

BATHROOM

15 inspiring bathroom trends

From tinted shower screens to Japanese baths, explore these fresh ideas

BY PAULA WOODS | 18 MARCH 2022

Bathroom trends tend to be more subtle than living room or bedroom trends. Like [kitchens](#), this is a space that requires some investment, so you need to find a style with longevity. But that doesn't mean you can't create something trend-led. These are the finishes, colours, concepts and materials shaping bathroom design in 2022.

1. Brass fittings

Natural or unlacquered brass fittings have an antique look that further develops a unique patina over time. They are an ideal complement for a rustic or industrial-style scheme. Pictured below: Bespoke Landmark Pure bath filler in Urban Brass, from [samuel-heath.com](https://www.samuel-heath.com).



2. Reclaimed materials

Choose to reuse by restoring original features, such as floorboards, and including [reclaimed materials](#) or [salvaged finds](#). If you can't track down the kind of salvaged bathtub you want, try upcycling your own with aged brass panels from quirkyinteriors.co.uk (pictured below).



Aged brass panels from quirkyinteriors.co.uk. Photo: Debi Treloar

3. Pastel shades

Muted pastel shades are a dominant bathroom trend for walls, floors and fixtures in 2022. Look out for tiles and sanitaryware in shades of sage, rose, pale ochre and lilac. Pictured below: Artis surface-mounted oval washbasin in Sage Green, Finion freestanding bath, both from villeroy-boch.co.uk.

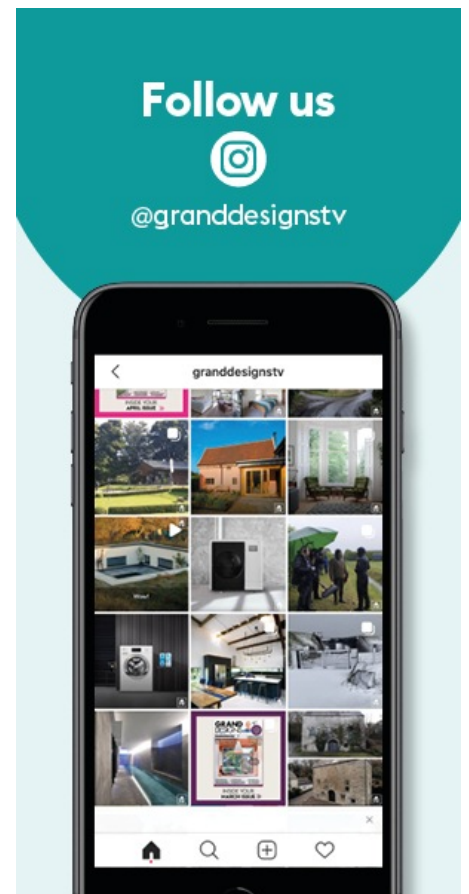




Photo: Villeroy & Boch

4. Coloured glass panels

Every element of a new bathroom can be decorative, even a glass shower panel. This collection is inspired by early 20th-century Art Deco design. Pictured below: Nouveau shower box with pale pink 8mm glass, also available in pale green or clear; Nouveau LivingTec basin, shelf and cabinet, all from ex-t.com.



Photo: Ext

5. Rustic finishes

Alongside the shift towards soft-sheen and matt surfaces, there's a bathroom trends movement towards rustic tiles that are, or look, handmade. The texture and colour tones of these brick-shaped tiles

result in a handcrafted effect. Pictured below: Riad Terracotta matt porcelain wall tiles, from [mandarinstone.com](https://www.mandarinstone.com).



Photo: Mandarin Stone

6. Natural patterns

Stone-effect tiles with rich colours and bold veining bring a sense of opulence to a scheme. They offer a luxurious look without the high cost of real stone. Precision-cut porcelain allows for finer grout lines so that there's a minimal break in the overall design. Pictured below: Onyx Nouveau gloss porcelain rectified tiles, from [mandarinstone.com](https://www.mandarinstone.com).



Photo: Mandarin Stone

7. 1980s style

Patterns are getting bolder with graphics taking the lead. Look for versatile tile designs created to provide multiple options for geometric arrangements from symmetrical stripes and blocks to random forms. Pictured below: Bert & May at Fired Earth porcelain tiles in Alalpardo Green and Versailles large console, both from [firedearth.com](https://www.firedearth.com).



