
Contemporary Bathroom Design:

*Tips, tutorials, and
how-tos for the
hottest design trends*



Contents

- ▶ **Trends:** *7 Reasons We Love Contemporary Bathroom Design*
- ▶ **Tips:** *7 ½ Crystal-Cool Ways to Use Glass in a Contemporary Bathroom*
- ▶ **Tutorials:** *The Pros and Cons of Wall Hung Floating Vanities You Need to Know*
- ▶ **How-Tos:** *6 Ideas to Rock a Small Minimalist Bathroom Design (Without Breaking the Bank)*

Trends

7 Reasons to Love Contemporary Bathroom Design



If your bathroom is stuck in a 1990's 'builders-grade' time-warp we get it, and we see it daily looking at bathroom remodeling jobs. A pitted bright brass 3' x 3' stand-up shower with flimsy doors. This shower feels like an old-fashioned phone booth. It stands next to a mega-sized drop-in Jacuzzi tub—a huge, space-wasting, dust-collecting monster you never even use anymore. The stained oak double-bowl vanity with raised paneled doors really looks dated, too.

Sure, this bathroom WAS hot.... back in the day. You've concluded its time to reinvent this behind-the-times space.

You're not only looking for an updated bathroom design style which you'll love using today, but one which will live well for many 'tomorrows' to come. What design style can that be? I would argue that bathroom design style is contemporary.

Let's look at 7 reasons my team and I love contemporary bathroom design—and why we believe you will, too.

1 Contemporary bathroom design is sleek and minimalist

When your home was built 20 to 30 years ago, interior design styles and your lifestyle were different. Interiors were filled with ornate carvings, arched windows and stained wood trim. And when you went out for a fancy dinner, you wore a dress or a suit and tie.

Boy, how times have changed.

Today you're running to keep up with the pace of your life. Going out for a fancy dinner doesn't involve a dress or suit and a tie, it's a pair of dress jeans and a nice shirt or blouse. You've done away with many of life's formalities.

Today you need simplicity. You want simplicity. Life is too doggone complex.

In a new bathroom you want a sleek, minimalist look. The last thing you want are nooks and crannies you have to clean like were put into 'fancy' bathroom designs 20 years ago. This is where contemporary design comes in. It's simple, clean and uncluttered. It fits the life you're striving for.

2 Contemporary bathroom design is safe and works for everyone

When people think of contemporary bathroom design, I'll bet the word 'safety' is not first and foremost on their minds. However, one common trait in modern bathrooms are one-level floors between the shower and bathroom. You might wonder why this flat floor feature is used in contemporary bathrooms. Here are a couple of reasons:

- ▶ **You have a small bathroom but want it to look sleek and stylish.** Since one level showers are built at the same level as the bathroom floor, your design is efficient. The space is not 'compartmentalized' (like a 'shower enclosure' which separates the shower from the bathroom).
- ▶ **It's safer.** Without a step-over-curb a contemporary shower base design can be 'universal' (meaning it's works for all ages from Grandparents to Grandkids). The risk of falling is reduced. The space looks sleeker and up-to-date.



3

Contemporary bathroom design is easy to clean

Who loves to clean? If you answered, “I do,” you’re either nuts (I say this in the most respectful way), have too much time on your hands (and knees), or have a tinge of O.C.D. .Most sane people want to get rid of, or at least minimize, cleaning. You’ll be able to do just that when you use a mix of:



- ▶ **Grout-free shower panels.** Choose styles like a Modern Minimalist cracked cement or fun and bright high gloss wall panels. These click, lock and seal laminated shower wall panels, are simple to install. You can dump your tile scrub brush.
- ▶ **Wall-hung vanities.** Floating vanities, while not ‘magically delicious’ (like Lucky Charms) will magically make it simpler for you to clean your bathroom floor. No nasty nooks and crannies around the bottom of a floor-based bathroom vanity to re-caulk or clean ever again.
- ▶ **Wall hung toilets.** Like the wall-hung vanities, wall-hung toilets get rid of cleaning around the bottom edge of your toilet (can you say *yuck?*). They’ll also make your space feel larger.

