

PRESS RELEASE

Bathroom Trends for 2016

09 December 2015, Johannesburg: Bathrooms are not what they used to be. Gone are the days when a bathroom was merely a space to wash away dirt and grime. Today, the bathroom has had a massive re-think, making the shift to a watery relaxation zone that holds equal importance compared to other rooms in the home. There are still the usual suspects – a bath, toilet, basin, shower – but they’ve adapted to the current changes in technology and the demands of modern living. Interesting textures and decorative elements are also being introduced to add a sense of warmth and create a space you would want to linger longer in. Jasmin Kraneveldt, from leading sanitaryware and tiling retailer Bathroom Bizarre, delves into these and other bathroom trends that will be taking center stage in 2016.

Modern rustic

One of the major bathroom trends for 2016 is the incorporation of rustic elements to warm up slick modern designs. “It’s all about interesting patterns, humble natural materials, and rich contrasting textures. When combined, these elements work together to add welcoming personality to the calming earthy tones that are synonymous with the modern rustic look,” explains Jasmin.

Here are a few examples of how to incorporate this trend into your bathroom:

- Update your sink area by installing a pedestal made from handsome timber, such as Bathroom Bizarre’s Siena bathroom vanity in Oak for example, juxtaposed against the modern clean lines of a simple white basin and chrome mixer.
- Textured tiles are a great way of subtly introducing natural elements into the bathroom. Bathroom Bizarre’s EXA tiles for example, boast an organically-inspired hexagonal relief that are reminiscent of sea urchins.
- Accessorise with authentic objects collected on your travels. A hand-carved African stool for example, can be the perfect place to house a scented candle and therapeutic salts next to an ultra slick freestanding bath.

A room in it’s own right

Bathrooms are hard working multi-tasking spaces that need to serve both functional and pleasurable requirements. Today, bathrooms incorporate the latest high-tech fixtures and fittings, blended seamlessly with decorative accessories that complement the overall look. Necessary items such as a bin, bathmat or laundry basket are being given more careful thought, says Jasmin: “We’re seeing increasingly more people replacing their cheaper plastic bathroom accessories with ones that have a more luxurious finish, complementing the space rather than detracting from it. Think chrome toilet brush holders, hand-woven baskets for laundry, and embellished mirrors.”

Other big-ticket items, such as chandeliers and artwork for example, that were normally reserved for well appointed living areas, are now also being incorporated into the bathroom. “Every good interior designer knows that a well designed room starts with a neutral palette as the foundation. It is then layered with well-considered furniture and accessories, and finished off with a showpiece that takes center stage,” points out Jasmin. She believes that nowadays the bathroom is no different, being designed with a similar formula in mind to create a room that is equally as aesthetically pleasing as the rest of the home. Make a statement in your bathroom by incorporating

items that create a sense of luxury, such as the Pen281 polished chrome pendant light with silver shade, or the Doreen Mirror, both from Bathroom Bizarre.

In with the old and the new

There is no doubt that bathrooms are going to continue to evolve in the coming years as technology advances. Slim sanitaryware for example, is becoming a staple feature in most bathrooms. “Super thin baths and basins that were once unheard of, are now a reality thanks to developments in the way items are designed and moulded. Homeowners can now enjoy sanitaryware that boasts elegantly refined contours without compromising on strength,” nods Jasmin, pointing out the new imported ultra thin range available at Bathroom Bizarre. The range includes generous freestanding baths, such as the Fleur bath and the ultra-thin Kai counter-mount basin basins – both available at Bathroom Bizarre.

But sometimes, moving forward also means looking to the past for inspiration. “We’re noticing that vintage-inspired silhouettes are making a huge comeback in bathroom design, such as the scrolled details on Bathroom Bizarre’s Montreal free-standing bath with scrolled feet and décor. But the truth is this elegant look never really went out of style,” smile Jasmin. Look out for traditional pedestal basins, like Bathroom Bizarre’s Messina basin and matching pedestal for example, and roll top ball and claw baths for example, which epitomise this classic revival.

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Released on behalf of Bathroom Bizarre (www.bathroom.co.za.) by The Line Communications (www.theline.co.za, ant@theline.co.za).