Photo: Fired Earth

8. Japanese-style baths

Designed to be enjoyed sitting upright for a deep and relaxing soak, Japanese-style baths are compact and great for a small space.

Traditionally made from timber, they can also be found in solid surface composites. Pictured below: True Ofuro Mini freestanding Aquatex Japanese soaking bathtub in matt white, from [aquaticabath.co.uk](https://www.aquaticabath.co.uk).



Photo: Aquatica

9. Matt finish

High shine surfaces are making way for a subtle sheen. Manufacturers continue to launch new brassware, whether contemporary or classic in style, with brushed, matt, or unlacquered finishes. Pictured below: Milano Ashurst brushed nickel thermostatic shower and freestanding bath shower mixer, both from bigbathroomshop.co.uk; Ovali bath, available in two sizes, from bcdesigns.co.uk.



Photo: Darren Chung

10. Dual-purpose furniture

Designs offering more than one function are a versatile solution for multi-use rooms. There's a wealth of new space-saving, dual-purpose

furniture to choose from, such as this vanity unit that doubles as a dressing table. Pictured below: Cielo Narciso floorstanding vanity unit with ceiling-mounted Argo mirror, both from cphart.co.uk.



Photo: CP Hart

15 inspiring bathroom trends for 2022 continues below...



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11. High tech

Energy efficiency is high on everyone's agenda, including those [retrofitting their home](#) or building a new one. Heating designers are bringing out new products such as radiators that prioritise energy-saving features and work with low-temperature systems. Pictured below: Oni O-P 500mm flat radiator in Pigeon Blue, available in three heights and more than 50 colours, from vasco.eu.



Photo: Vasco

12. Sustainable sourcing

An increasing number of bathroom suppliers offer eco-friendly options across their product lines. Look for product descriptions detailing responsibly-sourced natural materials or recycled content. Pictured below: Yuri matt porcelain wall tiles made from 90% recycled raw materials, from wallsandfloors.co.uk.



Photo: Walls and Floors

13. Bathroom wallpaper

Advances in waterproofing mean you can use specialist wallpaper on bathroom walls, even in a shower or steam room. It's an innovative way to turn your space into a unique pamper zone. Pictured below: Wall&Decò The Mountains of our Childhood Wet System wallpaper, from westonebathrooms.com.



Photo: West One Bathrooms

14. Dark décor

One of the biggest bathroom trends for 2022 is richly coloured walls. Deep blues or greens create an inviting, cocooning effect. Team with burnished metals and timber panelling for maximum impact. Pictured below: Boty Stone wall-mounted basin, theluxurybathcompany.co.uk. For a similar paint colour, try Puck Intelligent Eggshell from littlegreen.com.



Photo: Luxury Bath Company

15. Heritage style

Inspired by the Victorian and Edwardian eras, period-style ceramics and rolltop baths teamed with pieces of furniture and artwork, bring a relaxed, country-house charm. Visit salvage yards and specialist dealers for restored originals. Pictured below: Walls in Carnaby Yellow wall paint, bath in Olive and floorboards in French Linen chalk paint, from anniesloan.com.



Photo: Annie Sloan

Sustainable spaces

Tips from Debbie Rees, founder of eco retailer tabithaeve.co.uk, on how to banish single-use plastics from the bathroom:

- Rather than using liquid soaps, shampoos and conditioners in throwaway plastic bottles, try solid alternatives to reduce waste.
- Using refillable products is another option. The Body Shop has in-store refill stations. Or try online brand, Kind Beeuty's Return, Refill, Reuse and Repeat scheme.
- When it comes to cleaning, powder refills save space, as well as unnecessary plastic use. Ekologik's non-toxic range includes disinfectant, bathroom, multi-purpose, toilet and floor cleaners. All packaging is plastic-free and compostable, and a single pod makes a full bottle of cleaner.
- More than 3.6 billion plastic toothbrushes are thrown away each year worldwide. So next time replace yours with a plant-based and biodegradable bamboo brush.
- Replace disposable wipes, sponges and plastic body buffers with natural versions. The Tabitha Eve washing accessories and cleaning cloths are made by hand, using cotton, linen or bamboo, which can be composted at the end of its life.
- Opt for reusable and biodegradable alternatives to single-use cotton pads, such as Tabitha Eve's organic cotton make-up rounds and bamboo nail polish remover pads.