze, brass, chrome and brushed nickel were incorporated throughout the entire house.

**LEFT** A spacious island with a durable countertop in the center of the kitchen provides flexibility for the busy family. Above, pendants add charm with bronze and antique brass accents.

**RIGHT** The homeowners' favorite feature, the family room fireplace, can be seen through the kitchen's arched doorway and is mimicked in the slope of the custom range hood.





## THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF NEW CONSTRUCTION

"There are always challenges in designing a new home," said Sean Mullin, AIA, project architect and director of design with Anthony Wilder Design/Build. Although the architecture and design team did not have to worry about pre-existing conditions or finishes and were working with a blank slate, the challenge came from the home's size pushing against allowable lot coverage.

Zoning regulations and height issues also had to be handled. In this home, the attic offers livable space and provides the eldest child a somewhat independent suite comprising a bedroom, bathroom and sitting area. Layering the home's layout reduced the overall impact to the street view and maintained sensitivity to the neighborhood.

## TYING THE KITCHEN TO THE HOME

A focal point of the four-story, 5,171-sq.-ft. house, the kitchen features large entrances to the family room and dining area, which allow the space to feel open and airy. The clients asked not to have any wasted space, so working with a modest 210 square feet, Kadwell carefully created zones in the kitchen, which she said is efficient and works well for the family.

The workhorse island provides the busy family with the best function and day-to-day living. Many of the home's rooms are visible from this island, making it ideal for entertaining. Adjacent to the kitchen, a large pantry increases storage and connects to the mudroom.

"This kitchen has many unique features and elegant shapes within its footprint," said Kadwell, adding that one of which is the custom range hood. "We had a fine furniture maker expertly bend wood to create the graceful slope of the hood, which mimics the family room fireplace."

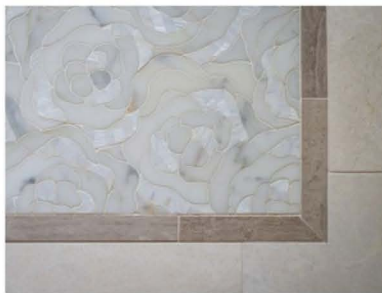
The arched opening to the living room offers a direct view of the custom stucco, French country-inspired grand fireplace, which ties the rooms together and is one of the homeowners' favorite features. The furniture look was carried to the pass-through base cabinets, which feature furniture feet.

"I love how the kitchen has visual control over a number of spaces in the house," said Mullin.

The perimeter cabinets are white, while the island reverses the scheme with copper black cabinets and an organic white surface. The contrast provides interest and variation in the space and allows details like the various metals to emerge, according to Kadwell. The palette selection allows the island to coordinate with the remainder of the house, as well as command attention as it stands out from the perimeter cabinets.

Above the island, round globe pendants pick up the curves within the arched openings and curved wall corners. The brass and black reflect the cabinet hardware finishes and dark trim of the windows. Another metallic accent appears in the herringbone pattern, Calacatta gold backsplash, which features warm gold veining amidst cooler tones of gray.

"Mixing metals gives you some visual interest so you stop and pay more attention," said Kadwell, who admits that not everyone is brave enough to do so. "The client was actually open to mixing them. She was a lot of fun to work with."



## A MASTER RETREAT

Kadwell brought the understated elegance of the kitchen into the design of the master bathroom. With 158 square feet, the bathroom has an open floor plan where each space also feels private thanks to features like a cutout wall, corner shower placement and a water closet.

"A lot of [the design] is according to the clients' needs and how they wanted to use the space," said Kadwell.

They requested a bathing area separated from the shower and asked for an opulent feel. A large focal window lets in ample natural light, and higher ceilings provide a sense of openness. A freestanding tub sits under the window across from the custom frameless shower. The double vanity was paired with concealed medicine cabinets, which offer hidden storage. The bathroom's elegance is completed with a decorative mosaic along the floor.

"The inspiration for the inlay was a tile rug in the bathroom," said Kadwell, who added that mother of pearl and white marble designed in a chrysanthemum pattern give the room sparkle.

**TOP** In the master bathroom, the large window above the tub serves as a focal point from all areas of the room.

**ABOVE, INSET** Inspired by a chrysanthemum, the master bathroom floor mosaic features inlays of mother of pearl and white marble.

**BELOW** One of the daughters helped select colors for her bathroom, choosing to add her favorite blue in two applications.





## PERSONALIZED SPACES

The additional bathrooms maintain the calm, natural look of the home. Yet in one, Kadwell added a bright blue glass tile in the shower and a matching painted feature wall behind the vanity.

