

Vanities afloat

Wall-mounted vanities from Porcelanosa's Forma line create an airy and ultra-contemporary feel. "It's a European look that makes the bathroom appear less crowded, and it's becoming more popular in the United States," says Oscar Vargas, Porcelanosa Florida showroom manager. Free-standing minimalist vanities also foster a clean design, he adds. In this bathroom, Forma mirror and shelves, Quadra bathtub and wall-mounted Imagine faucet echo the vanity geometry. India Pulpis tile, installed on both the floor and walls, fosters a seamless, wide-open appearance.

Porcelanosa, 8700 NW 13th Terrace, Miami 33172, 305-715-7153; 3400 N. Powerline Road, Pompano Beach 33069, 954-968-7666, porcelanosa-usa.com

Design pros reveal the latest trends for creating the **QUINTESSENTIAL ESSENTIAL ROOM**, where form is most intimately tied to function.

BY ELIZABETH RAHE

Bathroom tech

Innovative products introduce technology – and greater convenience – to the bathroom, says Debbie Miller, owner of Millers Decorative Plumbing & Hardware. Fleurco's Kinetik system, which provides for frameless, smooth-gliding shower doors, is an example of right engineering, she says. Robern's M Series bathroom cabinets offer cold storage for preserving cosmetics and medicines, even chilling beverages. She also likes the new wall mirrors that incorporate vanishing LCD TV screens, such as this Enhanced series model from Séura. "We're even seeing built-in coffee stations," Miller says. "You can get ready for the day without ever leaving the bathroom."

Millers Decorative Plumbing & Hardware, 1210 Stirling Road, Dania Beach 33004, 954-584-0200, millersdecorativehardware.com

Angular dimensions

Right angles are edging out curves in the latest faucets and cabinets, says Patricia Yengle, owner of Sophisticated Hardware & Plumbing. "The square lines are very contemporary, minimalistic," she says, adding that the look is especially popular for more compact condo bathrooms. Many customers choose geometric, wall-mounted Keuco cabinets, such as the Edition 300 line, to foster a spacious appearance. Angular faucets, such as those in Dornbracht's LULU and Supernova lines, complete the picture. "It creates a beautiful look," she says.

Sophisticated Hardware & Plumbing, 4000 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale 33308, 954-566-5931 (also Miami & Vero Beach), sophisticatedhardware.com

Dornbracht Supernova faucet

Saving by the gallon

Water-saving, energy-efficient fixtures are showing up in more homes, says Melinda Sobczak, manager of Ferguson's new Fort Lauderdale showroom. "Customers know they will save money on electricity bills and water bills, and they are excited to be helping the environment." In this spirit, she says, homeowners are requesting tankless water heaters and dual-flush toilets. This Kohler Salie elongated one-piece toilet, available at Ferguson, offers 1.6-gallon and 0.8-gallon flush options, which can save as much as 22,200 gallons of water annually.

Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery, 2860 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale 33306, 954-567-3110, ferguson.com (multiple area locations).



Stylish storage

Wardrobes and dressers are moving out of the bedroom and into the bathroom, says Adam Canter, president of Distinctive Kitchens & Baths. “We are incorporating extra storage into bathrooms in a beautiful way,” he says. The his-side master bath in this Boca Raton home features maple cabinetry in a cappuccino stain with black glaze, designed and installed by Distinctive Kitchens & Baths and manufactured by Kitchen Craft. Interior design by P&H Interiors; home by SRD Building Corp.

Distinctive Kitchens & Baths, 1217 Clint Moore Road, Boca Raton 33487, 561-997-9400, distinctiveknb.com.



No spa like home

For maximum relaxation and indulgence, turn your bathroom into a spa, advises Bill Feinberg, president of Allied Kitchen & Bath. The custom shower in this Parkland home features a rain head, body sprays, steam function and thermostatic control for the perfect temperature all the time. The old-fashioned style tub is a very-modern BainUltra with heated backrest and ThermoMasseur air-jet system, which circulates bubbles rather than pumping water through the bath. “You can use oils, salts and even teas and herbs as therapy to rejuvenate the whole body,” he says.

Allied Kitchen & Bath, 616 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale 33311, 954-564-1611, alliedkitchenandbath.com.



Beauty is as beauty does

Bathrooms renovated for disability access can still be attractive, says interior designer Patrice Cury. For a couple in Delray Beach’s Del Aire community, Cury created an open-cabinet sink area, which allows for the use of a chair or wheelchair. She trimmed back the glass-block wall, raised the level of the shower floor and applied non-skid tile, creating a gentle downward slope. Attractive gold-tone grab bars provide safety while avoiding an institutional appearance. “We did this whole project in one week for the convenience of the residents,” she says. “That was the biggest effort of all.”

Interiors by Patrice Cury, 6422 NW 23rd Lane, Boca Raton 33434, 561-451-0744, interiorsbypatricecury.com.

