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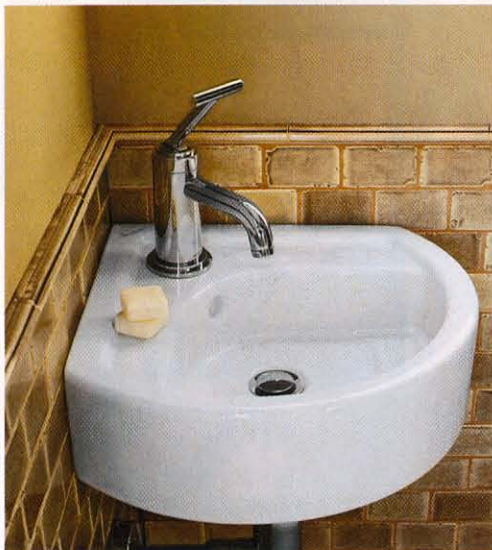
# what's hot // baths

WHAT'S NEW AND NOTEWORTHY FOR BATHS WRITTEN BY KATIE KRETSCHMER



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## Room for All

ONE BATHROOM CAN SERVE THE WHOLE FAMILY IN STYLE

WRITTEN BY JODY GARLOCK

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB KAROSIS

Not every home has multiple baths, so a single bathroom must be designed to meet the needs of all who use it. Here are some tips to help make it work beautifully.

**ABOVE:** Multiple mirrors or one big one spanning a vanity wall will ease the morning rush by allowing several people to get ready for their day at one time. A swing-arm magnifying mirror offers even more flexibility.

**>>layout** Two sinks is a must in a shared family bathroom. An expansive countertop will leave lots of room for grooming essentials (especially important if your family includes teenagers). Vanities with lots of drawers, a large tub and a separate shower or a traditional tub/shower combo works well for most families. "Identify specific zones," says Rob Whitten of Whitten Architects, Portland, Maine, who designed this bathroom with his colleague, designer Leah Muliero. "Create a zone for mirror, sinks and medicine chests, a toilet area, shower area and tub area."

**RIGHT:** A separate water closet for the toilet, plus tub, shower and vanity areas, allow more people to use the room at one time. A niche in a shower tidies up a heavy-use space; a showerhead on a sliding bar can be adjusted for various heights.

**BELOW RIGHT:** Multiple lighting options, including downlights, pendants, sconces and natural light, let one person apply makeup while another takes a bath.



**>>storage** Skip the towel bar in favor of space-saving hooks—one for each family member. Be sure to install some low enough for kids to reach. Use bins and baskets to corral everything from toys to toiletries. “We designed a common shared space in the middle of this vanity, which is flanked by four drawers and two cabinets,” explains Muliero. Perfect for two adults and two kids!

**>>finishes** “Durability is key,” says Whitten. He chose Carrara marble counters, glass tiles, nickel-plated fixtures and a ceramic toilet to hold up under heavy use. Painted wood boarding on the walls instead of plaster or drywall allows the surfaces to take a beating.

**>>color** When selecting tile, choose neutral tones to make the bathroom feel larger (this will also give you a canvas to accessorize with colorful accents as your family’s tastes change). The team used Benjamin Moore’s Sea Salt paint color on the walls, white glass tiles behind the sinks and a light-hued Carrara marble on the counter and on the shower walls. “It’s very classic,” says Whitten. “And it will still be in style in 25 or even 50 years.” ■



# Bigger & Better

A kitchen that's bursting at the seams gets a revamp as a larger, more functional space

