

The eight- by five-foot footprint, plumbing locations and window are the only elements that weren't changed. Plaster walls were stripped to the studs and replaced with drywall, the wood floor was replaced with a new subfloor, and all fixtures were replaced. Wiring and plumbing were upgraded, and a new Broan exhaust fan, plus pot and accent lighting, were added.



# RETRO Redux

The classic look worked best for this much-anticipated bathroom makeover.

BY KAREN KIRK | DESIGNED BY JANE LOCKHART  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY EDWARD POND



The original window looks like new with a fresh coat of paint.

The vintage styling of Kohler's low-flow Memoirs toilet fits perfectly into the new bathroom design.

A ready-to-install Wellington vanity (in espresso) with a matching medicine cabinet and mirror offer instant style and plenty of storage. A custom-ordered polished Carrera marble countertop is fitted with a rectangular undermounted Kohler sink and retro-style Grohe Somerset chrome faucets.

Beautiful marble basket-weave mosaic flooring, in white and grey with black accents, sets the tone for the vintage look and will endure the test of time in both wear and style.

Our homeowners knew that their bathroom was in desperate need of a makeover, but wanted to go with a look that was in keeping with the era in which their house was built. Designer Jane Lockhart worked with the homeowners and gave them the bathroom they always wanted.

Whether you're dreaming of a luxurious spa-style master ensuite or a highly functional family bathroom, it's important to determine whether your bathroom needs a complete redesign or simply a remove-and-replace plan. In this case, after inspecting the condition of the walls, floors, plumbing and wiring, Lockhart and her contractor, David Sparkes, determined that the footprint and plumbing locations would remain the same, but everything else needed to be replaced with new, more functional cabinets, fixtures and surfaces.

Working with a limited budget and tight timeline, Lockhart selected all supplies and materials from the shelves at Lowe's. "The only item we purchased elsewhere was the luxe Carrera marble vanity countertop from Caledonia Marble Company, which was out of stock at Lowe's at the time," she says. Follow the design ideas featured here to update your own bathroom – they'll easily translate to any style, from vintage to traditional to contemporary – and you'll be relaxing in your new retreat in no time.

#### DETAILS, DETAILS!

Toss those shabby old towels, dried flower arrangements and bathroom accessories and invest in new ones that complement the room's decor and colour scheme. Fresh flowers are a nice, inexpensive touch.



## RENO TIPS

Contractor David Sparkes of Sparkes Painting and Trades in Toronto shares three things to consider when hiring a contractor to renovate your bathroom.

- Demolition is a necessary but dirty business. Try to get your contractor to do the demolition in one day. This will provide you with a clean slate to start rebuilding.
- Removing old lath-and-plaster walls can increase the size of your space, as they can be up to an inch thick. This also reveals any hidden surprises, such as old wiring or plumbing that may need to be updated.
- Constant communication between the designer, contractor and homeowner is extremely important. Daily updates keep everyone in the loop regarding unexpected problems that could result in costly delays or require expensive additional supplies. Always include a cushion in your budget for unforeseen costs.

**1** | A five-foot acrylic soaker bathtub replaced the old tub. Plaster walls in the shower area were replaced with water-resistant drywall that was then tiled to match the white subway-tile wainscot in the rest of the bathroom. The black bar inset and chair rail cap define the vintage look. New Grohe chrome shower fixtures take showering to a whole new level.

**2** | The old cupboard doors were removed and the interior of the

cupboard was painted white. Adding two tempered-glass shelves created a pretty nook for storage and display.

**3** | To keep the room bright, fresh and easy to clean, inexpensive white subway tiles create a retro wainscot effect around the room. The walls above the wainscot were painted light grey to break the white and add a little dimension to the room. Wall sconces illuminate the space and provide additional lighting for the vanity mirror.

## Sources

- **Interior design**, Jane Lockhart Interior Design, janelockhart.com.
- **Contracting**, Sparkes Painting and Trades, Toronto, (416) 319-7241.
- **Building supplies**, Lowe's, lowes.ca.

### Pages 157 and 158:

- Wellington 48-inch **vanity base** (304052); Wellington 33-inch **mirror** (3304257); Wellington **medicine cabinet** (304071); Kohler Kathryn undermount **sink** (K-2297-0) in white; Broan **ceiling fan** 683C (123987); and Portfolio **wall sconce** (197829) in brushed nickel; all Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Carrera marble **countertop**, Caledonia Marble, Toronto, (416) 256-0251.
- **Valspar paint** in Hot Springs (CI 186), Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Grohe Somerset Sink **faucet** (20-133-18172), by special order from Lowe's, lowes.ca. Kohler Memoirs Comfort Height elongated **toilet** (K-11968-0) in white, Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Saber Carrara Extra Basketweave mosaic **floor tiles** (286326), by special order from Lowe's, lowes.ca.

### Page 160:

- American Standard whistler **tub** (1718202.020) in white; and **drain** (1583470.002) in chrome; by special order from Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Three- by six-inch SL gloss white **field wall tile** (64396); two- by six-inch white **chair rail wall tile cap** (190931); half-inch- by six-inch **black tile wall accent bar** (90529); and two- by six-inch **bull-nose end cap shower tile** (3379); all Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Somerset **lever handle temperature control** (19320 and 19322); Rainshower rustic **shower set** (27140); and Grohe six-inch Diverter wall mount **tub spout** (13199); all in chrome; by special order from Lowe's, lowes.ca.
- Seabury **towel ring** (40158); Seabury **towel bar** (40157); Seabury **paper holder** (40160); and Seabury **robe hook** (40159); all in chrome; all Grohe; Lowes, lowes.ca. **Bathroom accessories**, all Sears, sears.ca.

## DON'T NEED A FULL-BLOWN RENO?

Check out [canadianliving.com/october](http://canadianliving.com/october) for budget-friendly ways to make your bathroom beautiful.