4

Contemporary bathroom design does more with less

Back in the day, when McMansions and the movie *Wall Street* were popular, the themes were ‘bigger is better’ and ‘greed is good.’ This imploded in 2007–2008. We learned bigger wasn’t better. Huge mortgages can (and did) choke family finances. Greed really isn’t good. Hopefully our parents and churches taught us that. You and I have come to realize simplicity is better. Books like the *Not So Big House* are popular. Once crazy concepts, like tiny homes and container homes, aren’t looking as crazy any more. We are so desperate to declutter our lives we’re glued to the tube watching shows like *Tidying Up* with Marie Kondo. We want and crave a simpler lifestyle.

While shrinking your living space sound simple it’s impossible to do UNLESS you ramp up your efficiency game. And this is exactly where contemporary design excels. You need thoughtful ideas to gain bathroom space if you’re not living in a home with a McMansion mega-bath (and most of us aren’t). Here’s 3 ideas to do more with less:

- ▶ **A wall hung vanity with drawers which works around plumbing pipes.** Smart bathroom planning uses every inch possible.
- ▶ **Shower niches in the wall.** Dead space inside walls doesn’t need to be dead space. Use it for your ‘way-too-many’ (according to your spouse at least) beauty products.
- ▶ **Recessed medicine cabinets.** Use your wall above the vanity for more than a mirror. Go deep and add storage with a recessed medicine cabinet. While it’s not a new idea (and even your Grandma still loves to use hers), it is a smart idea.



5 Contemporary bathroom design is open and airy

Do you love elevators crammed with people? Do you love a crowded bus when you're the 'lucky' person the huge dude who doesn't shower often enough 'picks' to sit next to? Do you love a cramped and dark bathroom where you and your grouchy partner get the pleasure (sarcasm intended) of being 'cheek to cheek' in the morning getting ready?

If you answered no, you're certainly in the majority.

You and I crave personal space: on the elevator, on the bus, in your bathroom. You and I crave light, bright and open spaces. Contemporary bathroom design is all about 'opening up' and 'slimming down' your tight, dark and cramped spaces. Open up your bathroom with a sleek clear glass walk in shower. Make your space feel 'airy' with a solar light tube. It 'makes' light where none existed before.

6 Contemporary bathroom design is smart

Are you a fan of the latest and greatest gadgets (and have the wallet to support your early-adopter ways)? Do you want a bathroom which can 'take you away Calgone? Smart technology in contemporary bathrooms is the intelligent 'vehicle' to get your fix of fun gadgets and a cool space. Here's some interesting ways it can help:

Don't want to wipe your own butt? No, we're not talking about hiring a 'butt butler' (hopefully such an occupation doesn't exist). We are talking about a 'shower toilet' with an oscillating spray which allows you to chuck your T.P. Doesn't everyone need one?

Want to adjust your lighting and music without fussing with switches? Use the Amazon Alexa Echo system to voice activate mood lighting and crank up your favorite tunes. Contemporary bathrooms go beyond the 'utilitarian' basement shower Grandpa used back in the day. Go-Go-Gadget your way to your own fun, smart and contemporary bathroom.

7

Contemporary bathroom design is relaxing

Why shouldn't you enjoy your life *and* your bathroom? You work like a maniac for 'The Man' or 'The Woman' or 'The You' (if you're a solopreneur or entrepreneur). Work is demanding. Family is demanding. The stakes of life have never been so intense. A contemporary bathroom can (and should) provide you with 'temporary relief' (not of your hemorrhoidal tissues) from the craziness which is your life. Add relaxing bathroom features. You deserve it.

If you've got a large bathroom install a free-standing tub. If you only have a tiny walk in shower add a rain shower head to message your scalp after a long day (as a side-note, rain heads also help keep water contained – and not spraying out the opening). If cleaning the bathroom ain't your thang, use organic styled shower wall panels (made with cool patterns like rough wood or marina oak) to create a spa-type feel with ZERO (yes, you heard that right – ZERO) maintenance.



