

MUST-HAVE BATHROOM TRENDS

The National Association of Home Builders asked homebuyers which bathroom features were on their wish lists, and which they couldn't live without. Here are some of their top answers.



SLIPPER TUBS

Named for the graceful sloping shape that sometimes resembles an old-fashioned slipper, these stand-alone tubs have become increasingly popular both for a shape that allows maximum relaxation, and the retreatlike focal point it adds to the room. Above, an owner's bath in our Kitty Hawk Executive features a large standalone version.



MULTIPLE SHOWER HEADS

This trend has been building for some time and has even evolved to include separate shower heads for two users. Traditionally, this feature includes at least one fixed shower head and a detachable sprayer - so, for example, the user can experience a gentle rain shower spray overhead while the handheld delivers a massage-like spray, for a spa-like experience. Above, the dual-head shower in our Kitty Hawk Legacy includes a detachable sprayer that adds convenience to its spa appeal.



EYE-CATCHING TILE

In a room where decor choices are at a minimum, great looking tile work is one area that lets your personality shine through. From tile that mimics wood, stone and brick, to different textures and shapes, to pops of color in an otherwise neutral space, the possibilities are endless.



WET ROOMS

One of the newest trends in bathroom design, wet rooms bring the open living space concept into the bathroom. It is literally a room designed to get wet, allowing the shower to be part of the space, with minimal walls separating it from the rest of the room. It has numerous benefits - from easier cleaning to reduced humidity and thus fewer opportunities for mold and mildew to grow. And with no barriers on the floor, it makes a popular aging in place feature. Above, the shower in this Kitty Hawk Legacy owner's bathroom features a narrow glass partition to separate the commode.



WINDOWS

Given most people start their day in the bathroom, it's no surprise natural light is a must-have feature here. From small windows that maximize privacy to full size windows and glass doors that invite the outdoors in, thoughtful window placement can add relaxation to a space.



DOUBLE VANITY

While by no means standard in most homes, bathroom vanities with more than one sink and extra counter and storage space are a must-have for many homebuyers, particularly those needing to share a bathroom. With a wide range of looks and finishes, this bathroom focal point can add charm and even a wow factor to a traditionally sterile space, especially with the addition of interesting mirrors and lighting fixtures. The clean white cabinet above adds interest to the relaxing neutral palette in a Monterey Legacy owner's bath.



GRANITE COUNTERTOPS

Popular in kitchens for its durability and timeless appeal, granite countertops have made a splash in bathrooms as well. Versatile enough to work with most textures and finishes, granite is popular with homebuyers for its "wow" factor in adding an upscale flair to an otherwise neutral space, but its stain resistance and durability also win points for keeping the room looking fresh. Above, a granite countertop adds elegance to a Port Royal owner's bath.



BATHROOM STORAGE

Cabinet, drawer and closet space in the bathroom is popular with homebuyers, especially when other storage is at a premium. Covell bathrooms have featured everything from small linen closets to full walk-in storage rooms.



CURBLESS SHOWERS

This feature has become increasingly popular in recent years, both for its aging in place functionality and design appeal. In a curbless shower, the floor and shower are flush, with no sill to step over, allowing easy access for anyone with mobility issues, and creating an eye-catching streamlined look. The curbless shower at left in our Kitty Hawk Legacy features drains that keep the water contained.



AGING IN PLACE FEATURES

They might not pack a design punch, but aging in place features are increasingly a must-have item on buyers' wish lists, both for their future selves and visiting family members. Features like curbless showers (left), non-slip floors, wide entryways and ample lighting can pack a practical punch and in many cases add design appeal. At right, a simple grab bar in the guest bath of a Kitty Hawk Classic can ease the stay for guests with a variety of needs.

