

HOME NOTES

WHO LIVES HERE?

Charlie Simmonds and her fiancé, James Tomkins.

THE PROJECT

Modernising and reconfiguring the layout of a small, leaky bathroom in a four-bedroom Victorian terrace in south-west London.

TOTAL COST

£12,000

'We have a mid-century, vintage vibe flowing through our home,' says Charlie, 'so the pastel green terrazzo was an instant hit, creating the starting point.'

Rialto honed terrazzo in Laguna, £199.87sq m; Tunstall ceramic square in Fern, £97.54 sq m, both Ca'Pietra

| BATHROOM PROJECT |

Mid-century magic

A NEW LAYOUT AND STYLISH PASTEL GREEN TERRAZZO CREATE A SENSE OF SPACE AND LIGHT IN THIS COMPACT BATHROOM BELONGING TO CHARLIE AND JAMES

GOING UP
White ceilings appear higher, making a small space feel larger



ABOVE The walls, door and architraves are all painted in a soft blush pink for a bright, fresh feel, with the ceiling a crisp decorator's white to maximise light.

Walls painted in Calamine modern emulsion, £63 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Tunstall ceramic fluted tiles in Fern, £113.03 sq m, Ca'Pietra

RIGHT 'The 1500mm bath isn't full-size but it's large enough, and placing it under the window has maximised space,' says Charlie. 'IP-rated LEDs inside the niche give the room a lovely glow.'

Bette Classic bath, £789; Coalbrook 200mm shower head in brushed brass, £179, both Simply Bathrooms & Interiors (Surrey) Ltd



For first-time buyers Charlie Simmonds and her fiancé James, this terraced house in Tooting,

where Charlie has lived for six years, was exactly the home they'd hoped for.

'We were lucky as the previous owners had already converted the loft,' says Charlie. 'The house only needed light renovations rather than anything structural, and we made updating the leaky main bathroom our priority.'

'This compact space on the first floor is just over one and a half metres wide and two metres long and was lined wall-to-ceiling with cracked dark brown tiles. 'Light is a big thing for me and the room felt like a dingy cave,' Charlie recalls. 'The layout was cramped, with a bath down one side and the basin squeezed in at the end, which created a pinch point with the toilet under the window.'

With no experience of renovating, Charlie and James were cautious about taking on the project themselves. However, working in costume design, Charlie had lots of ideas and wanted to find a company she could collaborate with. The couple went to see Simply Bathrooms & Interiors (Surrey) Ltd and discovered that they could take on the project from start to finish. Charlie showed director Sophie Harrold images of elements she was drawn to, including terrazzo, a statement basin, soft pastels and boutique hotel bathrooms.

'I'd gathered pictures of retro bathrooms with mid-century furniture and Sophie picked up on those ideas with samples of terrazzo, green tiles and fluted details,' Charlie says. After considering a classic neutral terrazzo and another with brown tones, there was no contest. 'James and I both loved the playful look of the pastel green terrazzo, and the flecks of white, pinky quartz and burnt orange informed the rest of the scheme,' says Charlie.

The old bathroom was gutted and the walls and pipework repaired. To open up the space, the bath was installed beneath the window and a bespoke vanity ensured a perfect fit.

'We're so happy with the changes,' says Charlie. 'The design is far more original than anything I've seen and proves that a bold look really works in a compact bathroom.'

“The **BRIGHT** coral clay basin was a risk that paid off” ‘I adore the **COLOUR COMBINATION** with the greens”



BOUTIQUE STYLE

A slimline quartz top is an easy way to elevate the look and feel of a vanity unit

'We were a bit apprehensive about the washbasin but now I love that it's bold and brave and out-there; the pop of colour bounces the eye around the room and is the perfect pairing with the green tones,' says Charlie.

Bespoke vanity, £1,280, Simply Bathrooms & Interiors (Surrey) Ltd. Dern 380mm concrete washbasin in Coral, £642, Warrington & Rose



SIMPLE CURVES

Billy oval
LED mirror in
brushed bronze,
£279.99, Drench

SOFT GLOW
Laura Ashley
Prague bathroom
wall light in satin
brass, £50,
Där Lighting



BOLD PATTERN

Terrazzo tile in
Beige, £22.50sq
m, Porcelain
Superstore



**STYLE
MUST-HAVES**

BE INSPIRED BY
CHARLIE AND JAMES'S
BATHROOM



WARM BRASS

Central multifunction
thermostatic shower kit
in brushed brass, £699,
Crosswater



TEXTURED SURFACE

Crete fluted Linen White
600mm vanity with marble top,
£399.99, Bathroom Mountain

ABOVE 'The floating vanity makes the room feel more open, with essential storage and a fluted door to bring in a bit of texture.'

Docklands mirror in brushed brass, £270, Origins Living

RIGHT 'I didn't want too much artwork in here because there's already a lot going on,' says Charlie. 'This cute limited-edition watercolour by Moira Frith caught my eye; the colour complements the basin and it has the perfect fun vibe.'

'Upside Down' watercolour, £25, Toast. Reclaimed oak shelf, £135, Simply Bathrooms & Interiors (Surrey) Ltd



FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN
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