

home & garden

Sinking Into Relaxation

pg. 64

A pair of bathroom renovations showcase cutting-edge designs for comfort and functionality. / Photo by Kyleen DzPloch
Photography for Kowalske Kitchen & Bath

Dynamic Design Ideas pg. 58 | Lakefront Beauty pg. 68 | Organic Gardens pg. 72



Blissful Baths

A pair of bathroom renovations showcase cutting-edge designs for comfort and functionality.

BY TERRY SCHUSTER

Upgrading a bathroom is an important renovation, since a homeowner's day typically begins and ends there. Whether it's a cosmetic change or a total layout reconfiguration, the end result should be a highly functional room that feels like a sanctuary. Two bathroom renovation projects from one remodeler reflects the needs of homeowners in two distinct ways.

Before photos by Kowalske Kitchen & Bath
After photos by Kyleen DzPloch Photography



BEFORE

Kowalske Kitchen & Bath Lake View Master Bathroom in Oconomowoc Designer: Christina Kolb

Project goals: The original master bathroom felt dark and closed off. The homeowners wanted a space that felt more open and airy with separate vanities and a larger shower.

Solution: The basic footprint of the existing bathroom was preserved. Using a herringbone pattern in the tile floor emphasizes the new clawfoot tub as a focal point. His-and-her vanities are stained alder. Heated floors keep the space warm during the colder months.

The old shower was dark and dated. To give them the larger, luxurious shower requested, a linen storage area was relocated to under the stairs in the master suite. A glass enclosure was installed to give them more light. The larger shower allowed for a quartz bench that matches the countertops. Other features included a handheld shower spray, a rain head and a wall-mounted shower head, and the owners can now see the lake while showering.

Additional comments: This project won a Gold 2021 NARI Remodeler of the Year Award for Residential Interior. The bathroom was part of a whole-house remodel.

continued on page 66

continued from page 64

Kowalske Kitchen & Bath

Waukesha Accessible Design

Bathroom Remodel

Designer: Christina Kolb

Project goals: The goal of this master bathroom remodel was to use universal design principles to accommodate a homeowner who uses a wheelchair. The old bathroom wasn't safe or functional — the client could not get in or out of the shower or maneuver around the vanity and toilet.

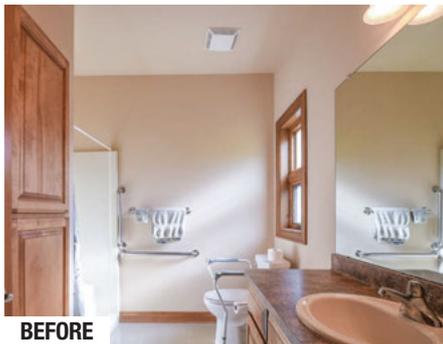
Solution: Every element of the bathroom was redesigned to meet the client's needs. The doorway was enlarged to 36 inches, with a sliding barn door that opens easily. The bathroom size was expanded by taking space from an adjacent closet.

Non-slip tile floors were installed. A five-foot turning radius allows the wheelchair full rotation in the room. Recessed lights were installed throughout the room, including the shower and toilet nook, and all have dimmer switches at a height for the homeowner to reach easily.

To create a zero entry curbless shower, the sub floor was raised. Small herringbone tile on the shower floor prevents slipping. The shower has easy access to shelves, grab bars and controls.

Pipes were insulated under the vanity, allowing for clearance for a wheelchair. The client requested a bidet with a self-opening and closing lid.

Additional comments: This project won a Gold 2021 NARI Remodeler of the Year Award for Universal Design — Bathroom. MKE



BEFORE

Before photos by Kowalske Kitchen & Bath
After photos by Kyleen DzPloch Photography

