

# Guidelines

by George Grigoras



# 10 Steps

For a Modern and Functional Bathroom

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# Introduction

A bathroom is more than just a functional space. It's where each day begins and ends — a personal retreat where you seek peace, comfort, cleanliness, and sometimes... inspiration.

Unfortunately, many people start a bathroom renovation without a clear plan. They don't know which materials to choose, what mistakes to avoid, or what details truly matter. The result? Stress, wasted money, and work that has to be redone.

That's exactly why I wrote this book — for you, someone who wants a modern, functional, and beautiful bathroom, without compromises or unpleasant surprises.

You won't find complex theories or empty promises here. What you'll find instead are 10 practical steps, born from over a decade of hands-on experience in real homes, with real clients.

Each chapter is designed to help you:

- make smart decisions from the start,
  - choose materials and solutions that fit your needs,
- work with professionals who respect your time and budget.

Renovating a bathroom shouldn't be a nightmare — it should be a transformation that adds comfort, beauty, and value to your daily life.

Let's start this journey together — with clarity, confidence, and excellent results.

• *George Grigoras*



## STEP 1

# Plan Your Space Wisely

A bathroom renovation doesn't start with tiles or a shiny faucet — it starts with one essential question:

"How will we use this bathroom, day in and day out?"

Proper planning means understanding your family's real needs and designing the space around functionality, not just appearance.

Ask yourself:

Do you need a bathtub, or is a shower enough?

Will you benefit from two sinks, or is one sufficient?

Where is the most logical place for the washing machine or storage cabinets?

Planning mistakes come at a high price — cramped fixtures, doors that bump into each other, poorly positioned drains.

Think about the flow: how you enter, how you move, and how much space exists between each element.

As a professional, I often get questions like:

"Can I place the shower next to the window?"

Yes — if ventilation is good and the window seals properly.

Or: "Can I move the toilet to the opposite side of the bathroom?"

Sure — but only if the plumbing allows it. Otherwise, costs can rise significantly.

Good planning considers ergonomics, plumbing layout, and daily comfort, not just the final look.

If you get this step right, you've already solved 50% of your renovation challenges.

## Frequent Questions

**Can I move the toilet to another corner of the bathroom?**

✓ Yes, but only if the drain line allows it — otherwise, it requires complex work and significantly higher costs.

**Should I choose a bathtub or a shower?**

✓ It depends on your space and lifestyle. For small bathrooms or quick daily use, a shower is more practical.

**Can I place the washing machine in the bathroom?**

✓ Yes, as long as you have a grounded electrical outlet and a well-ventilated niche.

**Is mechanical ventilation a must?**

✓ Yes — especially if you don't have a window. It helps prevent mold and keeps the air fresh.

**Do I really need two sinks?**

✓ Only if the bathroom is used by multiple people at the same time and there's enough space.



## STEP 2

# Choose a Consistent Style

our bathroom's style isn't just about taste — it's about visual comfort and overall harmony.

One of the most common mistakes is mixing unrelated elements: rustic floor tiles next to a modern sink, gold faucets beside an industrial shower cabin, or clashing colors that fight for attention.

A consistent style means choosing a clear direction from the very beginning — whether it's modern-minimalist, classic-elegant, rustic, or spa-inspired — and sticking to it all the way through.

Select 2–3 base colors and materials that complement each other. For example: wood-look floor tiles with matte white furniture, or glossy wall tiles with matte black accents.

When all elements speak the same design language, your bathroom gains a strong identity and a polished, professional look.

Ask yourself honestly:

Do I want a bathroom that looks like a showroom, or one that feels like home?

Your answer will guide you toward inspired and harmonious choices.

## Luxury Bathroom Style – What to Choose?

### ◆ 1. Elegant Color Palette

Choose warm, neutral tones: beige, cream, soft white, light gray, or greige.

Add sophisticated accents: matte gold, matte black, brushed bronze, deep green or navy blue.

### ◆ 2. Recommended Wall Tiles

- Marble (or marble-look) – white with soft gray or golden veining offers a timeless, upscale look.
- Large-format tiles (60x120 cm or larger) – help create a sense of space and seamless flow.
- Glossy textured wall tiles in feature areas like behind the vanity or the main wall.
- Avoid busy patterns or classic tile borders — they tend to look outdated.

### ◆ 3. Flooring

- Matte, non-slip porcelain tiles with a premium finish.
- Suggested tones: light gray, stone-look, or matte marble.
- Underfloor heating adds comfort and a clean, modern aesthetic (no visible radiator).

### ◆ 4. Furniture & Countertops

- Wall-mounted vanities with clean, handle-free fronts (push-to-open systems).
- Countertops in quartz, natural stone, or high-end concrete/wood-look finishes.