Tips

7 Crystal-Cool Ways to Use Glass in a Contemporary Bathroom



I'm a big fan of glass. Maybe it's because I've been involved with various products in the glass business since 1985 (wow, that makes me sound old!). The more familiar and knowledgeable I become about the uses and properties of glass the more I love it. I am not alone in being a glass lover.

So why do we love glass? How does glass make our bathrooms not only functionally better and provide a cooler design look as well? Most importantly, how can you use glass in a bathroom to not only "live better" but "live cooler"—providing you with a sense of style to live to your fullest? Let's take a quick peek into 5 benefits of glass in a bathroom. Then let's have some fun and check out 7 1/2 "crystal-cool" ways you can use glass to add some wow factor to your next bathroom remodeling project.



Glass has distinct advantages all its own:

- **It can move light and provide sight.** A dark room, a dark shower is not only depressing, it can be downright dangerous. Walls isolate us. Glass opens spaces up. Transparent glass also offers expansive views through rooms and offers a “window” (yes, pun intended) to our outside world.
- **Its reflective properties can make a room “live” bigger.** When light can literally bounce off the walls the space feels more open and lively.
- **Glass can give you energy.** Just think how you feel on long, cold and dark days. If you’re like me—more tired. A light-filled space created by a glass shower, a partition wall or skylight (even with the light from the moon at night) can improve your mood. A brick wall just feels like a brick wall.
- **It provides privacy and light.** There are not many materials like translucent glass which give you the “BOGO” special (buy one, get one benefit free) of moving light through a space and providing privacy. In a bathroom, where we show our hot (or not-as-hot-as-we’d-like) bodies, privacy with light is appealing.
- **Cool colors, textures, and illumination all in one material.** Whether you want to live in a cool, clean minimalist world of simplicity and function – or in a bright colorful bohemian chic setting where patterns and colors collide decorative glass offers the opportunity to wow your world!

Now, let’s have some fun and check out ways to wow with glass in your bathroom!

1 Glass countertops

Cast glass countertops are a feature which screams out “wow” in a bathroom. Not only are they solid and sturdy (the countertops can range in thickness from ¾” up to 2 ½”), but you can move light through the surface (this is a feature no laminate, granite, quartz can touch!). If you’re wondering, “won’t I see my blow dryer, brushes and lipstick containers through the glass in the cabinetry below?” The answer is no. There is a material put below the glass (it’s most commonly aluminum) which blocks you from seeing through the glass to the contents in your cabinetry.



2 A back-coated glass or high gloss shower wall

Does your home or apartment bathroom lack light? Is there a practical way to get natural light in by adding a skylight or window into the room? If you live in a high-rise apartment in the city or in a multi-floor condo the challenge of getting natural light into inside spaces. What would you think if you could get energy (and light) to “bounce” off the walls? (Yes, this sounds better than your kids bouncing off the walls!).

Here’s a way to “create” light and color in your space. Use reflective back coated glass on the bathroom walls. This type of glass is tempered (for safety) and will create a reflective environment to add energy to the space. You can get it in any standard or custom color. If the idea of glass walls concerns you (or you worry about the cost of this product—and it’s not cheap!) you can use these cool high gloss acrylic wall panels shown below as a glass substitute. They’re as cool as glass – yet about ½ of the cost—and safer.

3 Floor-to-ceiling glass

Transparent glass allows us to become one with the outside world. I love projects which connect the bathroom to an outside courtyard with floor to ceiling glass. It allows the natural light to flow in – yet maintains privacy. Yes, this type of project would not be inexpensive, but the ability to be in your bathroom, yet be in nature at the same time is so appealing.

