

PROFILES

THE DESIGN ISSUE

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Art of the Industry

2010 NKBA Design Competition Finalists

PLUS: 2010 Kitchen and Bath Style Report



BATHROOMS

Styles & Colors

As with kitchen design, traditional is clearly the most popular design style in bathrooms as we begin 2010. More than three quarters of NKBA bathroom designers incorporated the style into at least one project in the last three months of 2009. Contemporary was cited by almost half of designers, while the Shaker style was used by just under a third of designers. The type of bathroom most often renovated is a master bath. Full bathrooms are a distant second, with powder rooms and half baths following closely behind.

Like recently remodeled kitchens, whites/off-whites, beiges/bones, and browns were most popular, although the order was different for bathrooms. Beiges/bones were called for by two thirds of bathroom designers, whites/off-whites were used by more than half of designers, and browns by just under half.

Flooring & Countertop Materials

Ceramic and porcelain tile were specified by more than 90 percent of NKBA member bathroom designers, with natural stone also proving popular. Hardwood, while common in new kitchens, is currently specified by less than 20 percent of designers for bathrooms.

Granite is the clearly the dominant material for bathroom vanities, used by seven of every eight designers. Quartz and marble (a material rarely used for kitchen countertops today) have each recently been specified by just under half of bathroom designers, while solid surfaces were used by about a quarter.

Fixtures & Faucets

The most common color for fixtures is white, as almost 90 percent of designers specified that color for fixtures in the last three months of 2009. Bisque was used by nearly 40 percent of designers, while off-white was used by 25 percent. Undermount lavatory sinks were called for by 95 percent of designers, with integrated sink tops, drop-in sinks, vessel sinks, and pedestal sinks each specified by about 30 percent of designers.

Faucet finishes in the bathroom are similar to those used in current kitchen designs, with brushed nickel leading the way, as it's used by two thirds of bathroom designers. Polished chrome and satin nickel are specified by just under half of designers, bronze by just over a third, and stainless steel and polished nickel by about one in five designers.



Carl E. Schanstra

“The client wanted to achieve a classic, elegant, and spa-like master bathroom that complimented the old Georgian architecture of this historical Bermuda home. Neutral beige became the perfect backdrop in the tiles and focal point in the cabinets and bathtub.”
- Gladys Schanstra, CKD, CBD, Drury Design, Glen Ellyn, IL

Many bathroom designers also reported that master bathrooms are increasingly incorporating large walk-in showers, sometimes completely eschewing tubs in order to do accommodate them into the space. According to one designer, “Many families are removing the large tub in the master bathroom and installing a large shower, leaving the main bath as the bathroom with the tub.”

**What trends are you seeing in your local kitchen and bath market?
Let Profiles know at letters@nkba.org.**



Bookwalter Photography

“Where marble in the bath is certainly a trend today it is something we can look back into time to find in Roman baths. This regal yet refined detail exudes a sense of luxury and natural beauty. It also contributes to a clean visual palette.”
- Kristin Ann Okeley, CKD, Kitchen by Design, Indianapolis, IN