“The color is inspired by the homeowners’ daughter’s favorite shade of blue,” she said. “The daughter helped select the tile.”

Otherwise, this bathroom maintains the understated nature of the home with a white vanity topped with Corian. Lucite pulls keep the space fresh and youthful.

The attic bathroom catered to another child’s tastes with porcelain wood-look tile on the floor and the shower wall.

“They wanted something that was warm toned and still had a contemporary feel to it,” said Kadwell.

To achieve this mix, she combined the earth-hued tile with high-tech elements like an LED-lit mirror and an all-in-one showerhead from Hansgrohe.

For both of these bathrooms, Kadwell selected a custom frameless glass shower door with polished chrome hardware, while the third child’s bathroom honors the art of relaxation with a 60-in. soaking tub in white.

## PRACTICAL SPACES

The home’s mudroom and laundry room deliver organization and workable space for the busy family of five. The mudroom, which opens to the foyer and the large kitchen pantry, features a variety of useful elements.

“The first floor is really designed around the mudroom,” said Mullin, who explained that it is larger than mudrooms in most homes and serves as command central.



**ABOVE** An LED-lit mirror adds high-tech to an attic bathroom and contrasts with the natural appearance of the wood-look porcelain tile floor and shower wall.

**RIGHT** The mudroom serves as the home’s command central with a desk area, storage, coat closet and even a beverage fridge for grabbing drinks on the way out the door.

**BELOW** The high-gloss orange pendant light in the laundry room adds a pop of fun to a practical space.



## SOURCES

**DESIGN/BUILD TEAM:** Shannon Kadwell, CMKBD, Allied ASID & Sean Mullin, AIA, with Anthony Wilder Design/Build

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** John Cole Photography

## KITCHEN

**CABINETS & HOOD:** Forest Hill Kitchen & Bath;

**FAUCETS:** Newport Brass;

**HOOD INSERT:** Zephyr;

**ISLAND PENDANTS:** Visual Comfort; **RANGE, COOKTOP & MICROWAVE:**

**DRAWER:** Wolf;

**REFRIGERATOR:** Sub-Zero;

**REFRIGERATOR PULL:** Amerock; **SINKS:** Mirabelle & Signature Hardware

## MASTER BATHROOM

**CEILING LIGHT:** Regina;

**COUNTERTOP:** Cambria;

**FAUCETS & SHOWERHEAD:**

Kallista; **SCONCES:**

Sonneman; **SINKS:** Kohler;

**TUB:** MTI

## SECONDARY BATHROOMS

**ACCESSORIES:** Ginger;

**COUNTERTOPS:** Corian;

**HARDWARE:** Atlas Homewares; **MIRRORS:**

Civis USA; **SHOWERHEADS:**

Hansgrohe; **SHOWERS:**

Custom; **TOILETS:** Toto

## MUDROOM

**CABINETS:** Elmwood by

Cabico; **COUNTERTOP:**

Samsung Radianz;

**FAUCET:** Grohe;

**HARDWARE &**

**ACCESSORIES:** The

Copper Factory & Pottery

Barn; **PENDANT:** Feiss;

**SINK:** Kohler

## LAUNDRY ROOM

**CEILING LIGHT:** Feiss;

**COUNTERTOPS:** Corian;

**FAUCET:** Grohe;

**HARDWARE:** Atlas

Homewares; **PENDANT:**

Feiss; **SINK:** Elkay; **TILE:**

Architectural Ceramics;

**WASHER & DRYER:**

Electrolux

“The mudroom isn’t your typical mudroom,” agreed Kadwell. “[The homeowners] wanted to incorporate a workspace, storage, beverage fridge, coat closets and cubbies.”

Despite the working nature of the space, she sought to maintain the home’s overall sophisticated design in the mudroom. She accomplished this by keeping the design open and airy with an understated palette. The Elmwood cabinetry from Cabico features Brucedale doors in pumice oyster and is paired with simple antique bronze hardware, which complements the bronze-finished mini pendant.

While in keeping with the upscale décor, the laundry room offers hints at the whimsical in an otherwise utilitarian space, such as light pendants in high-gloss orange and steam punk-inspired hardware.

Kadwell maximized storage by including a variety of doors and drawers for bulky items and smaller drawers for odds and ends. A front-load washer and dryer pair sits beneath a durable countertop next to a stainless steel sink and faucet. Porcelain tile flooring in walnut completes the room’s practicality.

With its neutral color palette and eye-catching accents, the laundry room, like the rest of the home, speaks of refined simplicity. ●