

WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD®

2016-2017

# BEST FOR HOME



IDEAS FOR YOUR BATH BUYER'S GUIDE

## *The Bath of Your Dreams*



### **DIY PROJECTS**

You'll want to make today

### **BEAUTY & FUNCTION**

Find tips and tools to create a great look

### **STORAGE SOLUTIONS**

for the bath and beyond

# How to use the guide

Read, share and zoom

The screenshot shows a digital magazine cover for 'BEST FOR HOME' with the title 'The Bath of Your Dreams'. The cover features a bathroom scene with a sink, mirror, and potted plants. Text on the cover includes 'WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD 2014', 'IDEAS FOR YOUR BATH', 'BUYER'S GUIDE', and sections for 'DIY PROJECTS', 'BEAUTY & FUNCTION', and 'STORAGE SOLUTIONS'. The interface includes a navigation bar at the bottom with icons for search, thumbnails, and full-screen view. A sidebar on the right contains a search bar and a 'YOU CAN PUBLISH TOO' button. Callouts with arrows point to various features: 'TURN PAGES' (left and right arrows), 'JUMP to first page of an issue' (left arrow), 'JUMP to last page of an issue' (right arrow), 'ZOOM for reading using this slide tool' (plus/minus icon), 'SHARE the full issue, a specific page or download the issue. Share on social media too!' (Share icon), 'LOGIN and 'like' an issue' (heart icon), 'SEARCH by keyword' (magnifying glass icon), 'ADD THUMBNAILS to your viewing pane' (document icon), 'VIEW in full screen or window' (full-screen icon), and 'PLACE all of your favorite issues in a stack for easy access' (stack icon). A box at the bottom left explains that links to additional information and websites are denoted with a blue box and/or shadow.

**TURN PAGES**

**JUMP** to first page of an issue

**JUMP** to last page of an issue

**ZOOM** for reading using this slide tool

**SHARE** the full issue, a specific page or download the issue. Share on social media too!

**LOGIN** and 'like' an issue

**SEARCH** by keyword

**ADD THUMBNAILS** to your viewing pane

**VIEW** in full screen or window

**PLACE** all of your favorite issues in a stack for easy access

**Links to additional information and websites** are denoted with a blue box and/or shadow. Click and a new window will open for the link.

# contents



LOOK FOR THIS SEAL!  
These brands have been selected by women like you!



2016  
**WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD**  
THE VOICE OF WOMEN



# Yes, You Can!

\*  
Look for these icons  
to access bonus  
content, videos,  
tools and brilliant  
ideas you can use  
today to feather  
your nest.



## HOME IMPROVEMENT.

It's become a family endeavor. We all like to jump in and get our hands dirty, and when the job is done, we love to admire our hard work with a healthy dose of pride.

The *Women's Choice Award® Best for Home Buyer's Guide* is an easy reference tool to inspire and assist you as you strive to make your home not just a house, but a haven. What makes this guide so special? We've done the legwork for you. Women across the country have vetted their favorite and most relied-upon brands and awarded them with the Women's Choice Award designation. We showcase them here—along with practical, insightful tips—so you can condense the research phase and dive right into the home-improvement fun.

The Women's Choice Award gives a powerful voice to women and offers a selection of top products chosen by the people who use those products most often. As you peruse the pages, remember that you are viewing products and services from the top-rated brands in their categories. Let's build it together.

All the best,

**Delia Passi**  
Editor-in-Chief  
Founder, Women's Choice Award

**AT THE HOME DEPOT**, we have witnessed the explosive growth in home-improvement projects championed by women. It only makes sense to carry Women's Choice Award brands in our stores. Alongside these leading products, you have the backing and support of the world's largest home improvement specialty retailer, The Home Depot.

- Attend our weekly in-store Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Workshops—and Do-It-Herself Workshops.
- Visit The Home Depot service sites for decorating, measuring, and DIY project ideas.
- Do more on the go. Get the mobile app to buy products, view inventory, read and submit product reviews or scan in-aisle to access detailed product information.

The Home Depot is your place, partner and guide for home improvement. We support and encourage women in building, creating and imagining their homes as retreats where they have placed their hearts and hard work.

More saving, more doing.

Warm regards,

**Mike Hogenmiller**  
Merchandising Vice President  
Kitchen and Bath  
The Home Depot



**DEBI WAYLAND**

Hello! I'm Debi Wayland, the girl behind Life Currents where I write about healthy dishes, projects, crafts and organizing. Life takes you many places. Ride with the current and see where it takes you. I invite you to join me as I celebrate my love of life. [lifecurrents.dw2.net](http://lifecurrents.dw2.net)



Brought to you by



# Organizing the Bathroom

Corral the clutter by cleaning out those drawers and linen closets.

