

FULL OF GRANDEUR

Carefully considered design details bring a contemporary twist to the traditional styling of this en suite

FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN | PHOTOGRAPHY RYANN FORD

PROJECT DETAILS

DESIGNER

Sara Malek Barney at
BANDD/DESIGN
(bandddesign.com)

PROPERTY

A five-bedroom
new build

WORK

Part of the interior
design for the
whole house

LOCATION

Austin, Texas

While building their own home, an American-English couple discovered they loved different aesthetics. One leans towards a traditional style, while the other prefers a modern look. Sara Malek Barney of BANDD/DESIGN created an en suite that pleased them both.

1 PLAN THE DESIGN

Sara became involved in the project early on. 'A traditional aesthetic runs through the architecture of the contemporary new build – and it is particularly noted in the magnificent high ceilings and tall windows,' she says. 'I was on board early enough to advise on the main en suite's layout and flooring, as well as drive the interiors to bring the concept full circle.'

2 ENSURE A SEAMLESS LOOK

In their previous home, owners Kim, who grew-up in Georgia, and British-born Tom had found lack of storage and an awkward bathroom layout difficult to live with. 'With an beautiful bedroom that wasn't too fussy and formal, the transition through to their en suite needed to feel seamless,' Sara explains. 'Kim took inspiration from the Austin Proper Hotel where the interiors are deeply influenced by local craft and artisans. She also owned a glamorous chandelier – a piece that was very special to her – and we were delighted to incorporate it into the design.'

3 ADD WARMTH

Bespoke wood cabinetry runs down both sides of the room to focus the eye on the grandeur of the lighting and large windows. Polished nickel taps elevate the look with a warm finish without skewing too modern. 'We kept the palette light, neutral and clean with a soft detail Shaker door design and marble flooring in a herringbone pattern,' says Sara. 'The classic look nods to the traditional but still complements the contemporary bath – Kim and Tom are really pleased with it.'

BALANCED STYLE

'My clients wanted a light-filled, elegant space that leant to the traditional yet wasn't too overdone,' says Sara.

Monaco freestanding bath is similar, Lusso. Try the Royalton pendant, Lighting Design. Wall sconces, Visual Comfort & Co. Roman blind in Pebble Embroidery Sky by Schumacher. Bevelled mirrors, Renwil. Carrara honed marble herringbone mosaic flooring, Mandarin Stone, would suit this scheme