WRITTEN BY JEANNIE MATTEUCCI

Designer Erinn Valencich, owner of Erinn V Design Group of Los Angeles, spends her days helping clients create beautiful rooms and plan perfect parties—but hosting people in her own galley-style kitchen was not so easy. “I entertain a lot,” she says, “but the kitchen before was claustrophobic and didn’t have a good flow.” To create a better layout that included more counter space and a spot for casual meals, Valencich started by combining the existing room with an adjacent back porch, bumping the space from 150 square feet to a more user-friendly 300 square feet. A mix of cabinet styles, including contemporary square doors painted white near the windows and espresso-stained cabinets



throughout, gives the kitchen a modern look. Frosty white CaesarStone counters make the kitchen extra-bright and happy. “They’re virtually indestructible, so easy and stress-free to use,” says Valencich. The room’s soothing color comes from the brushed-look gray/blue porcelain tile floor and the watery blue glass tile backsplash. As a little splurge, she used more expensive blue, brown and gray glass tiles sparingly to create a border behind the range and add an accent to the breakfast bar area. Valencich is pleased with her results: “Having a kitchen you enjoy using changes everything!”

**before** the renovation, the galley-style kitchen had a south-of-the-border feel with orange and yellow accents and faux-finished cabinets. “The refrigerator was on the back porch and the stove faced into the hallway, so the layout was a challenge for entertaining,” says Valencich.



## in the details

**>>breakfast bar** "I wanted a place for breakfast in the kitchen but also somewhere to entertain," Valencich explains. A center island would have blocked traffic flow and taken up floor space, so she tucked a breakfast bar into one side of the kitchen instead. The bar's design, inspired by a classic Parsons table, accommodates two metal stools that slide under the counter for seating. When visitors come, the breakfast bar doubles as a party station.

**>>lighting** Upgrading the kitchen's lighting scheme was important to Valencich, for both function and beauty. Extra recessed lights and under-cabinet lights illuminate the space at night and make the glass-tile backsplash sparkle. All of the lights—including a hanging pendant over the sink—are on dimmers for flexibility and energy efficiency.

**>>upgraded window** Valencich replaced the aging window over the sink for one with better ventilation. "The old kitchen had a funky garden window that looked dated and didn't let fresh air into the kitchen," she says. The new white-painted vinyl slider with beveled glass "adds an elegant touch" while pulling more air into the room. ■

**ABOVE:** Stainless pro-style appliances toughen up the more delicate-looking spa blue tiles.

**RIGHT:** Pricey accent tiles were added selectively to create a focal point without exceeding the budget.

**FAR RIGHT:** Lucite hardware is a modern update for the recessed-panel cabinets. The thick white countertop in the breakfast bar/buffet area looks like a piece of furniture and eases into the adjacent dining room.



# Under the Eaves

An unused attic became the perfect spot to create a sumptuous master bathroom

WRITTEN BY JEANNIE MATTEUCCI

No strangers to remodeling, Izzy Semrau and her husband, Mike, knew it would be possible to create an inviting master bath in the attic of their Atlanta Craftsman-style bungalow. "When we purchased the house, there was no upstairs," says Izzy. Their wish list: a shower large enough for two, a separate alcove for a



**before** The unfinished attic included three windows that looked out to the front of the house. The owners incorporated them into the design of the new master bathroom.



Ten-foot-high ceilings, wainscoting and crisp white trim give this bathroom a turn-of-the-century feel, but it also includes plenty of design details that make it all about modern comfort and efficiency.





PHOTOGRAPHS: LAUREN RUBENSTEIN; STYLING: LISA MOWRY

**RIGHT:** The large open shower indulges two people at once with oversize rain showerheads in a dark bronze finish to match the tub and sink faucets.

deep soaking tub, and a vanity with two sinks. To help them reach their goals, Izzy and Mike teamed with designer Lisa Grisham of the Atlanta-based firm Home ReBuilders. The final scheme includes an open vanity with a richly patterned marble called Emperor Dark that was used for both the countertop and backsplash. It's topped with two white vessel sinks and a pair of oval mirrors in a dark bronze finish. An open shelf below—along with built-in niches and two medicine cabinets by each sink—offers easy-access storage. “I like the openness of the vanity,” says Izzy. “I don’t like to wonder what’s in the cupboard.” A deep soaking tub surrounded by windows has a faucet and hardware with an English bronze finish that has a stately appeal. “The position of the bathtub creates a strong focal point when you enter the space,” says Grisham.



