

Right-Sizing Your Home

How To Make Your House Fit Your Lifestyle 🏠 GALE C. STEVES



MIRROR IMAGE

This double bath cabinet has it all. It lifts up from the bottom for easy access. The bottom shelf includes electrical outlets for plug-and-play. Handy pendant lights don't add glare in the mirror.



The shower also needs to function well with thermostatic controls for the proper water temperature. Think about a showerhead that gives you precisely the quick, easy spray you want, to get you on your way. Multiple towels sit in readiness and easy access as you turn off the water. Ten minutes down...

Maybe you don't consider the toilet as a time-saver, but the latest generation of water-saving toilets have new features to do just that. The soft-close toilet seat automatically lowers to be ready for the next occupant. Dual-flush toilets offer two levels of water flushing as needed. Consider a wall-hung toilet for your comfort height if placed in a larger bathroom.

Lighting controls that turn off automatically after a period of time are a good buy for the Express Bather, as is an electronic exhaust system. You don't have to worry about whether you left that light or fan on, as you zoom ahead to dress for the day.

If you are the kind of person who needs a full blast of information as you shave or wash, then having all those electronics close at hand is the answer. New bath cabinets have electrical outlets already installed, and all you have to do is preprogram your favorite channels or stations. Other electronics, such as hair dryers, toothbrushes, or razors can sit on a shelf in a charged position awaiting your arrival. If you store them elsewhere, keep them all together and plan for enough Ground Fault Interrupt (GFI) outlets for speedy grooming.

If your bathroom has pedestal sinks instead of a vanity, you need to think about creative use of small storage units that expand your at-hand supplies, when at the sink for that final touch-up. Extra washcloths, soap, and sundries can be near, but not in your way. Put your watch back on and check your timing. Twenty minutes in and out, but then who was counting? ●

HOT SEAT

Keep the toilet area clutter-free with a closed wastebasket, and toilet paper at arms reach. Select a comfort-height commode for easy on and off.





Lengthy Groomer Bathed in Beauty

VISUALIZE THE extravagance of having time to pamper yourself on a regular basis.

Most of us can only dream of this luxury. The truth is that you have a very busy life, with too many demands on your schedule, whether at home or in the outside world. Despite your best efforts, you don't have the leisure to schedule a spa treatment, or even a pedicure, so your bathroom becomes the site for all of your necessary beauty treatments. You remember your own mother having "beauty nights," and you understand now—only too well—how wonderfully therapeutic they can be.

If you are, or aspire to be, a Lengthy Groomer, having the space to give yourself a manicure or pedicure is an absolute necessity, not an indulgence. On a temporary basis, block out the world. Turn off your cell phone, computer, and any other distraction. Start by treating yourself to a soaking foot bath. Put those full-body sprays on "high" in your spacious shower, and let the water massage away the cares of the day. You're feeling better already.

Turn the lights down low and listen to soft music. All those tensions slide down the drain. Now slip into a plush, velvety-soft robe. Sound dreamy? If so, you really need some spoiling—and if you don't do it, who will?

GO WITH THE FLOW

This oversized shower replaced an unused whirlpool tub. Its multiple shower heads give a variety of bathing experiences. The heavy-duty glass doors roll with ease on imported metal casters, and the glass enclosure makes the room seem even larger. The teak floor is slip-resistant, and the companion fold-up seat adds a convenient place to shave. The foot bath, adjacent to the shower, is relaxing all by itself.





Resources

This book was planned with you in mind. I have found that the beautiful pictures are one of the frustrating things about home design books. You spot something really wonderful that would work well in your home, but nothing helps you find the product. Look carefully at the photography credits and the list of manufacturers and retailers that follow. They feature some good-looking products that may find a home in your newly Right-Sized house.