4 Glass bricks

When you think of a brick wall traditional clay products which blocks light – but are sturdy and stable. Imagine the ability to provide this rugged look with a contemporary edge and flair – and even move colored light through spaces! This is all possible with the glass brick. These units come in various sizes (9 ½” x 4 ½” x 2” and 4 ½” x 4 ½” x 2”) and is clear glass or blue, brown or a darker black color. They can serve as a partition or shower wall and create a minimalist and durable appeal.



5 Sustainable recycled glass countertops

What's neat about glass is it's a sustainable material which can be melted down and used again – as well as having cool reflective properties. One super-unique product are recycled countertops from Vertrazzo. They are made with recycled glass from curbside recycling programs, traffic lights, jars, windshields and skyscraper glass which have all been recycled. There are various additives and pigments which bind the recycled glass together. What's even cooler is there are no two countertops which are the same. It's fun and environmentally responsible.

6 Leaded glass inspired glass block shower wall

Sometimes the “same old, same old” just doesn't work. Such was the case when Geraldine Gallagher called me and said, “Mike I have kind of crazy idea – I hope you can help me?” I would like to make a shower wall which is inspired by my love for leaded and stained glass out of glass blocks. Can you help? I said sure – let's see what we can figure out. The glass block shower below literally brought Geraldine to tears when it was done. The wall moves sunshine into the shower, but also provides prismatic streams of light.



7 A glass bathtub

This idea is perfect for the minimalist who wants to stand out from the crowd (and isn't afraid to let it all hang out in the tub – ha! ha!). The glass tub is an architectural achievement which leaves a lasting impression on the room. If you have to do your own cleaning – or you want to use the tub everyday – I'm not sure this is the best option, but if you want a super-cool glass product in your home this is for you!

7½ A glass floor over a 15-story elevator shaft

OK – this one is WAAAAAY OUT there (that's why I called it the “1/2” idea) – but while we're talking about fun uses of glass (and since I'm in the glass flooring biz) I had to add this one (although it's pretty impractical) to the list. There are not many times you're going to see a glass floor over a 15-story high elevator shaft (yes – it is an unused elevator shaft). This bathroom has it. I'm not a big fan of heights so I'm not sure how much I'd want to be using this bathroom staring down 15 floors, but it is intriguing. Are you game to sit on this toilet and look down?



photo: www.boredpanda.com



Tutorials

The Pros and Cons of Wall-Hung Vanities You Need to Know



Finally, you've figured out your shower pan, wall surrounds and glass enclosure. Now, it's time to choose a vanity. You know your current vanity has got to go. Your bathroom feels cluttered. It's 5' x 8' footprint is overpowered by a 25" deep double bowl floor-based vanity you know (and don't love) today. Yes, it's nice to have 2 bowls and a deep countertop. However, squeezing around your spouse first thing in the morning can make a grouchy person grouchier. You're not trying to re-live the 1970s dance called 'the bump' at 6:30 AM while you're rushing to get ready for work!

You've looked at pedestal and wall-hung sinks but as they have ZERO storage, they aren't right for you. You desperately need space for lotions, potions, styling brushes and blow dryers. The idea of a wall-hung floating vanity is intriguing, but you aren't sure of the advantages and disadvantages of this option.

6 Advantages of Wall-Hung Vanities

1. Make a small bathroom feel bigger.

Let's say you're currently 'putting up with' a compact 5' x 8' bathroom in a ranch or Cape Cod home. You know your floor-based vanity takes up a ton of room and looks bulky.

Since floating vanities are raised from the floor, you'll be able to see light bouncing off the bathroom floor with this option. This sense of openness (and light transmission) gives the illusion of more space. It's a 'David Copperfield bathroom magic trick' you need to try.

2. Shallow depth, wall-hung cabinets work for narrow bathrooms, or tiny and shipping container homes

If you feel the need to join Jenny Craig just to navigate through your narrow bathroom, that's a bad sign. While it's a nice luxury to have a 25" deep floor-based cabinet, sometimes these bad-boys flat-out take up too much room.