**THE FIRST STEP OF SORTING AND CLEANING IS THE LONGEST AND HARDEST.**

You have to pull everything out just to see it all. But, once that's done, the fun part starts.

*I've always been an organized person.*

But lately I've seen some really cool ideas on Pinterest that have inspired me to be even more organized. I started in the bathrooms and have several tips to help you organize your bathrooms, too.



*Do you have a medicine cabinet with metal on the inside?* If so, small magnetic bins are a great way to organize everything from makeup to medicines. I have a bin to hold all my eye makeup: liners, mascara, etc. Don't forget to use the back of the door to hold small flat items such as bobby pins or small cuticle trimmers.



**COUNTER HELP**

- Buy a pretty glass jar for the bathroom counter. It's a great way to store items you want to grab as you're heading out in the morning such as vitamins, chewy calcium squares or other supplements.
- During cold and flu season, fill your jar with cough drops or packets of Emergen-c.

Reposition the shelves so that they fit your other items without wasting space.

**Corral ponytail holders** with a carabiner, shower curtain ring or a large barrette.

Once you've tackled the bathrooms in your home, I hope you're inspired to move on to other rooms and continue organizing!



# Outside the Organizer

## BOX



Use a shoe organizer or create your own catch-all for every room.

**I LOVE THOSE OVER-THE-DOOR SHOE ORGANIZERS.** They're so versatile! Be sure to get a clear one so you don't have to look inside each pocket. You can screw them in to the top of the door but a better option might be to replace the metal hangers with colorful ribbon and hang on removable hooks. If the store-bought organizer doesn't seem to fit your needs, consider sewing your own for custom-sized pockets. You can use these handy, hanging organizers for a variety of items in each room of your home.

### CRAFT SUPPLIES

- sewing supplies, knitting materials
- school/craft supplies
- gift wrapping supplies

If you have kids, be sure to put the paint & "permanent" colored stuff up top where little hands can't reach

### KITCHEN

- utensils
- dishwashing and cleaning supplies
- spices such as seasoning packages of dry Italian, dry ranch, gravy mix, taco seasonings
- coffee

### BEDROOM

- belts scarves, gloves, hats
- shoes (duh!)

### LAUNDRY ROOM/MUDROOM

- cleaning supplies, stain remover sticks, spray and wash
- mesh laundry bags, fabric softener sheets
- all the miscellaneous items that would normally go in a junk drawer
- sunscreen
- bug spray

### HOME OFFICE

- staplers, tape dispensers, general office supplies
- stationery

### BATHROOM

- bathtub toys
- hairspray, toiletries, makeup, fingernail polish, lotions, body wash, bubble bath
- first aid supplies
- backup supplies in the guest bathroom such as toothbrushes, tooth paste, mini shampoo bottles
- girls' hair accessories like brushes, ribbons, barrettes, clips, bows, etc.

Consider a small version of this organizer that stays with your suitcases so that you can take it on vacation. Put all your toiletries in it and when you arrive at the destination you can hang it up, and it doesn't take up any room in those tiny hotel bathrooms.

### KIDS AND BABY'S ROOMS

- Dolls, toy cars and other small toys
- bath toys, wash cloths, baby shampoo
- girls' hair bows, brushes, hair bands, head bands, ribbons
- sippy cups
- extra crib sheets
- baby outfits – one in each pocket
- cloth diapers

### OUTDOORS

- **herb garden:** put pots in the pouches or put seeds directly inside (probably use canvas on this one so it drains)
- small garden tools
- seed packets

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you by



TO GET WHAT YOU WANT, YOU MUST KNOW WHAT YOU WANT.

TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT, LEARN WHAT'S POSSIBLE.

Brought to you by

KraftMaid



## How to eliminate *that drawer crammed with old lip balm, bobby pins, cotton swabs and cuticle scissors.*

Sarah Reep, ASID, IIDA, Certified Master Designer at KraftMaid Cabinetry.



**APPEARANCES AREN'T WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT.** You and your designer can work together to create a beautiful bath – KraftMaid can provide nearly any look. But don't just think about the look.



