

# HOMES & GARDENS®

**PATTERN &  
PERSONALITY**  
CHIC TRIMMINGS  
ELEGANT HALLWAYS  
SMALL SPACES

**PROJECT  
INSPIRATION**  
FROM NEW WAYS  
WITH SHAKER TO  
DOUBLE VANITIES

**THE BEST  
OUTDOOR  
FURNITURE  
BRANDS**

**OUR PICK OF  
US DESIGNERS  
TO KNOW**



## American beauty

**MONTANA MAGIC, NEW YORK LUXE, MIAMI COLOUR**



# TAKE IT OUTSIDE

AS WE SEEK TO MERGE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR SPACES MORE AND MORE, THE POPULARITY OF SHOWERING IN THE SUN AND BATHING UNDER THE STARS IS ON THE UP

## PRIME POSITION

Connecting an outdoor bathroom to indoor utilities, such as the existing hot water supply, will help keep installation costs down. This simply executed outdoor bathroom in Puglia, Italy, is plumbed directly through the exterior wall of the property, so the hot water has less far to travel. 'Using seamless traditional finishes, such as pink-tinted cocciopesto plaster on the bath and limewashed sandstone walls, achieves an outdoor bathing space that connects quietly with the home and its surroundings,' says interior designer Andrew Trotter. →

For bespoke cocciopesto plasterwork, try De Ferranti. Project by Studio Andrew Trotter



DR Cemento  
drop-in outdoor  
bath. £13,298,  
West One  
Bathrooms



## 2 SUNKEN TREASURE

A sunken bath channels a spa-style hot tub feel, without the need for harsh chemicals. Deck installation can also make it easier to hide necessary pipework and drainage below. Agape's freestanding outdoor bath has the overflow integrated within its drain for a neat look. It can be supplied without an external structure to suit this built-in installation style. 'We love the luxury look of a sunken tub. Include a pull-out spray to make it easier to rinse the bath clean after use,' says Louise Ashdown, head of design, West One Bathrooms.


## 3 TAKE COVER

Concerned that showering outdoors will prove little more than a pipe dream for most of the year? New York-based West Chin Architects devised the perfect solution for this outdoor shower at a Long Island beach house, which has a retractable skylight that can be closed when blue skies turn grey. Walls clad in stacked river pebbles and travertine flooring enhance the connection to nature, whether the roof is open or shut, while two of freestanding shower columns in stainless steel lend a smart industrial touch.



Pipe shower  
columns by  
Marcel Wanders,  
£3,168 each,  
Boffi





Agape In-Out  
bathtub, from  
£7,904, Kitchen  
Architecture

## 4 LOCATION, LOCATION

Identifying the ideal location for an outdoor bath calls for careful planning. 'Plumbing access is often the biggest influence on a practical level, but for enjoyment you should think about what time of day you plan to use it, in relation to where the sun will be in the sky and any shading you may require,' advises Pierce Coyne, design manager, Kitchen Architecture. 'The perfect spot shouldn't be overlooked, or so far from the house that you're put off making the trip.'



Eden outdoor shower in copper, \$730, Brooklyn Copper Co. Project by Adele McNab Architecture

## 5 IN AND OUT

An internal courtyard offers the perfect suntrap for an outdoor shower, protected from prevailing winds. Here, direct access to an indoor bathroom provides extra facilities and privacy when required. The wall-mounted shower is made from unlacquered brass and copper, which will not rust or corrode, and requires minimal maintenance. 'The shower is outside the bathroom for enjoyment under the open sky, and the courtyard is designed to be kept open to the internal living spaces to allow free movement throughout,' explains architect Adele McNab. →



## 6 OUTDOOR ROOM

Take outdoor bathing to the next level by creating a fully tiled 'room' that's easy to keep clean and unforgettable. 'There really is nothing better than bathing outside, overlooking an amazing view,' enthuses Cat Earp, owner of boutique shepherd hut retreat Aller Dorset (right). 'We put outdoor baths in our original huts as a nice alternative to hot tubs, and they were a huge hit. For our latest huts we wanted to make them even better – tiling the whole space really makes it feel like a bathroom without a roof,' she says.



Boat bath, from £2,060, BC Designs. Encaustic cement tiles in Dirty White and Mustard, £147.60/sq m, Otto Tiles and Design



C.P. Hart's Spillo Steel shower valve, £519.35, is similar. Project by PJC Architecture

## 7 UP ON THE ROOF

Outdoor bathrooms are not reserved for homes with big gardens – they can also work on a roof terrace or balcony. Installing an outdoor shower up high is a great way to mitigate the sense of feeling exposed, says architect Philip J Consalvo of PJC Architecture. Here, the main bedroom has direct access to a private roof deck. 'The owners can enjoy showering outside without worrying about being overlooked,' he says.

## 8 DOUBLE TAKE

Installing two outdoor baths may seem extravagant but it can prove a more hygienic way to enjoy the sociable benefits of a hot tub. 'This boat bath duo is the perfect set-up for watching the sunset in company, without having to squeeze into the same tub or share water,' says Barrie Cutchie, design director, BC Designs. 'Tin is a great material for outdoor baths – it retains heat well and can be left outdoors year round.' →



Tin boat baths, from £5,221 each, BC Designs



## 9 NATURAL BEAUTY

Tiles were a natural choice for this stylish exposed shower in the Wiltshire-based garden of Marlborough Tiles' managing director Jamie Robb. 'We chose to lay our Isles hand-pressed terracotta tiles in a brick-bond pattern to create an eye-catching garden feature that mirrors the rich colours and tones found in the surrounding nature,' he says. When tiling an outdoor showering area, seek out grout with stain- and mould-resistant properties to gain extra protection from the elements. Also check if your chosen tiles require sealant before and/or after installation.

Isles Skye terracotta tiles, £251.22sq m, Marlborough Tiles. Milano Elizabeth thermostatic shower in oil rubbed bronze, £469.99, Big Bathroom Shop





# 10 A SENSE OF PRIVACY

Enclosing an outdoor bath on three sides will create a more intimate setting, without restricting the view above. Choose a tiled backdrop in rich earthy greens for easy maintenance and a visual connection to nature. Here, at The Woods rental cabins in Victoria, Australia, owner Stephanie King has installed an antique bath with shower on each private deck. 'We have added a linen curtain to seal off the space for privacy, so it's not too risqué and our guests can fully relax while bathing under the 100-year-old gumtrees,' adds Stephanie. ☺

The Millbrook double-ended cast iron bath, £1,195, from The Cast Iron Bath Company, is similar. Try Journeyman Zellige Green ceramic tiles, £53sq m, The Baked Tile Co