You shouldn't need Jenny Craig and a new diet to make your bathroom work (although, as my wife tells me, I could stand to eat a little less ice cream every night. However, I know she's wrong because I'm just concentrating on getting the right amount of dairy in my diet).

Instead of putting yourself on a diet (or eating less ice cream, which I'm morally opposed to), how about putting your vanity on a diet? You can use these slim-line floating vanities with the faucet tucked into the side. They're sizes range from 12 5/8" to 15 3/4" deep. They're stylish with storage space below.

3. When your bathroom becomes a 'wet room,' it won't destroy the bottom of a wall-hung vanity

Perhaps you're considering a one level wet room for an 'aging in place' solution for Mom, whose mobility isn't great (and won't be getting great again). You're going to voluntarily create a one level bathroom just in case she needs an accessible shower down the road.

Or conversely, you're 'involuntarily' living through a wet bathroom floor because your two teenage boys (who can't remember to close the shower curtain) have water shooting onto the floor and soaking the nearby cabinet (Grant and Parker Foti, do you know what I'm talking about here??). You know this formula makes no sense (Teenage Boys + Bathrooms = An Orderly Bathroom with TLC).

Since wall hung vanities are elevated above your bathroom floor, you'll have less concern about your cabinet deteriorating from water on the ground (unless your home floods and then you have different problem).

4. If contemporary interior design is your thing, floating vanities fit like a charm

If you want to be as out of fashion as your 1970's bell-bottoms, or your husbands' powder-blue leisure suit from the 1960's, then go out and buy an ornate floor-based vanity. Sure, they were the rage 20 years ago, but then again so were mullets. Bathroom designs styles today are contemporary (even in Modern Farmhouse bathrooms). They're about clean lines. Euro and Shaker style cabinet fronts are in. Simple surfaces rule the day. A minimalist bathroom works to shift your mind away from your cluttered, crazy days.

Wall-hung vanities are to clean and contemporary bathrooms as peanut butter is to jelly (unless you're allergic to peanut butter, but that's a small technicality there, ha ha!).

5. Advantage: Wall-hung cabinets make sense when you need efficient storage for tighter spaces

While pedestal sinks and wall hung sinks are the ultimate in space-efficiency (and work well in powder rooms), in a bathroom you (or your kids) use daily they don't cut it. You need drawers. You need place to store razors, toothpaste, T.P, brushes and towels.

Wall-hung vanities offer efficient storage while not cramming your bathroom. For example, the curved wall-hung vanity below only extends from the wall 16 7/8", yet still has two drawers (and one even snakes around your plumbing)! How's that for cool?

6. Wall hung vanities make your floors simpler to clean

Think how your stomach feels when you're cleaning the nooks and crannies around the base of your toilet or floor-based vanity? If it's turning and churning, I can feel your pain. Eliminate this problem. Mount your vanity. Mount your toilet. Not only will the 'nooks and crannies' around these units go 'bye-bye' but you can throw out a few toxic cleaning chemicals in the process.



6 Disadvantages of Wall-Hung Vanities

1. Wall hung units are harder (and more expensive) to install than floor-based cabinets

Who wants bathroom remodeling to be one iota (whatever is an iota anyway?) harder (or more expensive) than it has to be? That would be no one. With this being said, if you decide to use a wall hung vanity you need to know it's not the simplest cabinet to install.

Since it needs to be braced behind the wall there's more work and cost to get it done. However, if you're working in new construction (where the walls are already opened), it's not overly time consuming to put up a wall hung cabinet since there is no drywall to cut out and patch.

2. Floating vanities have less cubic footage of storage than their floor-based 'brothers'

One of the advantages of floor-based cabinets is they have taller cabinet boxes than their wall-hung counterparts, so you'll have more space to cram your stuff in. However, one caveat to keep in mind. Even with floor-based cabinets you still can't use all the space because you lose 2-4" at the bottom for the toe kick.

