

EXCLUSIVE: 132 TOP STYLE AND FUNCTION TIPS FROM THE PROS

Woman's Day Innovation Series

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KITCHENS

& Baths

PLANNING GUIDE

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35 MONEY-SAVING REMODELING TRICKS

BEST BUYS IN:

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The commode is one of two of the original elements in the remodeled bath. The tub, below right and opposite, is the other. See Buying Guide for details.

PHOTOGRAPHS: MELABEE MILLER
DESIGN: BACARELLA, MARTIN INTERIORS



A Romantic Vision

In revitalizing this bathroom in a 1937 house, designers Lisa Martin and Sally Bacarella, of Bacarella, Martin Interiors in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, decided to step back in time rather than forward. Using a few salvaged

and antique pieces, opulent fabrics and weathered materials, the bath appears to be part of a Victorian country home that has been gently treated to preserve its style.

To achieve this sleight of hand, the

designers demolished the room down to its bones, retaining only the generous porcelain tub and commode. Floors of honed limestone accented with tiny insets of the polished stone establish the timeless look. An equally weathered antique pine chest became a vanity, thanks to an old-looking—but new—hand-painted sink and old-style faucets. Bacarella and Martin installed a coffered ceiling, then had a relief-patterned wallpaper installed between beams to mimic a tin ceiling.

But it is the lush fabrics that really establish the room's turn-of-the-century ambience. Three chintzes of burnished gold and other autumn hues are lavishly trimmed for the shower curtain. At the window, another tea-stained fabric is layered over sheers.

To complete the trip back in time, Bacarella and Martin paid careful attention to accessories. A gilt oval mirror echoes the shape of the sink, and its finish ties it to the faux bamboo side chair. The golden gleam is repeated in the faucet, bath tray and light fixture, and even in a detail as tiny as the tassel on the vanity door.

—O.B.B.



Before



design points

1. Glass shelves enclose the tub without blocking garden views.
2. Limestone floor matches tub deck and shower surround for a continuous line that visually expands the space.
3. Double bullnose edging on limestone counter adds a custom touch.
4. Angled glass shower echoes shapes of the tub deck and vanity.

style

function

A. Limestone is smooth but has enough texture to make a floor slip-resistant. **B.** Vanity provides commodious storage. **C.** Spa's fittings adhere to safety guidelines: There is no need to bend over the hot tub to turn the water off.

spa tub, both sheathed in rosy limestone, allow a choice of luxurious bathing experiences. Faux-painted walls in the same tone extend the contemplative palette. —O.B.B.



design points

1. The antique pine chest-turned-vanity shows off new patinated hardware. 2. An improvised towel rack is the remains of an iron bedstead. 3. Muted plaid wallcovering plays off against geometric designs in the 4. limestone floor. 5. The faded Oriental rug provides color-coordinated comfort underfoot. 6. Four different chintz fabrics are united by color. 7. Mexican tile tub wall echoes floor's geometric pattern.

function

A. Ceiling fans and an exhaust system whisk away steam and moisture. B. A portable tub valet is handy when a ledge for bathing essentials is absent. C. Original porcelain tub and commode are a generous size.