*Since vanity drawers tend to be deep and the stuff we store inside them tends to be small, this wooden-tiered storage tray doubles the usefulness of the available space – and keeps all those bath necessities organized.*

CoreGuard®, an innovative engineered polymer that protects the undersink area – and your investment. And KraftMaid's standard DuraKraft™ Plus Finishing System means the bath (where foams, aerosols, glide sticks and liquid medicines are a daily challenge) will stay protected from stains, streaks and discolorations – far above industry standards.

To browse bath and vanity options, visit [homedepot.kraftmaid.com](http://homedepot.kraftmaid.com).

What makes a KraftMaid kitchen different is also true of a KraftMaid bath—from soft-close doors and drawers to the DuraKraft™ Plus Finishing System, innovation comes standard in every KraftMaid® bath.

Get started at [homedepot.kraftmaid.com](http://homedepot.kraftmaid.com)

### JUDGE IDEAS BY HOW YOU ACTUALLY USE THE SPACE.

People “lose stuff” in hard-to-reach places – so KraftMaid's roll-out trays are thoughtfully designed to fit around plumbing and extend fully. It eliminates reaching around the sink to find what's way back there, waiting to expire.

### WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE.

Beneath the sink is a danger zone for cabinets: it's where leaks go quietly unnoticed until they've caused damage. So KraftMaid invented



*No more “Can you move, please, I need the hair dryer?” If someone's at the sink blocking where you usually stand, just pull the hair dryer out the other side. One more real-life problem solved by real-life design.*



KraftMaid®

2016 WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARDS



# Bathroom **IDEAS**

**UPDATING YOUR BATHROOM DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A TEDIOUS PROJECT.** In fact, it can be a project you and a helper can tackle in less than a day. Let us show you how to transform your bath and get the look you've always wanted for less.

## BATHROOM LIGHTING IDEAS



Strike a balance that creates an eclectic mix to suit your design aesthetic.

## AFFORDABLE BATHROOM UPDATES



Let's upgrade our bath to dream status. Easy bath updates.

## DESIGN YOUR OWN VANITY



Customize size, style, color and bowl style.

## DIY WORKSHOPS



Use our step-by-step guides online or visit us in-store for a DIY workshop.



BEST FOR HOME |

BATHROOM DESIGN CORNER

# GROUT

## *Cleaning*

### 101

Make a tough job easy and keep your grout looking great from now on.

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**NO ONE LIKES GRUNGY GROUT IN THE SHOWER OR IN THE BACKSPASH AROUND THE VANITY.** Keep yours clean and fresh with these tips for getting rid of stains and mildew.

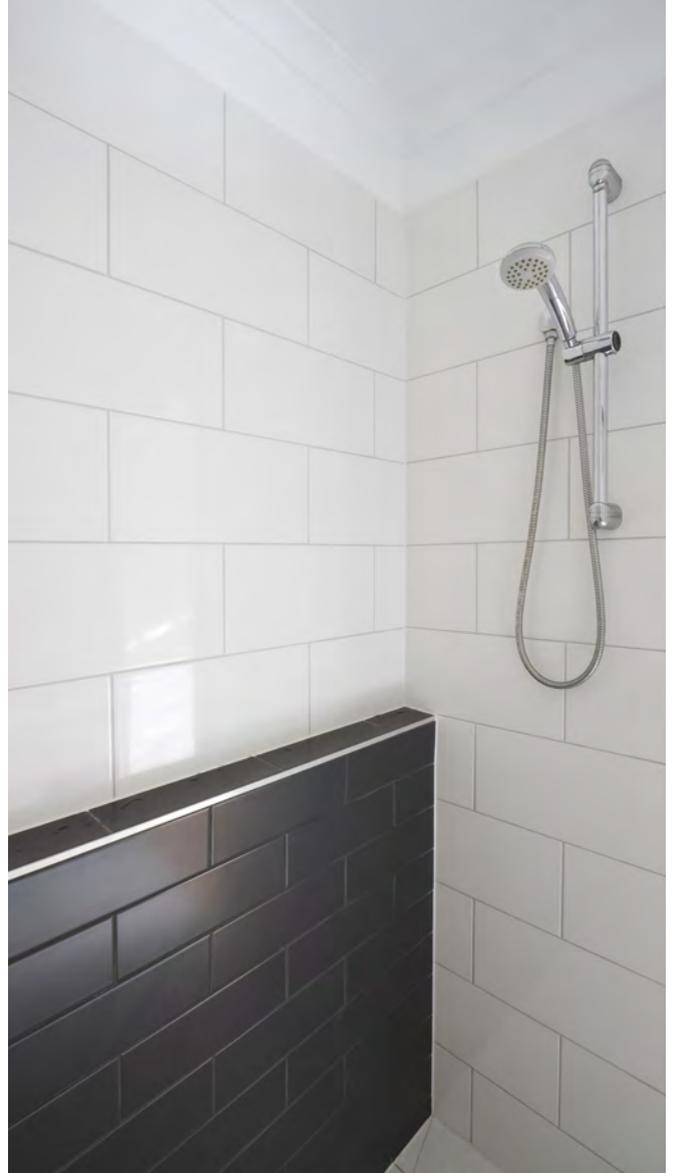
**OLD GROUT** may need cleaning with a wax stripper or heavy-duty cleaner plus a grout brush. Use a bleaching cleanser on tough spots. Once the grout is as clean as you can get it, rinse it well. When it's thoroughly dry, apply a coat of masonry sealer so that it doesn't absorb dirt in the future. Do not use bleach to clean colored grout.