COMPANY INDEX

Alno Cabinets

617-896-2700
www.alnousa.com

American Leather Furniture

800-456-9599
www.americanleather.com

Arlinea Furniture

415-543-0771
www.arlineasanfrancisco.com

Armstrong Cabinets

800-527-5903
www.armstrong.com

Aristokraft Cabinets

812-482-2527
www.artistokraft.com

Baker Furniture

800-592-2537
www.kohlerinteriors/baker.com

Ballard Designs

800-536-7551
www.ballarddesigns.com

Bassett Furniture

877-525-7070
www.bassettfurniture.com

Bernhardt Furniture

877-442-4321
www.bernhardt.com

Blanco Sinks

800-451-5782
www.blancoamerica.com

Bosch Appliances

800-944-2900
www.bosch-home.com/us

California Closets

888-336-9707
www.californiaclosets.com

Crate&Barrel

214-398-1411
www.crateandbarrel.com

Crossville Ceramics

931-484-2110
www.crossvilleinc.com

Dal Tile

214-398-1411
www.daltile.com

Deca Toilets

877-802-1250
www.deca-us.com

Decora Cabinets

812-482-2527
www.decoracabinets.com

Delta Faucets

800-345-3358
www.deltafaucet.com

Driade

305-572-2900
www.driademiami.com

Duravit Plumbing

888-387-2848
www.duravit.com

Eldorado Stone

800-925-1491
www.eldoradostone.com

Ethan Allen

888-324-3571
www.ethanallen.com

Gerber Plumbing

866-538-5536
www.gerberonline.com

Global Views Accessories

888-956-0030
www.globalviews.com

Great Grabz Grab Bars

866-473-4722
www.greatgrabz.com

Hafele America Hardware

800-423-3931
www.hafele.com

Hammary Furniture

800-443-2920
www.hammary.com

HealthCraft Products

888-629-9992
www.healthcraftproducts.com

Herman Miller Furniture

616-654-3000
www.hermanmiller.com

Hettich Hardware

800-777-1772
www.hettichamerica.com

Hooker Furniture

276-656-3335
www.hookerfurniture.com

Hunter Douglas

800-789-0331
www.hunterdouglas.com

Jacuzzi

800-288-4002
www.jacuzzi.com

Kincaid Furniture

800-438-8207
www.kincaidfurniture.com

Kohler Plumbing

800-456-4537
www.kohler.com

KraftMaid Cabinets

888-562-7744
www.kraftmaid.com

Lane Furniture

877-472-3701
www.lanefurniture.com

Laufen Bath Products

866-696-2493
www.laufen.com

Lea Furniture

336-294-5233
www.leaindustries.com

Lexington Home Brands
336-474-5300
www.lexington.com

Maax Bath Products
888-957-7816
www.maax.com

Martha Stewart Furniture
888-5-MARTHA
www.bernhardt.com/
marthastewartfurniture

Merillat Cabinets
No general number available
www.merillat.com

Miele Appliances
800-999-1360
www.mieleusa.com

Moen
800-289-6636
www.moen.com

MTI Whirlpools
800-783-8827
www.MTIwhirlpools.com

Natuzzi Furniture
800-262-9063
www.natuzzi.com

Omega Cabinets
319-235-5700
www.omegacab.com

Pearl Baths
800-328-2531
www.pearlbaths.com

Perlick Beverage Refrigeration
800-558-5592
www.bringperlickhome.com

Plain & Fancy Custom Cabinetry
800-447-9006
www.plainfancycabinets.com

Poggenpohl Cabinets
800-987-0553
www.poggenpohl-usa.com

Poliform Furniture
888-POLIFORM
www.poliformusa.com

Restoration Hardware
800-910-9845
www.restorationhardware.com

Rev-A-Shelf Cabinet Accessories
800-626-1126
www.rev-a-shelf.com

Riverside Furniture
800-785-8282
www.riverside-furniture.com

Robern Bath Accessories
800-877-2376
www.robren.com

Roca Tile
877-472-3701
www.rocatile.com

Rowe Furniture
800-334-7693
www.rowefurniture.com

Sico Bed Hardware
800-328-6138
www.sicoinc.com

Sidelines Cabinet Hardware
480-767-9091 Ext. 7
www.sidelinesinc.com

Sligh Furniture
616-392-7101
www.sligh.com

Sonia Cabinets
888-766-4387
www.sonia-sa.com

St. Charles Cabinets
662-451-1000
www.stcharlescabinets.com

Stanley Furniture
276-627-2540
www.stanleyfurniture.com

The Container Store
888-266-8246
www.containerstore.com

The Old Wood Company
866-967-9663
www.theoldwoodco.com

Thermador Appliances
800-735-4328
www.thermador.com

**Timberlake/American Woodmark
Cabinets/Shenandoah Cabinets**
540-665-9100
www.americanwoodmark.com

Universal Furniture
877-804-5535
www.universalfurniture.com

Vanguard Furniture
828-328-5631
www.vanguardfurniture.com

Varena Kitchens
888-POLIFORM
www.poliformusa.com

Viking Appliances
888-845-4641
www.vikingrange.com

Walker Zanger Tile
818-252-4000 or 732-697-7700
www.walkerzanger.com

Wellborn Cabinets
800-762-4475
www.wellborn.com

Young America Youth Furniture
276-627-2540
www.youngamerica.com

Zoom-Room Hideaway Bed
888-211-1120
www.zoom-room.com

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

(*opposite title*) Yucatan Wall and Floor Tile
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4 Ikon Bath Suite from Moen Faucets

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