The bathroom’s oversize shower is fitted with earth-toned limestone tiles, dual rain showerheads, glass doors and a handy acrylic chair. The floor features the same limestone tiles in a smaller size, laid diagonally for visual interest. Other final details—like the rich dark wood floor with a low-luster seal—give this shared space personality without sacrificing comfort. “We created a room with a clean, simple feel that’s cozy and can be used by two people at once,” says Izzy.

## in the details

**>>curtains** Though sheers were added over the windows, Izzy decided to use heavy cotton/linen white curtains with white fringe tiebacks to separate the tub alcove from the rest of the bath. “The curtains make the tub area its own room, so to speak,” says Izzy. “They make that whole area feel less cold.”

**>>lighting** An elegant chandelier brings a surprising element to the space, juxtaposed with more contemporary fixtures used over the two sinks for task lighting. “I think lighting is a component of design a lot of people overlook, but it can make a huge difference in a room—it can take it from being just kind of nice to something special,” says Grisham.

**>>wall color** Sherwin-Williams’ Chateau Brown paint was chosen for the bathroom walls, inspired by the background of a wallpaper used in the adjacent master bedroom. “The rich chocolate brown is soothing and warm, but it’s also a vibrant color that has some life to it,” says Izzy. Contrasting white trim accentuates the architectural detailing in the room. ■

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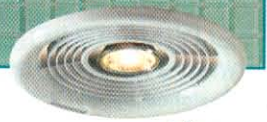
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### WHAT'S MY STYLE?/Page 28:

**Designed by** Ann Krsul Architecture LLC.  
**Construction**, Steven Meyer Construction.  
**Wall and ceiling paint**, Chantilly Lace, Benjamin Moore. **Windows**, Midwest Glass & Mirror. **Pendant lights**, Lightology. **Recessed lighting**, RSA Lighting. **Cabinetry**, Valcucine North America. **Flooring**, Ann Sacks. **Countertops**, Stone Source. **Faucet**, Dornbracht. **Sink**, Franke. **Pottery**, for similar, Ipso Facto Antiques and Marco Polo Antiques. **Chairs**, Design Within Reach. **Page 29: Architect/contractor**, John Witt, Witt Construction. **Kitchen designer**, Mary Alyce Evans, Kitchen Dimensions. **Cabinets**, Cuisines Laurier. **Cooktop, oven, range and microwave**, Viking. **Range hood**, Vent-a-Hood. **Refrigerator**, Sub-Zero. **Sinks**, Manor House, Franke. **Faucets**, Kohler. **Dishwasher**, Bosch. **Hardware**, Top Knobs. **Runner**, Dash & Albert. **Wall paint**, Interactive Cream, Sherwin-Williams. **Page 30: Contractor**, John Hershey & Son. **Cabinetry**, Architectural Woodworking Associates. **Counter surfacing**, Marble Source. **Cooktop, oven, range and hood**, Viking. **Dishwasher**, Bosch. **Dishwasher drawer**, Fisher & Paykel. **Refrigerator**, KitchenAid. **Faucets**, Chicago Faucets. **Pendant Lights**, Rejuvenation. **Recessed lighting**, W.A.C. Lighting. **Door hardware**, Architectural Antiques. **Paint**, Benjamin Moore. **Page 32: Architects**, Jean Verbridge and Thaddeus Siemasko, Siemasko+Verbridge. **Cabinets**, Dean W. Richards Custom Woodworking. **Tile consultation**, Kirstin Powers; **handmade custom tile**, Trikeenan Tileworks. **Plumbing fixtures**, Salem Plumbing Supply. **Plumbing installation**, Chris Gangi, Gangi Plumbing. **Page 33: Designer**, Tineke Triggs, Artistic Designs for Living. **Sinks**, Lacava. **Rainshower head**, Hansgrohe. **Shelves and toilet paper holder**, Ginger. **Custom vanity and medicine cabinets**, JR's Woodworks. **Faucets and shower fixtures**, Ann Sacks One. **Glass countertop**, Paige Glass. **Sconces**, Illuminating Experiences Elf 4, Bay Lighting & Design. **Wall tile**, Luxor Gray Honed, **Tile detail in shower**, Bianco Carrara mini brick, and **Floor tile**, Bianco Carrara hexagons, all from Ann Sacks.