3. If traditional bathroom styling fits you, wall hung vanities aren't the answer

While floating cabinets are right at home in modern bathrooms, they look like a fish out of water in traditional settings. It's best to go with floor-based units if traditional styling is your thing.

4. If you've got any 'climbers,' floating vanities aren't the safest

I'll tell you a secret. You have to promise NOT to tell my wife Rose. To save time changing those doggone pesky tiny vanity bulbs in our 2nd floor master bathroom, instead of going to our garage and getting a ladder (the safe option), I climb on our floor-based vanity countertop and cabinet. It's not the safest option. It's my way of getting this little task done quick.

Conversely, if any of your kids are 'climbers,' they may get the urge to jump on top of the wall hung vanity for no good reason at all (as kids I bet you can remember doing all sorts of things your parents would have said was for no good reason at all). If you have adult or kid who is a climber, I'd recommend staying away from the wall hung cabinets. While they're mounted to brackets in the wall, it's still better to rely on the steadiness of a cabinet sitting on the floor, then one attached to a wall (IMHO).

As you can see from the pros and cons of wall hung floating units, your cabinet choice isn't a one-size-fits-all proposition. You need to factor in the style you like, the need for storage, the width of your bathroom and even if you've got 'climbers' in the family.

How-Tos

6 Ideas to Rock a Small Minimalist Bathroom Design



You've looked at one too many issues of *Architectural Digest* to put up with your crappy, outdated 5' x 8' bathroom any more. You've asked yourself what the heck was the guy who built this home thinking when... He slapped in a fiberglass tub/shower unit which yellowed, scratched and now looks awful. He installed a floor-based double bowl vanity which takes up half the room. He had a tile guy install teeny-tiny mosaic tiles with huge grout joints which are a pain to clean. He didn't include a window. It now feels dark, dingy and closed-in.

You dream of a sleek, uncluttered, simplified minimalist bathroom. You're unsure, however, if you can make this style work in your tiny space. It's simple to do anything with a big bathroom and a big budget, but how do you make a minimalist design work in a small space without tapping into your 'Bill-Gates Trust Fund' (oops, Bill forgot to write you into his will ... yet).

1

Embrace a 'boundaryless' design

The biggest problem with small bathrooms is they're too 'chopped up.' When you have a small bathroom why compartmentalize spaces? Why create a 'shower box' (AKA a shower enclosure) which makes your small bathroom live even smaller? For a minimalist design you need simplicity. For a minimalist design you need an open design concept which goes beyond the 'boxes' which are American bathrooms today. You need a boundaryless design.

- **A one level wet room.** Using a pan called a shower base former, you can make a waterproof bathroom which is designed at one level. Clean, neat, waterproof and open in design. The image below shows how this pan looks underneath your finished tile floor.
- **A walk in shower with a clear, pivoting glass shower shield.** Visually create an 'open-feeling' using a clear glass pivoting walk in shower design. It's sleek. It's contemporary, but you still have an enclosed shower.
- **Low-profile contemporary acrylic shower pan.** Maybe you don't have the guts, or don't want a tile floor or can't find a contractor to do the one level wet room in product idea #1. Another way to get an 'almost' boundaryless and minimalist design is to use a low-profile contemporary shower pan. These newly designed, advanced pans are not only stylish, but have reinforced bottoms so they won't sag when you walk on them.

2

Use organic bathroom and shower wall panels to simplify your look (and life)

Minimalist bathrooms have an organic, natural feeling. They embrace the connection between the inside and outside environments. Minimalist bathrooms are uncluttered and simplified. They allow you to enjoy your bathroom without laboring over it with your 'favorite' (sarcasm intended) scrub brush.

The question is what materials could you use on your shower and bathroom walls to create an organic, minimalist look? How can you make a stylish space without it being a pain in the butt to take care of?

One thoughtful answer is using laminated bathroom wall panels.

These panels come in natural designs. Choose from cracked cement, wood-looks, and travertine marble designs. Since they're grout free, you can take enjoyment in being able to crush your scrub brush.



