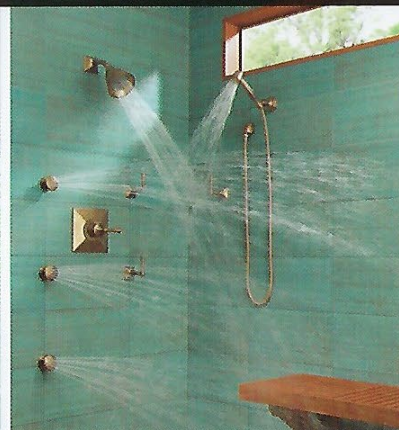


Taunton's

NEW

Bathroom

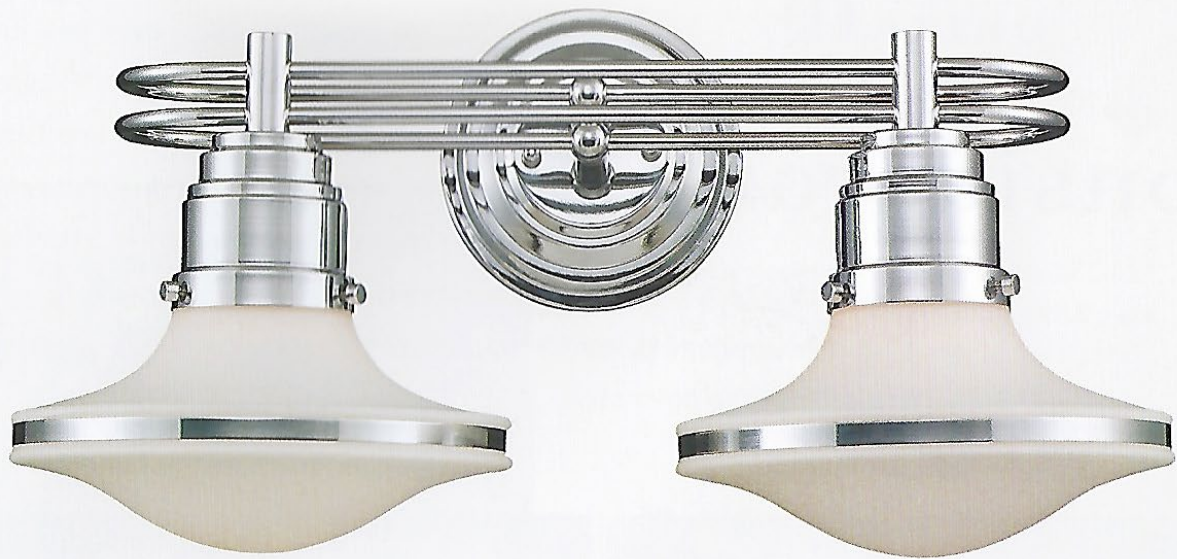
I D E A B O O K



Style
Lighting
Storage
Fixtures



JAMIE GOLD

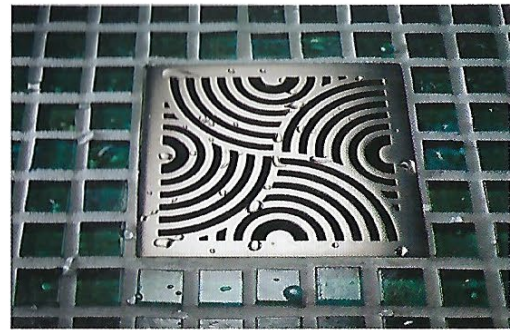


A new LED bath bar adds energy efficiency and midcentury modern style to the bathroom. Both are timely updates that improve this space.



A new widespread faucet will fit into the holes in the existing countertop, or into a new predrilled quartz top if it's being replaced. It will also use less water, while updating the room's style.

New cabinet knobs are the easiest and fastest change you can make to a room. To keep a consistent look, make sure your new knobs coordinate with your faucets.



TOP Shower drains can now serve a decorative role as well as a functional one. They come in different sizes, shapes, finishes, and patterns to enhance the design of the space in a way the original round disc with holes never could.

ABOVE Sometimes you don't want to see the drain at all. New linear tile-in drains capture water around their metal edges, with surfaces that blend into the surrounding shower floor. They may also reduce hair clogs and a trip hazard over a more open drain type.

m o r e a b o u t . . .

SHOWER DRAINS

Shower drains used to be pretty basic: A small round metal plate with holes to allow water to leave the shower was standard for decades. Newer options include linear drains that are either decorative metal or filled in with tile that matches the floor. These have dramatically enhanced the appearance of the shower space. Some remodeler set flooring bases now even come with more decorative drain options.

Linear drains have also increased drain placement possibilities when a shower is being completely redone.

Often they're placed at the entry to a new barrier-free shower. Another popular spot is at the base of an angled bench, so that the drain doesn't have to be stepped on at all.