**FOR MILDEWED GROUT** in tubs or showers, use a grout brush with a 1 to 5 solution of chlorine bleach and water (do not use bleach to clean colored grout.). Never use bleach in combination with any ammonia-based products, and be sure the area is well ventilated before you begin. When you've finished, rinse the area well to remove all traces of bleach.

**CLEAN COLORED GROUT** with a heavy-duty cleaner and a grout brush, but don't use bleach as this may remove the color from the grout. Be sure to never use a bleaching solution on colored grout. A masonry sealer can be applied to clean, colored grout to ward off future stains.

Brought to you by

**merry maids**  
Relax. It's Done.™



#### THINGS YOU'LL NEED

- ❑ Wax stripper or heavy-duty cleaner
- ❑ Grout brush
- ❑ Bleaching cleanser
- ❑ Water
- ❑ Masonry sealer



# Fresh and CLEAN

Keeping your kitchen clean is an everyday endeavor, but it doesn't have to be a hard one. The secret? Stocking up on the best tools for the job.

**HERE WE UNLOCK EASY, YET POWERFUL TIPS** for making your kitchen sparkle using these most-recommended cleaning products.

## FLOORING

**MAKE FLOORS SHINE.** Give your kitchen floor a daily once-over with a Swiffer Sweep & Trap to keep it crumb- and dust-free. *Tip: It also works well for big dry spills.* For wet spills, sticky spots, or dirty footprints, the Swiffer Sweeper will easily do the trick. When you're ready for a deeper, wall-to-wall clean, break out the Swiffer Bissell SteamBoost.

## WALLS, CEILINGS, LIGHTS AND FANS

**ELIMINATE DUST.** A Swiffer Mop is not just for the floor! Mop your ceilings and walls, too, to remove cobwebs or prep for painting. Remove dust and allergens from your ceiling fans and light fixtures easily with a Swiffer 360° Duster Extender.

**WIPE AWAY GRIME—EASILY.** No need to scrub and strain to remove your walls' grimy marks and stains. The Mr. Clean Magic Eraser works some serious magic with a few simple swipes. And don't forget the baseboards!



## COUNTERTOPS AND MORE

**DE-GREASE SURFACES.** You already know Dawn dish soap easily cleans greasy dishes, so it makes sense that it can do the same for countertops, stoves (even burners), refrigerators and more. *How to do it:* Apply a few drops to a sponge or dish cloth under running, warm water. Squeeze out suds. Scrub; then use a Bounty paper towel to dry the surface. You can also use Mr. Clean multipurpose cleaners to disinfect any surface in your kitchen.



## CLEAN OUT YOUR OVEN.

Dawn dishwasher detergent is an excellent degreaser. You can also try a homemade solution of three parts hot water and one part white vinegar, plus the juice of one lemon, freshly squeezed. Use a spray bottle to spread the solution and Bounty paper towels to scrub the baked-on grease away.





**GETTING IT DONE WITH #1.** When it comes to your laundry and dishes, simplify these chores by using these most-recommended tools for the job.



**FRESH SMELL**

**SPRAY AWAY FOOD ODORS.** Keep a can of Febreze under the sink to quickly replace lingering food smells with a fresh, inviting scent.

Spray Febreze directly on your air filters, that way it will circulate through your entire house when the air kicks on.

