

# RECLAIMED SPACE

*Maximizing the space in a small en suite leads to innovative use of materials*

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**EVEN A TINY BATHROOM** can be turned into a highly functional, spacious and posh retreat, as evidenced by the airiness of a successful do-over within a master en suite's original 75-square-foot area.

"The room hardly fit one person with its original awkward layout," recalls designer Nathalie Tremblay at Atelier Cachet. "Now the husband can shower while the wife bathes their baby, or they can both use the sink."

Atelier Cachet transformed the en suite by reorganizing the space to put every possible inch to best use. "We had to change the location of all of the amenities," Tremblay says. "We also selected materials that would create the illusion of a larger area."

The whole room is made to feel bigger by extending the porcelain floor tiles to encompass the soaker tub and wall behind it. The deep but fairly narrow tub is made grander by placing it into a boxed frame so that it appears to float in the space.

Mirrored walls combine with wood-like porcelain tiles to create interest and the illusion of depth behind the tub and vanity. "Separate faucets at the trough sink allow each homeowner to wash up at the same time while maintaining sufficient counter space," Tremblay says. "The open shelving in the vanity for towels was another way to make a tight area feel larger." 

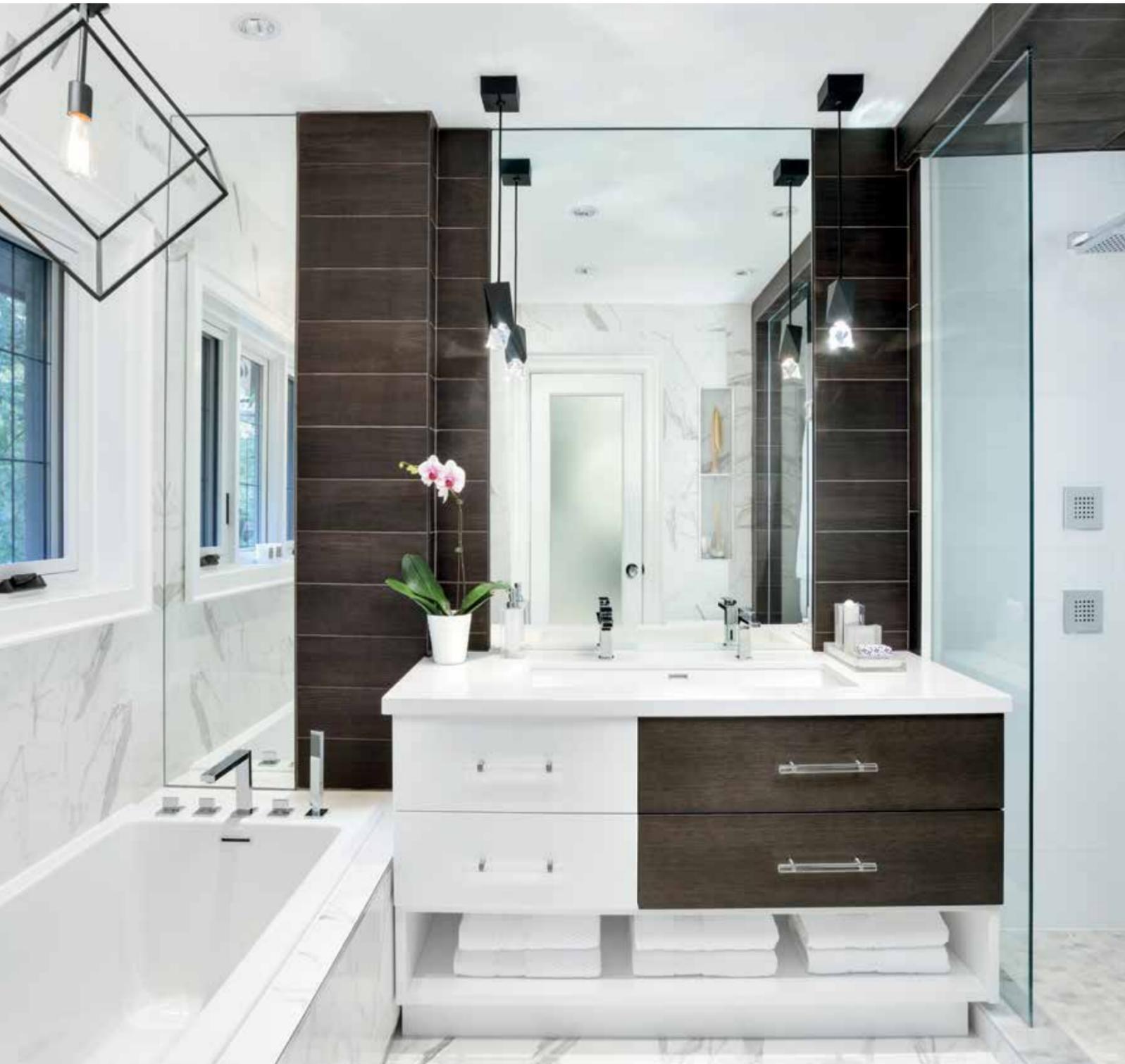


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*An airy lighting fixture (Union Lighting) and polished 12x24-inch porcelain tiles (Centura) on floor, walls and tub surround create an illusion of space.*

DESIGN



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Recessed lighting brightens the entire room, including the shower area, to prevent shadows that would make the room feel smaller. Sleek black pendant fixtures over the vanity are bejewelled with diamond-cut Swarovski crystal lights. An airy geometric lighting fixture over the tub plays with scale while maintaining the required openness.

The room’s spaciousness was facilitated by separating the shower area with clear tempered glass. The wood-like tiles cover the shower bench and extend up the wall to add warmth and to create an eye-catching architectural element. “The bench, like the tub, appears to be floating, which again creates the illusion of a bigger space,” Tremblay explains.

A sizeable white frame on the door makes the room’s entrance seem grander, with the door’s opaque glass adding to the room’s openness while providing the necessary privacy—a grand illusion in this cleverly designed small space. ➤

DESIGN

*Dark veenge-like porcelain tiles (Moscone) contrast against the Caesarstone countertop. Polished chrome faucets, tub filler set, showerhead and wand: Ginger’s.*