

CANADIAN

APRIL 2017

Best Spring Dessert:  
Lemon & Chocolate Tart

# HOUSE & HOME

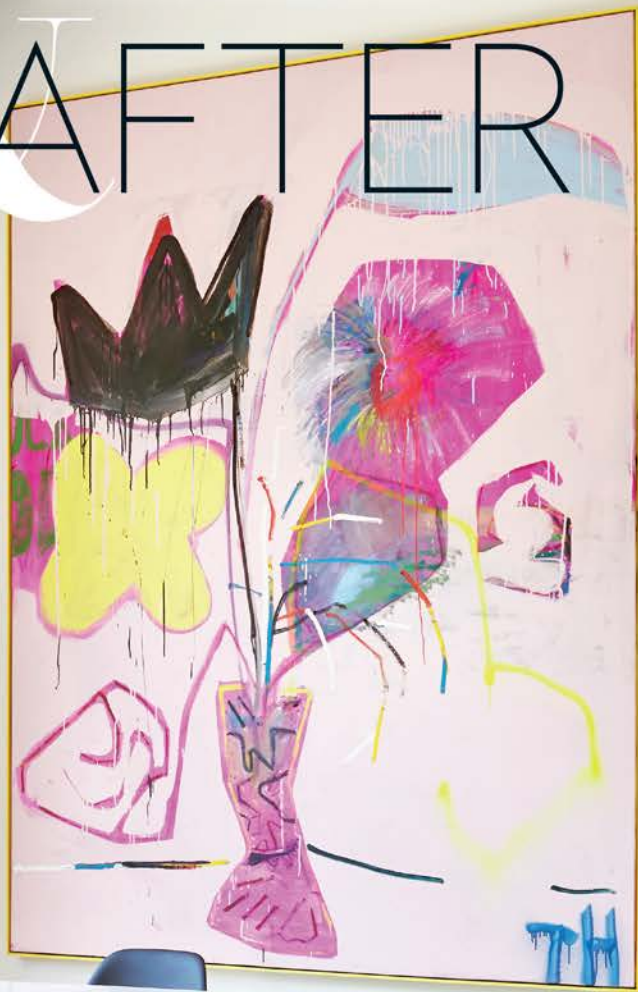
THE MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

## BEFORE

FROM DATED TO DAZZLING:  
MEET THE HOMEOWNERS  
WHO DARED TO DREAM BIG

## AFTER

PATTERNED TILE  
GOES MODERN  
14 NEW  
LOOKS



MAKEOVER

*The Real Cost of a  
Bathroom Reno:  
LYNDA REEVES  
COMES CLEAN*



# INTO THE LIGHT

AFTER A DECADE OF DREAMING, *LYNDA REEVES* GETS EXACTLY THE BATHROOM SHE WANTS — AT A COST.

Photography by *ALEX LUKEY*



The cremone bolt hardware on the windows is from Bricard in Paris.

SEE SOURCE GUIDE



**I**N OUR BUSINESS, money — as in “how much did you really spend?” — is a conspiracy of silence. Designers and homeowners don’t want to admit to what they actually spent. And yet, financing a renovation is such an essential part of the decision that I’ve decided to come clean.

In my defense, I waited more than 10 years to renovate our bathroom. I knew what I really wanted would cost a lot, and the old bathroom was perfectly fine ... until suddenly, it wasn’t.

It was the bathtub that was the deciding factor. Before freestanding tubs, the bathtub was not a design element. In fact, we usually hid it behind a curtain. Unless you wanted a clawfoot tub or a vintage copper look, there were really no options. Then, along came these fabulous tubs in different shapes, sizes and materials, and suddenly the tub became a very sexy element.

It was time for me to justify the huge cost of renovating. Plus, I reasoned, I didn’t need to change the shower and I could amortize the whole thing over the 10-plus years I had waited. Crazy, I know, but don’t we all go through these mental gymnastics to get to “yes”?