**DISHES**

**HELP YOUR DISHWASHER DO ITS JOB.** Over time, your dishwasher itself may get dirty. You can shine up the outside with soap and water or a cleaner formulated for stainless steel, depending on its exterior material. For an interior cleaning, run a cycle with Cascade Dishwasher Cleaner. Use soapy water and Bounty paper towels to remove mold and mildew from the rubber seal around the dishwasher door. Also, you can boost your dishwasher's efficiency by cleaning its spray-arm nozzles, which can get clogged with food or hard-water mineral deposits. Clean out the holes with a toothpick or paper clip, or a soft brush and vinegar.

**LAUNDRY**

**UNDERSTANDING HIGH EFFICIENCY.** Get amazing results while saving water and electricity with Tide HE detergent - 6x the cleaning power in half the wash time with smart suds technology.

*You'll find all of these fine Procter & Gamble products at The Home Depot. Click here.*



*A 2016 Women's Choice Award Winner*



**LIZ LATHAM**

Liz Latham is the creator of Hoosier Homemade, a national lifestyle blog devoted to helping the craft and cooking challenged become domestic goddesses. By providing easy to understand recipes and step-by-step DIY craft and party-planning ideas, she gives thousands of moms more ways to be heroes to their families. Visit Liz at [hoosierhomemade.com](http://hoosierhomemade.com)



**YOUR SINK IS NOT THE ONLY SURFACE TO USE BAKING SODA. GIVE ONE OF THESE IDEAS A TRY...**

- ✔ **Toilet Bowl:** Sprinkle with baking soda and a splash of vinegar, then clean with a toilet brush.
- ✔ **Refrigerator Deodorization:** Place a new, opened box of baking soda in your refrigerator to deodorize
- ✔ **Cleaning Countertops:** Use baking soda for scratch-free cleaning on surfaces like countertops.
- ✔ **Personal Care:** Baking soda is a natural and affordable option to meet many personal care needs, including cleaning and exfoliating, soothing minor skin irritations, freshening breath and clarifying hair.
- ✔ **Pots, pans, and stainless steel:** Use baking soda as a paste to safely clean stuck-on food.



Brought to you by



# Clean Your Sink Naturally and Safely

A kitchen staple makes cleaning a breeze.

**WE'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH BAKING SODA FOR OUR BAKING**, but what about for cleaning? Did you know you can use it as a multi-purpose cleaner throughout your home?

**Sinks see a lot of traffic – usually dirty traffic – in a day.** Keep your sink looking great – naturally and safely – with baking soda.

When I first started Hoosier Homemade and for many years prior to that, I used baking soda to clean our

home. Not only does it work great, it's also less expensive than commercial cleaners. Not to mention, it doesn't have all those chemicals and fumes that the sprays do.

Fast-forward a few years, and the busier I am with blogging and the business,

my husband Doug has taken over much of the cleaning for me. Now, while it's a HUGE help to have him working with me, guys sometimes just like doing things their own way. And he liked using the sprays. Since I didn't want to complain – after all, he was cleaning the house – I let

him clean with the products he wanted.

Then along came the opportunity to use baking soda, so I had him give it a try for himself. Let's just say – he is sold on using baking soda from now on. Just a sprinkle of the baking soda in the sink, a little water and a sponge is all he used.

Baking soda is perfect for the laundry room too. Add two scoops of baking soda to your load to get your clothes whiter and fresher.



# TAMING *the* Towels

A DIY industrial-style towel bar looks great in any bath.



**WHETHER YOU HAVE A COUNTRY-KITSCH KITCHEN OR A SLEEK, MODERN LOOK**, this DIY towel bar made from black steel pipe and fittings will add a striking touch to the room. Even though you wouldn't think of pipes and fittings looking good along side the antiques or high-gloss cabinets, it really looks pretty cool! And you can find all the supplies at your local Home Depot.

## HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- ✓ Industrial Towel Bar Supplies
- ✓ ½" black pipe (in any length you would like your towel bar to be)
- ✓ 2 - ½" 90-degree elbows
- ✓ 2 - ½" close nipples
- ✓ 2 - ½" floor plates
- ✓ 12 - 1" stainless steel wood screws



## STEP 1

- Use two 8-inch pipe wrenches or slip-joint pliers and attach the elbows to the ends of your pipe. Cover the jaws of the pipe wrenches or pliers with a heavy cloth so they don't scratch the pipe and fittings.

## STEP 2

- Now thread the close nipples into the elbows, do not tighten at this time.

