

Dramatic Interlude



Sumptuous colors, classic patterns, and bold textures set the stage for a bath retreat that gives its owners room to unwind.

WRITER *Lauren Iverson*
PHOTOS AND STYLIST *Laura Hull*



OPPOSITE: Shimmery mixed mosaic tiles in honed Thassos marble frame the vanity mirrors, creating a pleasing counterpoint to the dark walnut cabinetry and smoky-gray marble countertops. The wall-mount faucet is finished in polished nickel. THIS PHOTO: In a room full of eye-catching details, the tub niche draws attention for its elegant simplicity.



ABOVE: Dual vanities take advantage of the room's generous footprint. The oval window wasn't part of the original plans; it was added when it became clear that the bath would need more natural light. OPPOSITE: The reproduction tub filler, inspired by a mid-19th-century design, looks right at home against a backdrop of classic paisley wallpaper.



BEFORE A BATH CAN BECOME BEAUTIFUL,

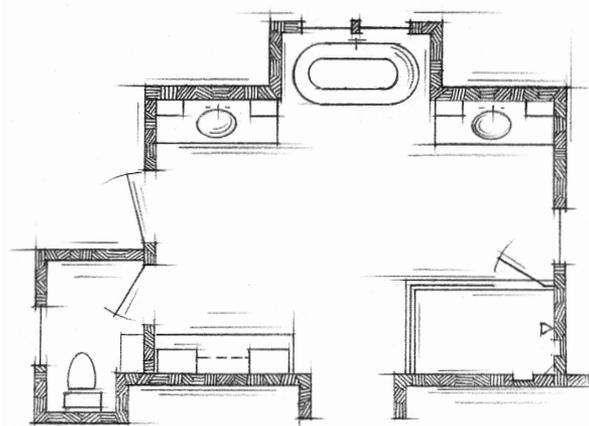
there must be inspiration. For some, that inspiration may come from a curvaceous tub; for others, a sparkling chandelier. For Kristina Detter, it was a dramatic, high-impact paisley wallpaper, which served as the jumping-off point for the new master bath in her family's Oakland home. With the wallpaper as her guide, designer Amy Fischer brought Kristina's visions of glamour and sophistication to life.

With a fast-paced lifestyle keeping her, husband Tony, and their two young daughters on the move, Kristina envisioned the bath as a place where life could slow down. She also wanted it to be visually stunning. She loved the idea of combining textures and materials in a limited color palette so the individual elements—wallpaper, lighting, fixtures—could shine. “I have very clear likes and dislikes,” she says. “Amy was pivotal in expanding my horizons and providing materials for me that I otherwise would have never had access to or seen.”

Natural light floods into the master bath through sizable windows and a skylight, bouncing off the marble mosaic tile. Up high, silvery-black textured wallpaper with reflective properties dresses up the barrel ceiling and complements the dark paisley



the plan

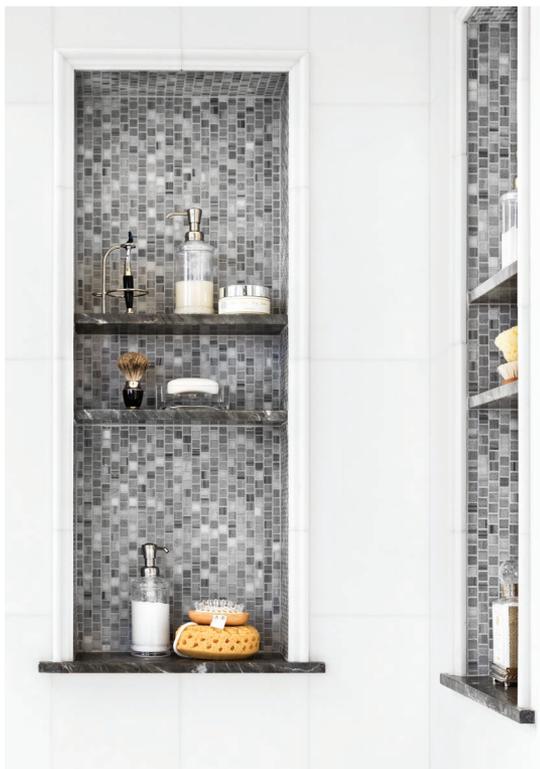


Separate vanities, a large shower with dual controls, and a private toilet compartment make this bath well-suited for sharing. A tall cabinet opposite the vanity wall provides bonus storage outside the main grooming area.



THIS PHOTO: Separate showerheads with individual control systems allow for a personalized bathing experience in the two-person shower.

Porcelain handles on the tub filler, slate-gray quilted glass pendants, and polished-nickel fixtures create a shimmer throughout.



FAR LEFT: Blue-gray mosaic tile highlights tall storage niches in the shower. LEFT: Designer Amy Fischer created a custom hutch—adorned with antique mirrors and beveled marble countertops—as an extension of the dressing area and a central space for linens and bathing supplies.

on the walls. Porcelain handles on the tub filler, slate-gray quilted glass pendants, and polished-nickel fixtures create a shimmer throughout—emulating Kristina’s style. “Kristina herself is very glamorous,” Fischer says. “She’s always so well-appointed with beautiful jewelry, and we tried to mimic that glamour with the contrast of materials and polished-nickel finishes. It really feels like a reflection of her personality.”

A pair of matching vanities and a roomy walk-in shower with dual showerheads and controls make the bath function equally well for two as for one. There are no traffic jams—and no clutter, thanks to a custom hutch that corrals overflow items.

Kristina relishes the quiet time her new bath affords. “Our bathroom is a total respite from life,” she says. “It’s truly a sanctuary away from everything else.”

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DESIGNER INSIGHTS: LAYERING ELEMENTS

Many people shy away from using multiple textures in one space, but there’s a way to blend as many materials as you want without getting messy, says designer Amy Fischer. Here’s how:

- *Find your focal point.* Too many competing themes will make a space look chaotic. Whether it’s a statement shower design or delicate mosaic tile, be specific about what the central focus will be.
- *Come together.* Choosing materials in isolation can cause distasteful color and texture combinations. “Never make a decision for one material by itself,” Fischer says. “I pick the room’s inspiration and then I build on top of that until I like the collection of materials as a whole.”
- *Light the way:* Whether it’s natural or artificial, lighting will affect the mood of a space. Consider all the layers of light—ambient, task, and accent lighting—when determining the right mix of fixtures. Light-reflecting materials will also give a room a subtle sparkle effect, adding another layer of texture and interest.