

The Architectural Design authority and columnist of Home Renovation Magazine

**Lucia, Kassik & Monday, Inc.**



## The Him and Her Balance in the Master Bath

SO MANY OF OUR CLIENTS HIRE US TO DESIGN A NEW MASTER BATHROOM. There are many features to choose from and many ways to accommodate their individual needs. We often refer to some of these features as “marriage preservers.”

Separate vanities are always a great idea. Vanities used to be 30” high and now 36” is a standard. If a client is especially tall, raising the counter even higher is more comfortable. Adding a cabinet on top of the vanity is called a “tower”, which is also a great addition for storage that is easily accessible.

Showers are usually placed on the outside wall so that we can specify a window for light and ventilation. Showers are typically “walk-in” meaning they are shaped in a way that a glass enclosure is no longer necessary. Some clients still want a glass door and a heat lamp to keep them warmer. Double shower heads, body sprays and rain shower heads are a few of the plumbing options available. Often we will design the floor of the shower not to step down so that it remains handicap accessible. Shampoo and soap niches and towel bars also need to be considered.

Toilet rooms are also always placed on an outside wall with a window. All of my women clients love this feature and agree that it is a marriage saver! Try to have a toilet room large enough for a cabinet to store personal items. Lighting bright enough for reading and a quiet fan are added benefits.

Tubs are a personal preference these days and they are no longer a requirement in a bathroom. Many clients still like the

drop-in type tub that requires a platform around it. This provides a great place for candles and accessories. We always ask is the tub for one or two people. There are so many tub styles available to fit every budget requirement.

Access to the walk-in closets is the most efficient use of space utilizing the bathroom as the hallway. For so many years the closets were placed before the bathroom with a hallway dividing the two closets. These days we reverse the two rooms utilizing that hallway as closet space.

The best “rule of thumb” for couples is to give each individual their own space. Good design gives fewer things to argue over.

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