The newest drains sit at the bottom of a shower wall, rather than in the floor. Be conscious of the fact that clear communication between you, your plumbing contractor, and building inspector are essential to the successful completion of your shower project when considering new-to-market innovations.

cabinetry hardware

●●● ANY CABINETS WITH DOORS AND DRAWERS are going to have hinges and glides. Soft-close hinges and drawer glides that were once available only on semicustom or custom cabinets are now increasingly

available on more affordable stock vanities. So are adjustable hinges that make a door easier to align at installation and over time by the homeowner. Vanity drawers don't typically need to hold the same weight as a kitchen drawer full of silverware, so heavy-duty glides are not required. You are still going to want smooth motion and full extension for maximum convenience.

In addition to this functional hardware, your cabinetry might have decorative hardware. These can be knobs, pulls, or both to open doors and drawers. Pulls are typically easier for someone with wet or weaker hands to use, and are considered more aging-in-place friendly. Decorative hardware is like jewelry for your bathroom and should be chosen to complement the other design elements in the room, like your faucets and towel bars.

Contemporary cabinets might have integral pulls that blend with the door and drawer fronts. They might have no decorative hardware at all, but use hidden push latches or electronically driven openers. These are harder on the finish, though, and may create more wear and tear on the cabinet fronts in the long run. They will also create more fingerprints on gloss finishes.

Cabinet hardware is the final word on the style you've defined for the bathroom. It can communicate your preference for traditional, transitional, eclectic, or contemporary in a single piece.



Many modern bathrooms are doing away with hardware altogether in favor of integral pulls. Some will have metal edging, while others just blend into the drawers for a minimalist look. They offer the added benefit of not catching on your clothing as you lean against the vanity.



ABOVE Cabinet hardware, such as drawer handles, can coordinate with other elements in the room, like faucets, towel bars, and robe hooks. Both can share shapes or finishes to create a pulled-together look.

LEFT Cabinet hardware is your bathroom's jewelry, finishing off the space with polish and flair. If you've chosen an eclectic style—or just want to add an eclectic element—knobs and pulls can put your unique stamp on the space.

b a t h r o o m r e d o & r e u s e

UPDATE EXISTING CABINETRY FINISHES FOR A NEW LOOK

ADD NEW HARDWARE

Fresh hardware can give a vanity an instant update. If you're not planning to refinish or reface, look for new pieces that will fit into or cover the existing hole spreads. (Pulls are sold with the inches or centimeters between the center of each post hole noted.) Choose new hardware to complement the lines and finishes of your faucets and installed accessories for a pulled-together look.

REFINISH IT

Another simple way to refresh a vanity is to refinish it. Bring a door to your local paint store to discuss ways to remove or cover the old paint or stain, and the best formulation for your bathroom. You can also add decorative elements like toekick

valances, onlays, or legs at that point, ideally of the same material as the vanity if you're staining them.

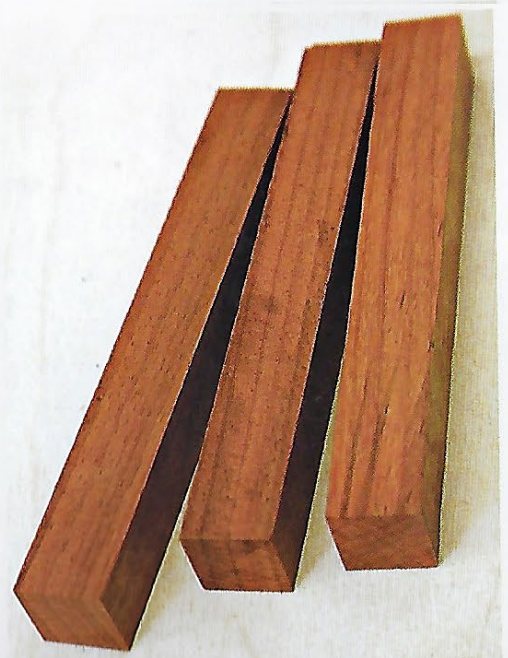
Plug the holes where the original handles or knobs were placed if you want to change hardware configurations. Then give your vanity an entirely new look with a coat of paint or stain that complements the floor and countertop finishes.

REFACE IT

If you don't like the style of the doors and drawer fronts on your vanity, painting or staining them won't help. But refacing will. A professional refacing service or a DIY kit will provide a new veneer to cover any exposed sides, edges, or face frame components. It will also include matching doors and drawer fronts in your preferred new style and possibly decorative details to enhance the toekick or exposed side panels.



ABOVE New cabinet pulls can dress up the drawer fronts, be easier to grip with wet hands, and honor the traditional elements in the room. Their two-toned silver and black finish will also complement both the faucets and lights, which currently have no visual tie-in.



ABOVE The square legs on the outsides of the vanity add a delightful Arts and Crafts touch to its look, and would go even further in enhancing its style with complementary legs on the opposite sides. These can be constructed fairly easily from a well-matched wood and secured to the cabinet by a carpenter before painting.

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p. 60: design: Realonda/Tile of Spain Company/www.realonda.com/en

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p. 63: California Faucets (top); LINKASINK/www.linkasink.com (bottom left); Top Knobs/TopKnobs.com (bottom right)

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p. 69: Mark Lohman, design: HAEFELE DESIGN

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p. 130: bath by Knockknock kitchen and bath design/www.knockknocksite.com

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