

A Kitchen and Bath Showcase

One Home, Two Distinct Baths



photo by michael rixon

This sculptural basalt sink makes a small, curved powder room located under a stairwell very cool.

Tucked behind a sweeping, curved staircase, this powder room is architecturally compelling. But, for years, a noisy fan, old fixtures and dark, vertically striped wallpaper made the room unappealing.

The new design by kitchen and bath designer Susan Crupi of David R. Crupi, LLC, in Hollis embraces the room's dramatic curve. Wide horizontal bands of tile and paint visually widen the room. The tile, made from lightly polished Picasso marble, was meticulously cut into two-inch-by-four-inch tiles and installed in a brick pattern. Marble molding defines a band of tumbled marble mosaic. A recessed soap niche creates further visual interest.

The centerpiece of this room is the sink and its wave pedestal. Carved from solid basalt stone, the sink and pedestal are "functional sculpture." Even water from the Sigma faucet flows in a ribbon to complement the pairing. Contemporary art stands out on the blue-gray wall. To accommodate the curve, the mirror pivots and forged iron pendants are suspended from the ceiling. These features provide style, function and task lighting.

The master bath

For the same homeowners, the original master bath didn't work. The lack of storage left toiletries cluttering the counter, while an unused whirlpool dwarfed a small shower. Further, a face-off between the shower and toilet resulted in a complete lack of privacy. Crupi methodically addressed these issues.

A built-in divider now adds convenient shelving while concealing the dual-flush toilet. Art-deco lights illuminate dual-mirrored medicine cabinets that come equipped with defoggers, nightlights and electrical outlets. These cabinets ensure that toiletries and electronics, such as toothbrushes and razors, no longer clutter the countertop. A recessed TV lets the homeowners watch the news while grooming.

A new air-jetted tub has heated backrests and raised seats, and delivers an all-encompassing massage for two. A matte-finished tile mosaic forms the tub and shower bench skirts, and is repeated in a larger format on the shower floor. The frameless glass enclosure ensures that the spacious new shower doesn't overwhelm the room. Porcelain wall and floor tiles have the look of natural travertine but are low-maintenance. Radiant in-floor heat and a towel warmer provide the ultimate luxury experience.

A strategically placed window affords privacy and infuses the room with natural light. Soft blue-gray paint sets off elements of black, white and chrome, creating a spa-like feel.

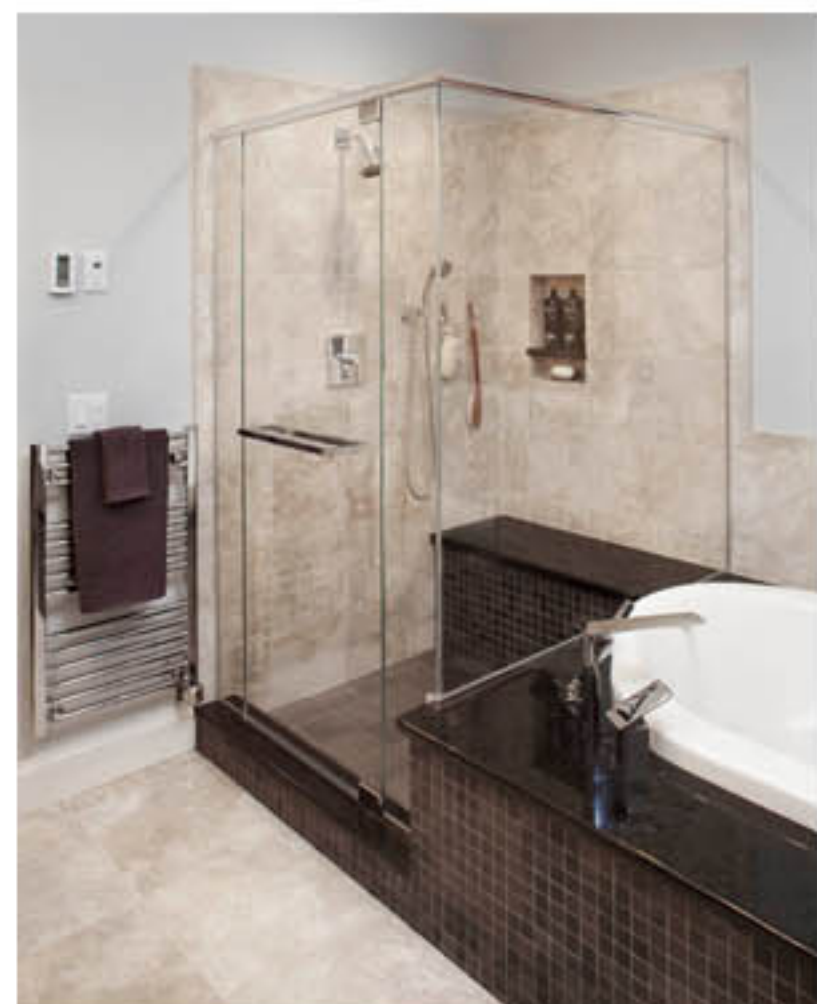


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Fresh color combinations of black, taupe, blue gray and ochre heightened by natural light enliven this master bath.