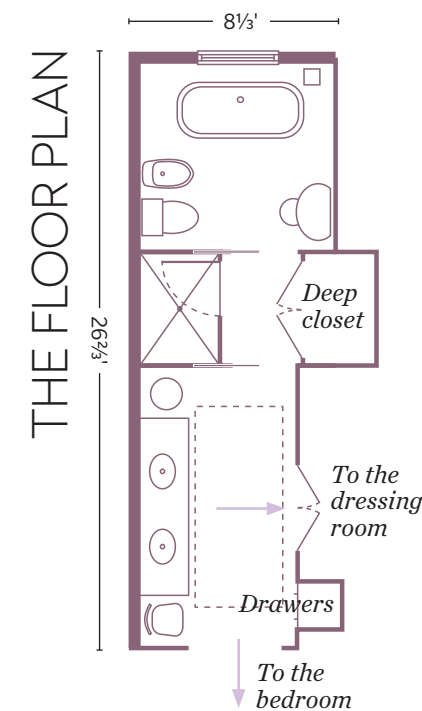
I chose the IOS Volcanic Limestone tub by Victoria + Albert because the size and oval shape were perfectly in scale with the space. I could centre the tub under the window and still leave room for art. It also had the least shiny finish that I could find. Sight lines in a bathroom are critical, and now the long view from our bedroom through to the tub is great!

Every bathroom reno needs to start with a feeling, and I wanted “grand casual.” It needed to be soulful, elegant and classically modern. For me, that meant the addition of

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Exposed plumbing and shallow drawers make this custom vanity feel light and airy. I’ve had the aluminum Luis Luis chair for a few years; it’s just been waiting for a home.



**ABOVE:** The old vanity went right to the floor and was much lower. The Kohler faucets made it into the new bathroom.





The Jerusalem Oro limestone floor has a tumbled edge for a slightly worn look. I don't like towel bars, so two hooks hold my Ralph Lauren hammams, and hand towels are folded on the vanity.

## DESIGN DETAILS



< Two sets of doors dampen the noise from early-morning risers. A bank of cupboards and drawers are flush with the walls.



> Toto's Neorest 700 Dual Flush toilet is super smart: it opens, lights up, flushes and closes automatically.



< No overflow in these sinks means you need basket-style drain covers. The drain can't be closed, but nor can you lose any jewelry down it!



> Just deep enough for a few essentials, the raw oak vanity drawers were built around the sinks.

The ebony oak floors of the bedroom contrast nicely with the creamy limestone, while vintage rugs provide the continuity.



## THE BUDGET

All prices are suggested retail.

**CONSTRUCTION includes:**  
 Drywall, electrical, plumbing, vanity, surface-applied mouldings and heated floor: \$15,000  
 Painting: \$2,400  
 Limestone floor installation: \$2,200  
 Marble cutting and installation, vanity + walls: \$5,000  
 Mirrored doors: \$2,000

**FIXTURES**  
 Tub: \$4,048  
 Tub filler: \$6,860  
 Toilet: \$7,509  
 Bidet: \$529  
 Bidet faucet: \$2,128  
 Sinks: \$742  
 Sink faucets: \$1,461  
 T-traps: \$488  
 Sconces: \$1,590  
 Decorative hardware: \$500

**DECORATING**  
 Rug: \$3,520  
 Hamper: \$556  
 Brass hooks: \$225  
 Toilet-paper holder: \$63  
 Luis Luis chair: \$2,100  
 Dressing table: \$559  
 Stool: \$237  
 Vanity mirrors: \$1,243  
 Stool fabric: \$78  
 Stool reupholstery: \$295  
 Blind fabric: \$939  
 Sewing: \$420  
 Black soap bowl: \$54  
 From my own collection: All art and misc. accessories

**GRAND TOTAL: \$70,495\***

\*Allow an additional \$10-15,000 for a marble-clad shower enclosure with glass doors

Finally, I have a dressing table in my bathroom! Across from the shower, mirrored closet doors hide suitcase storage. I installed marble on the door surrounds to match the shower.



For a complete list of sources, see the Source Guide, page 120

WEB To tour Lynda's principal bathroom on H&H TV, visit [houseandhome.com](http://houseandhome.com) and click on the current issue



## VIEW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 54



was big news. Now, they're standard. Today, the news is up-air ironing boards. These boards send air upward to provide quick-dry, moisture-free ironing surfaces. You have to be pretty serious about ironing to invest in one of these "ironing tables." **Reliable's The Board 500VB** vacuum and up-air press table retails for \$649.

## IRONING STATIONS

Now for the ultimate ironing machine. These are designed to give you high-volume, professional results, plus precision ironing for specialty fabrics, a vertical steaming option and an up-air ironing board, all-in-one.

