

'We transformed our nursery into a bathroom'

A fresh start prompted a new layout and a scheme of stylish terrazzo and pink tiles

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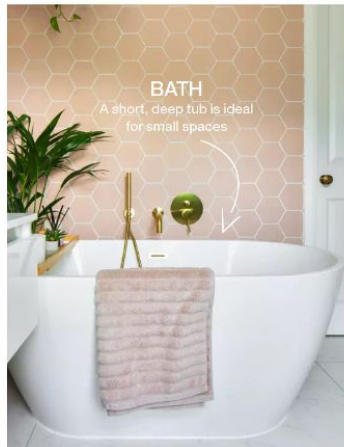


Textile designer Victoria Eggs (victoriaeggs.com) lives with husband Dan, a painter and decorator, and daughter Etta in a three-bedroom house in Kingston, Surrey



MIRROR

This has a de-misting function and LEDs for mood lighting



BATH

A short, deep tub is ideal for small spaces

When did you start the project? We lived here for four years to save up for a kitchen extension, with a plan to update our bathroom too. But as Etta began to outgrow her nursery, we decided to make her room our family bathroom and give her more space by knocking through the old bathroom and toilet.

What prompted the makeover?

The architect on our kitchen project told us that moving the pipework from the back of the house to the front could be expensive. Luckily our builders found a cost-effective solution by running the pipes down through a wall cavity to the living room and beneath the new extension. With all the floors coming up and the disruption to the house anyway, we knew now was the time to do the project – or not at all.

How did you plan the new bathroom layout?

The quote from a bathroom designer was really expensive. I use Illustrator in my work as a textile designer and discovered I could do a scaled drawing myself. The old nursery was about 2.5m x 2.5m with a low window and the waste for the toilet had to go

in the corner, so there weren't endless layout possibilities. We settled on having a slightly shorter freestanding bath, used the longer wall for the shower and had the door open on to the landing to create space for an accessible towel radiator.

What was at the top of your wishlist?

I fell in love with terrazzo paired with pinks. I looked at both printed and real stone tiles, and realised that nothing compares to the genuine version with its flecks of gold, pink and grey. I then found a hexagonal matt pink tile to match.

Did you have to make any compromises?

We shopped around but decided to invest in the terrazzo as this would have the wow factor. I spent ages looking for a narrow wood or rattan vanity to fit in the snug space between the toilet and the bath. We compromised with a white one, which still works with the scheme, and fitted a round basin on top.

Your verdict on the finished room?

Swapping the rooms has been a win-win: we have a lovely sanctuary and Etta has a beautiful new bedroom.

OUR SOURCEBOOK Terrazzo wall tiles, terrazzo-tiles.co.uk; Hayek Hex Blush wall tiles; Sea Cliff Sea View floor tiles; both claybrookstudio.co.uk; Verona bath; Arezzo shower fittings, basin mixer, bath mixer and shower head, wall-hung toilet, mirror; all victorianplumbing.co.uk; Hugo shower enclosure, diy.com; Alaska countertop basin, betterbathrooms.com; Horizon Como wall-hung vanity, ergonomicsdesigns.co.uk; Barcelona towel radiator, bathroommountain.co.uk



Before

'Our old bathroom felt claustrophobic, with beige tiles that ran up the walls to the ceiling. It was separate from the loo, and we wanted a bigger space to have a bath and shower.'



WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

It's important to order terrazzo samples – colours and textures don't always look like they do online

TERRAZZO

Made with recycled marble or stone, terrazzo tiles are an eco-friendly choice and each one is unique

SHOWER TRAY

This needs to incorporate a slope so that the water can flow away

WHAT WE SPENT

TILES £1,009
BATH £450
SHOWER FITTINGS £179
TAPS £300
WC £295
MIRROR £250
SHOWER ENCLOSURE £289
BASIN £45
VANITY £150
RADIATOR £151
TOTAL £4,018