

DESIGN AWARDS

Detailed, elegant and amazing are the buzz words for this year's winners



We at K+BB proudly announce our 2014 Design Award competition winners! The esteemed judges critiqued more than 55 project submissions on aesthetics, functionality and efficiency, solutions to challenges and fresh thinking. The panel chose a Kitchen, Bath and Showroom of the Year, as well as two Honorable Mentions in both the bath and kitchen categories and one for showrooms. Congratulations to this year's outstanding winners! — *Section by Chelsie Butler*

Dimensional decorative tile was used in subtle lines on the walls of the wet room and on the backplash behind the vanity area. The shower area in the shower is an LED multi-colored light that turns on when it gets wet.

From Dull and Stock to WOW

Boring space gets a makeover with eye-catching design elements and a surprise in the shower

A young couple had set their sights on a contemporary, unique and fully functional master bathroom – something that reflected their aesthetic tastes. They were tired of the existing space with its small, stand-up shower and a small tub with a divider wall. Mixed materials: knotty alder wood vanity, slab mirrors and light bars, pitted marble countertops, white walls and limited storage.

Enter Susanne Lasky of S Interior Design in Scottsdale, Ariz., who completely transformed the space with such elements as custom-designed,

floating vanities of rift-cut oak stained a rich, dark brown with ample storage and built-in, hidden outlets. She also managed to include a sit-down vanity in the design plan.

Decorative mirrors flanked by walk-mounted light scones brighten up the space, along with 4-in. recessed LED lights strategically placed throughout the bathroom. The new platinum wall color complements the decorative tile, cabinets and countertops, which are made from soft, gray quartz. Lasky incorporated a tall storage cabinet with a bottom section

designed to hold the cat litter box, and she replaced the standard entry floor with a frosted-glass, barn door style that doesn't take up any additional space.

Instead of an enclosed shower, Lasky designed a wet room in the space that encompasses a large soaker tub and shower where the couple can relax and use it together.

So how did she get everything to fit?

"Space from the unused room on the other side of the plumbing wall that the existing tub and shower were against was brought in to give us an extra 3-ft., 6-in. of depth to work with," said Lasky. "The rest of the space was used for a new walk-in closet for the husband and that completes the major suite."

Aside from finding a way to increase the space, there was only one other major challenge during the project.

Because Lasky and her team were restricted from doing any plumbing work that would break into the floors or ceilings, they needed a solution for the oversized soaker tub plumbing. They ended up building a 6-in.-high platform to accommodate the plumbing for the tub. The platform is clad on the top and all sides with the same beautiful mosaic tile used on the main floor of the shower area. A column that hides the plumbing coming down from the ceiling and services not only her clients but the residents below, is covered in the main field tile that is used on the bathroom floor and also holds towel hooks and glass shelves for extra storage.

According to the judges, they were impressed by the amazing function Lasky was able to create in such a small space, and according to Lasky, her clients are thrilled with the results. ■

SOURCES

Design team: Susanne Lasky, S Interior Design; **Photographer:** Pam Singleton, Singleton Photography

Countertops: Cosentino; **Hardware:** Allie HomeWare; **Mirrors:** Mirka Lavery & Paul Decorative Products; **Paint:** Dunn Edwards

Scones: Hudson Valley; **Showerheads, Valves and Accessories:** Brizo; **Tile:** Coscolet Tile, Daffin & Emser; **Tub and Sinks:** Kohler; **Vessel-height Faucets:** Danze

