

**HOMEOWNERS:**

Mark and Alis Priebe, Wheaton

DESIGN:

Terry Kenney, senior designer, Drury Design Kitchen and Bath Studio, Glen Ellyn

WHAT THEY WANTED:

Tucked under the dormers on the second floor of Mark and Alis Priebe's Wheaton home, the master bathroom was a bit short on space, especially in the shower. The Priebe's longed for a larger shower and wanted the entire room to have a lighter, more open feel.

HOW THEY ACHIEVED IT:

In order to gain a little more room without changing the footprint of the bath, the couple worked with designer Terry Kenney of Drury Design to reclaim the unused space under the dormers by building in niches and adding linen cabinets to boost storage. Replacing the double doors with pocket doors freed up additional floor space, and swapping the large tub and surrounding deck for a freestanding air-jet tub with a remote motor also enhanced the sense of openness.

To pave the way for the large steam shower, which features a glass

door and side panels as well as gleaming glass accent tiles, Kenney flip-flopped the location of the vanity and the original shower stall.

In the shower and on the heated floor, smaller mosaic tiles complement the larger porcelain field tiles. These smaller tiles surround the tub, helping to draw attention to the area. The curving tile design, oval tub and overhead arch work to soften the once angular appearance of the room, says Kenney. As a contrast to the lighter hues of the walls, tile and quartz countertop, Kenney selected alder with a dark stain for the cabinetry. "The dark color provides a nice, high contrast and a warm wood tone," she says.

"The heated floor is a huge bonus, plus the steam shower, better lighting and definitely the storage," says Alis of her favorite aspects of the new design. She's also pleased with the material choices that give the room a luxe look for less, such as the dark cabinets, chandelier and the selective use of glass tiles. "We were still able to have that elegant look without breaking the bank."