

Lavishly APPOINTED

In Vancouver designer Andrea Johnson's bathroom, graphic flooring, soft accents, warm metals and curved lines make for a space that's full of class and sass.

TEXT NANCY WON | PHOTOGRAPHY TRACEY AYTON

“

BATHROOMS CAN OFTEN BE SO STARK AND UTILITARIAN. I LOVE THE IDEA OF ADDING EXTRA DECORATIVE ELEMENTS TO MAKE THEM FEEL MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN FUNCTIONAL.”



f

or most people, bathroom style is all about the tubs, the taps and the tiles, but Vancouver designer Andrea Johnson prefers to think outside the big bath stores. “Bathrooms can often be so stark and utilitarian,” she says. “Although they need to serve a purpose, I love the idea of adding extra decorative elements to make them feel more beautiful than functional,” she says. So when it came time to renovate her own master ensuite last summer, Andrea’s inspiration went beyond the clichéd spa look. “I wanted it to feel like an extension of my bedroom,” she says.

One of the key design elements that takes the space from banal bathroom to luxe retreat is the herringbone-patterned floor. “I love this tile because it looks a bit like wood,” says Andrea. “As soon as I saw it, I knew I wanted to lay it in a herringbone pattern. It’s a great way to customize a basic tile and make it look more expensive.” Soft accents like the drapery (“The bay window

was just calling out for something!”) and the graphic rug (“It’s the perfect piece to bring colour and pattern into the room, as well as a touch of warmth”) add to the boudoir charm.

For a little glamour, Andrea included warm metals throughout in the vanity hardware, light fixtures and side table. She also incorporated curved lines, as seen in the bathtub, sconces and mirrors, to soften the space.

“You’re looking at a lot of hard surfaces in a bathroom, so bringing in curves gives it a feminine quality,” she says. The result: a master bath that you’d never want to leave.

ABOVE Designer Andrea Johnson incorporated decorative elements, such as drapery, a gold-framed side table, a graphic rug and artwork, to elevate her master bathroom from utilitarian to sophisticated sanctuary.

DESIGN, Andrea Johnson Design, andreajohnson-design.com; **YOGA STRETCH P5171-24 WALL PAINT,** Para Paints; **BATHTUB,** The Home Depot; **SIDE TABLE,** Elite; **DRAPERY,** IKEA; **FLOOR TILES,** Ames Tile & Stone.



LEFT "I used basic white subway tiles for the shower walls but added a Ming green marble accent to give it a special feel," says Andrea. "It's an inexpensive way to bring in some colour and pattern."

White subway **SHOWER TILES**, Ames Tile & Stone; Ming green marble **SHOWER TILES**, Mission Stone & Tile; **SHOWER FIXTURES**, American Standard.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

ABOVE Instead of splurging on a custom vanity, Andrea ordered this standard big box version online and replaced the existing hardware with antique-look brass handles for a one-of-a-kind feel.

VANITY, Studio Bath; **VANITY HARDWARE**, Lee Valley Tools; **MIRRORS**, Ballard Designs; **SCONCE**, Visual Comfort & Co.; **Undertow ARTWORK**, Clare Elsaesser; **FAUCETS**, American Standard.