### ◆ 5. Fixtures & Hardware

- Faucets and fittings (sink, shower, bathtub): matte black, matte gold, or brushed bronze.
- Handles, towel holders, and mirrors should match the same finish as the faucets.
- Warm lighting: modern sconces above the mirror + discreet ceiling spotlights.

## STEP 2

### Luxury Kitchen Style – Recommendations

#### ◆ 1. Colors

- Matte white + light gray or navy blue paired with a marbled countertop creates timeless elegance.
- Light natural wood cabinets combined with matte black appliances for a refined contrast.

#### ◆ 2. Backsplash Options

- Colored glass or large-format ceramic slabs with a stone-effect finish.
- Glossy subway tiles, installed either in a straight or herringbone pattern — perfect for a classic-modern blend.

#### ◆ 3. Hardware (Handles, Faucet, Outlets)

- Choose a matching finish throughout: matte black, brushed stainless steel, or satin gold.
- Sink faucet: go for a professional-style, high-arc or pull-down faucet with a spring or rotating arm.
- Handles should be integrated or have a sleek industrial-minimalist look.

#### 💡 Pro Tips:

- Don't mix more than three different metal finishes in a small space — it creates visual clutter.
- Choose one standout accent: a unique mirror, textured tile, or a statement light fixture.
- Installation quality makes all the difference — perfect grout lines, even spacing, and sharp corners equal a premium finish.



## STEP 3

# Use Moisture-Resistant Materials

Don't be fooled by the good looks of cheap materials — the bathroom is a high-moisture environment where every choice must stand the test of time.

The most common issues come from tiles that absorb water, grout that molds, or silicone that blackens after just a few months.

Choose non-slip floor tiles, high-quality glazed wall tiles, epoxy grout, sanitary-grade silicone for wet zones, and professional-grade adhesive.

Avoid using unsealed MDF or particleboard (PAL) in cabinetry — look for moisture-resistant panels instead.

Be cautious with "promotional" or budget products if you don't have solid guarantees about their durability.

While a low-quality material can deteriorate in just 1–2 years, a well-executed system using the right products can keep your bathroom flawless for over a decade.

Moisture doesn't forgive — make smart choices from the start, and you won't have to fix things later.

## What to Avoid When Choosing Bathroom Materials

### Standard cement-based grout in wet areas

- ◆ Stains easily, washes away over time, grows mold, and tends to crumble.

### Cheap, universal silicone

- ◆ Turns black quickly, peels off due to steam, and often leaves a bad odor.

### Glossy floor tiles

- ◆ Very slippery and dangerous when wet — especially in the shower area.

### Unprotected MDF or particleboard (PAL) for furniture

- ◆ Swells, cracks, and absorbs odors when exposed to constant moisture.

### Porous (unglazed) ceramic tiles

- ◆ Absorb water and dirt, become hard to clean, and stain permanently.

### General-purpose construction adhesive (not designed for bathrooms)

- ◆ May cause tiles to come loose over time, especially in hot and humid areas.

### "Promo" products with no clear technical specs

- ◆ You don't know how they'll hold up — some aren't even made for bathrooms at all.

#### ✓ How to Identify High-Quality Materials

- They have clear specifications on the label or packaging
- – e.g., "Moisture-resistant," "Indoor/Outdoor," or "For Wet Areas."
- They are certified or made by reputable brands
- – Come with a technical data sheet, warranty, and positive reviews.
- They feel solid and well-finished to the touch
- – No sharp edges, uneven textures, or strong chemical smells.
- They are heavier, denser, and more uniform
- – Waterproof wood panels, high-quality tiles, and professional adhesives are not porous or brittle.
- They cost more, but the price reflects durability
- – Cheap materials rarely stand up to steam, water, or daily wear and tear.

#### ✗ How to Spot Low-Quality or Problematic Materials

- No technical specs or sold as "on sale" with missing details
- – No brand, no warranty, no clear usage instructions.
- They're light, porous, or brittle
- – Scratch or crack easily — especially low-grade tiles or cheap MDF boards.
- Inconsistent color or thickness
- – A sign of poor manufacturing or improper storage.
- They quickly degrade when exposed to water or steam
- – Cabinets swell, grout cracks, silicone blackens.
- Offered as "the cheapest option" by installers with no explanation
- – A low price often hides poor quality — not a real bargain.