**WHERE FORM MEETS FUNCTION/ Pages 36–38: Designer**, Christopher Peacock. **Cabinetry**, Scullery Collection, and **Paint**, Scullery White, Christopher

Peacock. **Pot rack**, Ann Morris Antiques. **Countertops**, New England Stone. **Range**, Aga Ranges. **Pendant lights (in dining room)**, Remains Lighting. **Chairs**, Peacock & Beale.

### ROOM FOR ALL/Pages 40–41:

**Project architect**, Leah Muliero Lipmann, and **Principal**, Rob Whitten, Whitten Architects. **Construction manager**, Steve Berger, and **Project supervisor**, Steve Earle, Boothbay Homebuilders. **Wall paint**, Sea Salt, Sherwin-Williams. **Ceiling and trim paint**, White Dove, Benjamin Moore. **Windows**, Marvin. **Door**, Simpson. **Ceiling light and sconces**, Landmark Lighting. **Countertop marble**, Morningstar Marble & Granite. **Tile**, Dal-Tile. **Showerhead, sink and faucet**, Grohe. **Tub and faucet**, BainUltra. **Shower wall tile**, Morningstar Marble & Granite. **Floor tile**, The Five Elements. **Toilet**, Toto. **Flooring**, B&L Hardwood Flooring. **Medicine cabinet**, Rejuvenation. **Wall mirror**, Seattle Luxe.

### UNDER THE EAVES/Pages 42–43:

**Architect**, Mike O'Keefe, and **designer**, Lisa Grisham, Home ReBuilders. **Wall paint**, Chateau Brown, Sherwin-Williams. **Wainscoting paint**, White Dove, and **cabinet paint**, Maryville Brown, both Benjamin Moore. **Sinks**, Toto. **Bathtub**, Sunrise Specialty. **Shower and sink fixtures**, Rohl. **Mirrors (above sinks)**, Restoration Hardware. **Clear vase (between sinks)**, Ikea. **Chandelier**, Home Depot. **Curtain (in window)**, Bed Bath & Beyond. **Curtain (around tub)**, Ikea.

### BIGGER & BETTER/Pages 44–45:

**Designer**, Erinn Valencich, Erinn V Design Group. **Countertop**, CaesarStone. **Backsplash and detail band**, Ann Sacks. **Stools**, La Palma. **Cabinet pulls**, Atlas Homewares. **Vase (holding flowers) and tray**, Pottery Barn. **Floor**, Artistic Tile. **Appliances**, Electrolux. **Sink and faucet**, Kohler.

### CROWD CONTROL/Pages 52–57: Bar stools

, Pottery Barn. **Table**, Nichols & Stone. **Cookie jars and utensil holder**, Williams-Sonoma.

### CLASSIC REVIVAL/Pages 58–63:

**Coffee machine and oils**, Sur la Table. **Trays and tea set**, Luminaire.

### MODERN EDGE/Pages 88–89: Sink

, Ripples Kitchen & Bath. **Tile**, Olympia Tile & Stone. **Faucets**, The Elegant Bath Gallery. **Mirror**, MX Glass and Mirror. **Pendant light**, Norburn Lighting & Bath Centre. **Shower enclosure**, Glass World.

## SOURCES

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aga-ranges.com

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**Ann Krsul Architecture**  
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