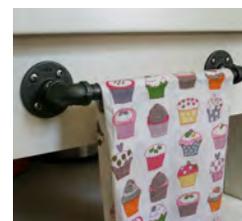
## STEP 3

- Attach the floor plates to the close nipples and tighten by hand only, you don't need to have these connections super tight.

- Make any adjustments to the towel bar to get both floor plates to align up flush on the surface where you will be mounting the bar.
- Apply a protective coating using a clear polyacrylic; this will prevent the pipe and fitting from rusting. We used Minwax Clear Semi-Gloss Polycrylic.

## MOUNTING

- Mount the bar using the stainless steel wood screws. Be sure to pre-drill your holes so you don't split the wood.



## FAST FIX

This project was quick and easy, in less than an hour, including drying time, the industrial towel bar was up and ready to use.

[hoosierhomemade.com](http://hoosierhomemade.com)





### AMY LOCURTO

With more than 20 years in the design industry, she enjoys it all. A graphic designer from Dallas, Texas, Amy publishes Living Locurto, a DIY lifestyle website with fun party ideas, recipes, crafts and travel tips for the family. Amy's signature product line for American Crafts, "Party with Amy Locurto" is a collection of paper products for parties and scrapbooking. Find inspiration and tips to live a more creative life at [livinglocurto.com](http://livinglocurto.com).



Brought to you by

Living Locurto

# Homemade Lemon & Lavender Linen Spray

Freshen up your household fabrics with a sweet smelling spray.

**I LOVE ESSENTIAL OILS** for making homemade air freshener and linen spray. Recently, I've been coming up with all kind of sprays! You can make your own linen spray, too.

**TO ELIMINATE** any bathroom odors and make towels and sheets smell amazing, try making one of my favorite homemade linen sprays!

It's simple and requires only a few ingredients. You can make this spray with any essential oil fragrances, but I recommend lemon and lavender.



## LEMON & LAVENDER LINEN SPRAY

### What you'll need:

- 30 Drops of essential oils
- 3 oz. rubbing alcohol or Vodka
- 1.5 cups distilled water
- spray bottle
- funnel (or mix in a glass measuring cup for easy pouring)

### Directions:

1. Mix 30 drops of essential oils and 3 oz. of rubbing alcohol or Vodka into a glass.
2. Add 1-1/2 cups of distilled water to the mixture.
3. Pour into a spray bottle.
4. Shake the bottle before each use.

I recently used this spray on some stinky wicker baskets and the odor went away immediately. Love it!



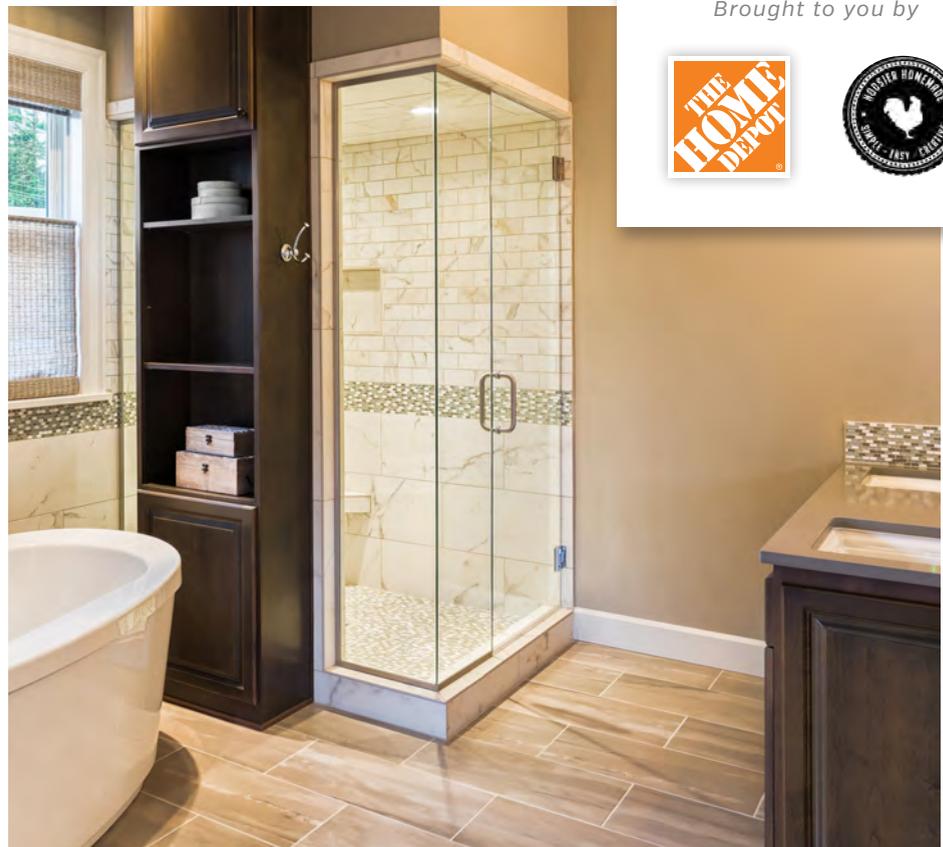
Redesigning your bathroom is easy with Home Depot

