



Sense of craftsmanship

These bathrooms, in one apartment, reflect a wealth of detail, calling to mind the hand-worked interiors of the American Arts and Crafts movement

Inspiration for a bathroom design can come from all kinds of sources – even furniture can be a starting point.

These bathrooms in a 1960s high-rise are a perfect example. The owners had downsized from a large Craftsman-style home and thought they would need to get rid of their furniture, as it wouldn't be in keeping with the new interiors, says architect and designer Edward Kaplan.

"I suggested an alternative approach – to remodel all the interiors in an eclectic style that would integrate their much-loved furniture so it would work in the new modern setting."

In pursuit of this aesthetic, both these bathrooms feature intricate tile and millwork designs. The main bathroom (on these pages) also has a classic subway tile on the walls with a contrasting inlaid band of small tiles. This runs around the wall and into the shower and soap niche, drawing the long, narrow room together.

"To maintain privacy for the toilet and break up the space, we kept the blade wall between the vanity and shower area and designed a millwork cabinet at the entry to the bathroom.

"We also had to allow for wheelchair access, which is the reason for the floating vanities."

Facing page: Divide and rule – this bathroom by architect and designer Ed Kaplan features a blade wall on the vanity which brings privacy for the toilet and breaks up the flow of the room to make it look larger.

Above left: Detailed tilework creates visual interest and a Craftsman-style appeal that ties in with furniture in other rooms. Both bathrooms are designed to accommodate wheelchairs and include sturdy grab bars.



"We took the same approach in the guest bathroom but with different tiles. Here large vertical tiles on the lower half of the wall are capped with a band of smaller tiles with the same proportions, like a dado rail. The stick shape of these tiles also brings a light Asian influence to the design," says Kaplan.

Contrasting and complementing this look, tiny mosaics form the rear wall and floor of the shower. These are continued on the floor of the bathroom and as the vanity backsplash. The smaller tiles naturally require a lot of grouting which offers a safe, slip-free surface underfoot.

Tiling above and below the vanity gives the impression of a continuous flow of mosaics all the way behind it.

"The millwork on the vanity wraps up across the ceiling, creating a self-contained unit. The hammered copper sink is another artisanal touch, and adds a note of luxury. With open space underneath, we chose a bottle trap drain as the most attractive option," Kaplan says.

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***These pages:** The guest bathroom also celebrates an artisanal feel through its various tiled surfaces. Millwork that wraps up one side of the vanity and over the ceiling also gives the impression of hand-crafting. For the same reason, the mosaic tiles extend down the wall, across the floor and into the shower.*

*Story by Charles Moxham
Photography by Mitchell Shenker*

Architect and interior designer:

Edward Kaplan AIA, Wendy Cheng and David Seltzer, Kaplan Architects (San Francisco, CA)

Builder: Scott and Warner Builders

Main bathroom

Countertops: Custom quartz

Cabinetry: Zebra wood veneer

Cabinetry pulls: Mockett

Sink: Wetstyle

Faucets: Dornbracht

Shower enclosure: Schicker, glass

Floor tiles: Ann Sacks Gateway in Walnut

Wall tiles: Ann Sacks Elements in Natural; accent tiles: Ann Sacks Savoy in Brick

Lighting: Puck lights by Intense Lighting; LED strip lights by Celestial Lighting; recessed light by Elite

Guest bathroom

Countertops: Custom quartz

Cabinets: Quarter-sawn white oak

Cabinetry pulls: Mockett

Sink: Native Trails

Faucets: Dornbracht

Wall tiles: Ann Sacks Chisai mosaics in Chocolate; Ann Sacks Koi in Sharkskin

Lighting: Surface-mounted overhead light by Access Lighting; LED strip lights by Celestial Lighting

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