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duPont REGISTRY™

Luxury Living in Tampa Bay



**Home Design
and Furnishings**



Now and Zen:
 This Japanese inspired free-standing tub, "Yume", by MTI Whirlpools had a generous (35.5 inch) depth for a deep bathing experience. It can be outfitted as a still-water soaker or air bath. Suggested retail price from \$4,940 for soak bath to \$8,583 for air bath. Available at Ferguson/Castle. www.mti-whirlpools.com

Pamper Power: Riva™ 6 freestanding tub from Jacuzzi has very clean styling and a seamless wrap-around skirt. The optional decorative wood ring and legs shown in red makes this a standout whether a soaker or (air bath) configuration (72 x 42 X 20.5 inches). Suggested retail price in Pure Air® is \$8,099. Available from Ferguson/Castle. www.jacuzzi.com



Mitchell Levey of Mitchell Keith Tile and Bath Collections in Tampa asks his clients when designing a bath project the following questions: "Who is going to use this tub? How are you going to use it? How will you enter and exit the tub? The size of the bather may determine the length of the tub. If you are soaking, think of materials that hold in the heat of the water, not lose it." And consider the view, adds Levey, "Where the water comes in and out should agree with the position of the bather."

Jennifer Skalko, Showroom Consultant, Ferguson/Castle in Tampa, counsels to make sure the tub will fit the space. Bathtub sizes can range from 40 to 85 inches in

length and 12 to 32 inches in depth. Freestanding tubs will take up more space and cost more than a built-in version. If the tub is part of a remodel, it will have to navigate hallways or doors or come through a window opening, as a worse case scenario. Also think of the weight of the tub when full of water, so check your home's framing for adequate support.

"If space is an issue, new drop-in or undermount baths can have the same luxurious look as freestanding ones when encased in sexy tile, glossy mosaics or even colored glass," suggests Marla Davidson of Marla Davidson Tile and Stone in Tampa. Cladding is the eye-catching