# Bathroom

**GOING TO HOME DEPOT TO SHOP FOR A REMODELING PROJECT CAN BE A BIT OVERWHELMING.** But with some planning and a lot of wandering, you can get everything you need to complete your project from tools to beautiful tile to a sink and faucet. Our bathroom was in desperate need of a little TLC.

## SUPPLIES

- Paint:** Glidden in Antique Silver for the ceiling and trim; Rust-Oleum Metallic for the ceiling light and fan
- Faucet and towel racks:** Glacier Bay Edgewood 3-piece bath accessory kit came with towel ring and bar and toilet paper holder {we bought 2 sets}
- Faucet:** Glacier Bay Edgewood
- Glass shelf:** Delta Greenwich
- Showerhead:** Waterpik
- Shower rod:** Glacier Bay shower rod
- Shower curtain:** InterDesign Carlton in white



Brought to you by



**A few of the updates needed** included eliminating the shiny brass fixtures, replacing the showerhead and sprucing the space up a bit to coordinate with the ceramic tile we planned to keep. We headed to the Home Depot Renew and

Redo event and found everything we needed.

We were impressed with the customer service. I know we are probably “old school,” but it sure is nice to go into a store where the employees are friendly

and helpful. We had lots of questions, and when the employee helping us couldn't answer our questions about our showerhead, he went and found the plumbing specialist who was happy to help.

# MAKEOVER

1

## FIXTURES AND BATHROOM CEILING



We decided to go with brushed nickel finish for the new fixtures. The existing tile has a very subtle shade of silvery blue, so we chose a beautiful Antique Silver paint made by Glidden for the bathroom ceiling. We removed the covers from the recessed light and exhaust fan and painted the trim pieces with Rust-Oleum Metallic Satin Nickel spray paint.

2

## SHOWERHEAD



The next step was to replace the showerhead. We bought a Waterpik and the shower arm with flange to connect it to the wall. We love the new shower! It has multiple settings, one with a massaging action.

3

## SHOWER DOORS, CURTAIN AND GLASS SHELF



Our shower has glass doors with brass trim. Because of the complexities of removing the door unit and because we have three boys which means water everywhere, we opted for a creative solution here. We kept the doors intact and hid them behind a fresh white shower curtain hung on a brushed nickel tension rod. It was quick and easy to install, with no drilling necessary.

We also installed a new glass shelf with brushed nickel hardware and a faucet to match.

4

## FAUCET, TOWEL RACKS AND TOILET PAPER HOLDERS



Our final step is to replace the towel racks and toilet paper holders, although we may have a little problem. The set we purchased doesn't fit perfectly over the hole in the ceramic tile from the existing pieces. And drilling a new hole may crack the tile. Obviously, we don't want that to happen. We plan to paint the existing holders like we did the light fixture. But that's for a future weekend project.





**HOLLY SOSA**

I'm Holly, a SoCal Mama with a Michigan heart. I am a lover of holidays, a stationery addict, and food is my love language. I believe in bright colors, mismatched prints, and spritzing the scent of lavender everywhere I go. The way to my heart is through the color lilac and florals ... and there's also gravy. Visit my blog at ourhollydays.com.



**DIY TOILET BOMBS**

**Ingredients**

- 1½ cup baking soda
- ½ cup citric acid
- 30 drops lavender essential oil
- 30 drops lemon essential oil
- 30 drops peppermint essential oil
- 1 tsp. water

**Instructions**

- In a large bowl, combine baking soda and citric acid.
- Add essential oils.
- Using a spray bottle, add water a little at a time, mixing well, until mixture just starts to clump.
- Transfer to silicone mold by packing in and pushing down on mixture.
- Set for four to five hours.
- Remove from silicone mold and store in glass jar.

# DIY Toilet Cleaning Bombs

Keep the toilet sparkling with these fun, fizzy cleaners.

