

All Things Home Designs Bathroom Remodel Tips

When planning a bathroom remodel, homeowners should balance aesthetic upgrades with the strict technical requirements of the Dallas Plumbing Code to avoid costly inspection failures. A successful project integrates modern luxuries like wet rooms and smart mirrors while ensuring the infrastructure—like drainage for free-standing tubs and shower head flow rates—is fully compliant.

Bathroom Remodel Considerations

- **The Wet Room & Open Showers:** Designating a waterproofed "wet room" area for both a free-standing tub and shower requires specialized drainage and can often include a **two-head shower** configuration.
- **Vanity & Storage:** Decisions on **cabinets** and **cabinet hardware** should account for humidity resistance; floating vanities often require additional wall bracing.
- **Smart Tech & Lighting:** **Vanity smart mirrors** and modern **lighting** must be installed in accordance with the Dallas Electrical Code, particularly regarding GFCIs and moisture-rated fixtures.
- **Finishes:** While **wallpaper**, **tile**, and **paint** define the style, ensure tile selections for wet areas have a high slip-resistance rating.
- **Fixtures & Efficiency:** When selecting **faucets**, be aware that state-mandated maximum flow rates in Texas take precedence if they are more restrictive than the standard plumbing code.

DFW Master Suite & Bathroom Remodel Guide

- **Dallas Plumbing Code Compliance:** All work, including **wet room** drainage and **two-head shower** installations, meets the 2021 International Plumbing Code (IPC) as amended by the City of Dallas.
- **Water Efficiency Standards:** Per Dallas Code, **state-mandated maximum flow rates** for faucets and fixtures take precedence if they are more restrictive than standard codes.



Professional Checklist for North Texas Homeowners

- Proper Drainage for Tubs:** If installing **free-standing tubs**, ensure the waste receptor system complies with Section 802.1 regarding indirect waste.

- Water Heater Accessibility:** If your remodel includes moving a water heater to an attic or platform higher than **8 feet**, you must install a permanent stairway or ladder.
 - Violation Warning:** Using a portable ladder for units over 10 gallons or heights over 10 feet is a code violation.
- Required Shutoff Valves:** Every new appliance or piece of mechanical equipment must have a dedicated shutoff valve installed at the supply pipe.
- Floor Drain Requirements:** While residential bathrooms have flexibility, Dallas Code requires floor drains in **public restrooms** and food establishments; adding them to residential "wet rooms" provides superior flood protection.
- Electrical & Smart Tech:** Ensure all **vanity smart mirrors** and lighting are wired per the **Dallas Electrical Code**, including required convenience outlets if equipment is in an attic or mezzanine.
- Irrigation Protection:** If your bathroom remodel affects exterior lines, remember that any **lawn irrigation system** connected to the potable supply must have a TCEQ-approved backflow prevention method.
- Shower Lead Testing:** For new shower installations, ensure the liner is tested to hold at least 3 inches of water to confirm it is 100% leak-proof before tiling.
- Scald Protection:** All new shower valves must be pressure-balanced or thermostatic to prevent sudden water temperature changes.

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