3 Even if a tub won't fit, insist on a place to sit

You love the idea of a luxurious freestanding soaking tub in the middle of 200 square foot minimalist bathrooms you read about. However, you know your chances of using a freestanding tub in your 5' x 8' bathroom is as likely as getting Nancy Pelosi and Donald Trump to agree ... on anything!

You don't need to give up the idea of a relaxed spa-like minimalist bathroom because your space is small. With a little ingenuity, you can still create a bathroom where you can rejuvenate. Here's a couple of ideas to get you there:

- ▶ **Add a fold down shower bench seat.** When you've got time to relax, fold it down. When you've gotta rush to work, you'll keep it up, shower and go.
- ▶ **Install a rain head.** There's nothing like the gentle streams of water 'raining' down on you. Plus, with modern air-infused heads, the water pressure doesn't have to be wimpy from rain heads any more.

4 Even if you've got minimum space, your goal is to maximize your place



Want to make a small bathroom feel smaller? Use itty, bitty tiles. This small tile mistake is an error made time and time again (isn't that redundant?).

For a larger feeling bathroom, you've got to use larger materials. You've got to maximize your place.

On your bathroom and shower floor choose large format tiles. On the shower floor add a linear drain shower pan. These pans make it possible to use big tiles.

For your walls select big tiles. Also, you'll cut down grout joints. Yeh you!

If you really want to make your life simple you need to as Tony Montana might say from the movie Scarface, "find your little 'fre.'" Not sure who your little 'fre' is? That would be grout free large format wall panels. They're simple to install. They're simple to clean. That's a winning combo.

5 It's time to 'light your world' (or at least your bathroom)

One thing which makes a small bathroom live smaller (in addition to the tiny mosaic tiles mentioned in idea #4) is for it to lack light. Here's a bathroom formula you DON'T want to live with: (Darkness) = (A Closed in Space).

To create a light, open, airy feeling embrace your inner 'David-Copperfield' and (at least) create the illusion of lighting. The question is how? Here's 3 ways:

- ▶ **Use high gloss wall panels to bounce light around.** High gloss materials (cabinets, wall surfaces and floor surfaces) brighten dull rooms. Two cool options include contemporary high gloss acrylic panels and the more cost-effective laminated wall panels. They're both stylish. They're both fun. They're both simple to clean. That's a huge win for you with your way-too-busy life.
- ▶ **Add a transom window or a solar light tube.** The way to add more light is to well... add more light (ingenious thought – huh?). Nothing beats natural light. One way to get this natural light (without giving a 'show' to the neighbors) is to use a transom window. This little horizontal 'sliver' of a window will help more than you think. If creating a window opening is too costly, solar light tubes installed through the roof are a smart way to draw natural light into a smaller room.
- ▶ **Visually open your floor.** Dark tiles, small tiles, matte finished tiles and bulky cabinets darken your room. Rejuvenate your flooring with lighter colors and larger tile sizes. See more of your flooring with a floating vanity cabinet. You'll gain 'visual' floor space. Your bathroom will be easier to clean. You can even safely use a wet room system (discussed in idea #1), since there's no cabinet sitting on the floor.



While you can still dream about living in the ultimate 200 square foot minimalist bathroom right out of the pages of *Architectural Digest*, this isn't the reality of the life you know today (unless you can find a way to be included in the Bill Gates Trust Fund we discussed earlier).

However, it's comforting to know if you don't have 200 square feet (and an unlimited budget) you can still get a sleek, light-filled and uncluttered minimalist bathroom look... IF you put into motion these 6 ideas.

If you'd like help converting your small bathroom into the minimalist space you've dreamed of, we'd love to be there for you. Call the numbers below. Just because you're doing a minimalist bathroom, there's no reason to get 'minimalist' assistance along the way.

We serve local and national clients. If you are outside of Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio we invite you to call 877-668-5888 for more information about low-barrier showers, contemporary shower wall panels, glass countertops and floors, modern shower accessories, and wall hung vanities.

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