**TWO LITTLE BOYS** with terrible aim make for a pretty gross toilet. I feel like I'm scrubbing my boys' bathroom toilet every single day. Probably because I am. I needed a solution. So when I discovered I could whip up my own DIY Toilet Cleaning Bombs that help clean, disinfect and even add a lovely scent to the air, I was super excited to try it out for myself – and you will be, too.

These little beauties sit in a sealed glass jar on the back of my boys' toilet. [Only use glass as the essential oils are strong and can harm plastic.] They save my sanity by allowing me to plop one in daily rather than having to scrub it out myself. The boys love to watch them fizz up and scrub the toilet with their magic bubbles.

It's pretty much a family event when we plop one of these in the toilet. The kids love to gather around and watch it fizz and bubble up. I have to admit, these things are pretty neat!

- ✓ To start, you'll mix together some baking soda with a bit of citric acid.
- ✓ Next, add in some essential oils. Lemon is a natural disinfectant, which makes it ideal for these toilet bombs. I used a combination of lemon, peppermint and lavender.
- ✓ Using a spray bottle, lightly spray the mixture with water. The citric acid and baking soda are activated with water, so you want to go gentle here. Just lightly spray a bit at a time until you get to a texture you can mold together.
- ✓ When it just barely starts to clump up, it's ready to be transferred to a mold. Firmly press the mixture into a silicone mold – the kind often used for baking or candy making.
- ✓ Allow the molds to sit for several hours before removing them.

# 3

## BATHROOM DESIGN IDEAS

*You can do it...*

1

### MINI MAKEOVER

A new sink is a quick-and-easy way to upgrade your bathroom with minimal investment of time and money.



REFRESH YOUR BATH WITHOUT A MAJOR REMODEL

#### Cool tools:

- ✓ Project Calculators;
- ✓ Utility Rebate Finder;
- ✓ Ask an Expert

2

### STORAGE

Need additional storage in your bathroom? Vanities come in many styles and finishes and offer hidden storage for small spaces.



ADD BEAUTY, STORAGE AND FUNCTIONALITY TO YOUR BATH

THE APRON BLOG BY THE HOME DEPOT  
DIY, Décor, Organization and Entertaining ideas

3

### BLING ON A BUDGET

Vintage-inspired hardware can take your bathroom cabinetry from blah to beautiful.



UPDATING HARDWARE IS A QUICK FIX FOR A BORING BATH

UPGRADE YOUR TOILET



Brought to you by



BEST FOR HOME |

BATHROOM DESIGN IDEAS

# TRIED. TESTED. RECOMMENDED.

The following brands were voted #1 most recommended by women across America. *Find them at The Home Depot!*

COMPANY	CATEGORY AWARDED
Andersen	Doors and Windows
Black & Decker	Hand and Power Tools, Handheld Leaf Blower and Paper Shredder
Clorox	Bathroom Cleaner
CLR	Lime, Calcium and Rust Remover
Cricut	Die Cut & Embossing Machines
Dewalt	Portable Generator
Drano	Drain Cleaner
Duraflame	Fire Starter and Indoor Fireplace
Duramax	Outdoor Storage Shed
Dyson	Vacuum
Easy-Off	Cooktop Cleaner and Oven Cleaner
Elmer's	Wood Glue
First Alert	Smoke Detector
GAF	Roofing Products
Gorilla	Super Glue
Hampton Bay	Interior Lighting
Honeywell	Humidifier
Hunter Douglas	Window Treatment
Intex	Above Ground Pool
John Deere	Lawn Tractor / Riding Mower

COMPANY	CATEGORY AWARDED
KIDS 'N' PETS	Stain & Odor Remover
KitchenAid	Wine Refrigerator
Kwikset	Electronic Keyless Deadbolt (Door Lock)
Linksys	Wireless Router
Liquid-Plumr	Garbage Disposal Cleaner
Logitech	Webcam
Maglite	Flashlight
Martha Stewart Crafts	Craft Painting Supplies (Brushes, Paints, Kits)
Minwax	Wood Protector Sealant
Philips	Lightbulb
Presto	Food Dehydrator
Rust-Oleum	Spray Paint
Safe Paw	Snow / Ice Melt
Safety 1st	Child Proofing & Home Safety
SharkVAC	Automatic Pool Vacuum Cleaner
SwissGear	Laptop Bag
Thomasville Cabinetry	Kitchen Cabinetry
Thompson's WaterSeal	Wood Waterproofer
Waterpik	Electronic Flosser

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