It's **Miele's new FashionMaster** ironing station, which does all of the above and folds up with one simple motion, for easy storage in a closet. I've seen it in action, and I've seen how easily it folds up and wheels into a small space. You can go to a Miele Experience Centre for a test-drive. Soon, they will be available in stores. And, yes, they will be expensive....

## STEAM CLOSETS

There's a new category of clothes care: the "steamer closet." The one I know best is the **LG Styler**. It's a chamber with a portable water tank inside that lets you hang clothes to be dried or steamed, with a pants press built into the door. It has a "refresh" cycle that lets you extend the life of your "dry-clean only" things. Anything to cut down on dry-cleaner bills! Finally, it sanitizes, if you wish. Now ... if only it did the laundry! Isn't there a robot coming soon? **H&H**

## INTO THE LIGHT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 95

mouldings, a limestone floor in a herringbone pattern, and a mix of pale woods, creamy paint, brass faucets and honed marble.

For our vanity, I wanted something airy and handsome. I had the base made to my own design, including the shallow drawers that go around the sinks and are essential for everyday things like toothpaste. There are electrical outlets and switches mounted on both ends of the vanity base.

The decision to go for so little storage in our vanity was major. You can only do this if you build a storage solution somewhere close by. Ours is a bank of drawers that are flush and discreet across from the vanity. Our vanity is 38 inches high, which we love. Michel says it's cut the saleability of our house considerably. Maybe, but the kitchen counters are also much higher than standard, so we may as well go all out, I decided.

For the vanity top, I chose Calacatta Oro marble in a "vintage" or "anticato" finish. It's matte with a slight texture that is lovely to run your hands over. I wanted to pick my own slab, but when you do that, you have to buy the whole thing, even if you're using less than half. Fortunately, a friend was renovating, and so we shared one gorgeous slab, and I had the fabricator add a 2-inch bevel.

The walls and trim are my never-fail colour, White Down (CC-50) by Benjamin Moore. To create definition, I chose a satin finish for the walls, semigloss for the baseboards and trim, and high-gloss for the crown moulding. It's a myth that you can't get oil-based paint for your trim. You can, and it will give you a superior shine and last much longer. The old paint job was over 15 years old and still looked perfect.

The two Aerin Lauder sconces lend a fabulous hit of black and gold to the vanity wall. The Restoration Hardware mirrors in a bronze finish are a good bridge with the matte-brass Kohler faucets. As for the exposed plumbing, it

was a tricky thing to get right, especially with faucets and accessories in matte brass. A round bottle T-trap in brushed gold is available, but not the joining pipe that we needed. We sent this piece out to be plated, but it couldn't be matched. I still need to try painting it with metallic paint. If you do opt for exposed plumbing, buy undermounted basins with no overflow hole. Sinks with an overflow have an ugly bump at the front.

I was able to tuck a small dressing table into the corner near the tub. It's the perfect size, and I love it. Finally, something that wasn't expensive! It's from West Elm, and it helped justify the cost of the mirror above it that was four times as much!

The drama of our bathroom comes from the fabulous prints on the window blind and vanity stool, the black and gold sconces, the claro walnut shelf that Michel made me, the vintage Oushak carpet, the Luis Luis chair and two works by Mona Hatoum. These are the reasons the space feels soulful and elegant.

One more thing. If you've never tried a Toto Neorest 700 Dual Flush toilet, I warn you that if you do, you'll want one for sure. It's expensive, to say the least, but what a wonderful invention. I actually miss my toilet when I'm away from it. Besides all the hygienic features that you'd expect, it opens when you enter the room, shines a night light, auto-flushes and closes when you leave. It feels kind of human, and men can't leave the seat up!

We had a bidet in the old bathroom which our dog, Dundee, thought was his own personal water fountain. He was quite traumatized when we ripped it out. Michel said we had to install a new one for him, which I had to admit to my sales associate at Taps when she patiently tried to explain that the Neorest *replaces* the bidet.

So now, I am officially one of those crazy ladies who wastes money needlessly and dotes on a dog. Maybe, but I'm in love with my new bathroom, and that's the whole point of renovating. Please don't write to us about the outrageous cost of my bathroom.... I already know. **H&H**