#### 🔍 What to Look for on the Label (Quick Checklist):

- ✓ "Porcelain" – not basic ceramic
- ✓ "Non-slip" + slip resistance rating R9–R12 (for floors)
- ✓ Class 5 – for abrasion and moisture resistance
- ✓ Rectified – perfectly cut edges (allows for narrow grout lines)
- ✓ Usage information – clearly states if it's for bathroom, floor, or wall use
- ✓ Warranty and reputable manufacturer

#### ⚠️ Label Red Flags to Watch Out For:

- ✗ Doesn't specify if it's porcelain or water-resistant
- May absorb moisture and crack over time.
- ✗ Missing technical specs (R-rating, PEI, wear class, etc.)
- You have no idea how durable it really is.
- ✗ Unknown or missing manufacturer
- No warranty, no quality control standards.
- ✗ No clear indication whether it's for floor or wall use
- You might install it in the wrong place without knowing.
- ✗ Very low price without clear reason or real discount
- Often low-grade materials sold in bulk, with no proper testing.



## STEP 4

## Invest in Quality Installations

Pipes, drains, faucets, and fittings are the things you won't see once the bathroom is finished — but they're the very things that can ruin everything if not chosen wisely or installed correctly. Don't cut corners on plumbing pipes, floor drains, shut-off valves, or angle stops. A poor-quality drain or a pipe that cracks inside the wall can destroy your entire bathroom.

Choose high-quality multilayer or PEX pipes, professionally pressed fittings, and brass faucets, not painted plastic ones.

Make sure the floor drain is removable, the sink waste valve is easy to clean, and the faucet comes with a real warranty — not just a one-year sticker.

Any professional will tell you: most bathroom repairs happen because of cheap materials and poor installation.

Make smart choices from the start and you'll avoid water leaks, bad odors, weak water pressure, or faucets that fail after just six months.

What's hidden behind the walls should be even better than what's visible.

#### ✗ What to Avoid:

##### Cheap plastic pipes and fittings (thin PVC)

- ◆ They crack easily under high temperature or pressure.

##### Low-cost, unbranded faucets (only chrome-plated on the outside)

- ◆ They scratch quickly, start leaking, or get stuck after a few months.

##### Basic, unsealed plastic floor drains

- ◆ They often cause bad odors and frequent clogs.

##### Weak flexible connectors without metal braid protection

- ◆ These fail inside cabinets and lead to slow, hidden leaks.

##### Skipping pressure and leak tests after installation

- ◆ A simple test can prevent thousands in damage later on.

#### ✓ Examples of Good (Recommended) Solutions:

##### Multilayer pipes (PEX-AL-PEX) with pressed fittings

- 🔧 Installed inside walls, fully sealed, pressure-tested before plastering.

##### Branded brass sink faucets (Grohe, Kludi, Hansgrohe)

- 🔧 Lifespan of 10–15 years, real warranty, and easy to service.

##### Floor drain with stainless steel grate and odor-trap basin

- 🔧 Easy to clean and prevents unpleasant smells from entering the bathroom.

##### Click-clack sink waste with removable mechanism

- 🔧 Lets you remove hair clogs without disassembling the entire vanity.

##### Stainless steel braided flexible connectors with double protection

- 🔧 Resistant to vibrations and pressure — no sudden failures after 6 months.

#### ✗ Examples of Common Mistakes (to Avoid):

##### White PVC pipes glued with universal adhesive

- 🚫 Cracked inside the wall within 3 months. Everything had to be torn out and redone.

##### No-name Chinese faucet bought "on sale" for 59 lei

- 🔧 Leaked at the base after one month. No spare parts available.

##### Floor drain without an odor trap — just a basic cap

- 🔧 Client called after one week — bathroom smelled like a sewer.

##### Cheap plastic connectors, misaligned under the sink

- 💧 Slow leak caused swelling of the cabinet and stained the tile.

##### No pressure test after installation

- 🔧 Hidden crack in the pipe caused the plaster to swell 2 weeks after completion.



## STEP 5

# Choose Skilled Professionals

No matter how good the materials are, 90% of the final result depends on the execution. The handyman who “does a bit of everything” for a low price usually leaves behind crooked tiles, uneven grout lines, dripping faucets, misaligned drains, or furniture that simply doesn’t fit. A true professional will charge a fair price, but also explain what they do, why they do it, what warranty they provide, and stick to agreed deadlines. Always ask for a portfolio of recent work, and if possible, visit a project in progress. Don’t choose in a rush or based on vague recommendations. Remember: a good craftsman doesn’t fix mistakes — he avoids them from the start. Choose quality over improvisation. Your bathroom deserves it.

## ✗What to Avoid When Choosing a Contractor:

### “Does a bit of everything” – but masters none

- ◆ A tradesman who claims to do tiling, plumbing, furniture, and plastering is rarely great at all of them. Choose specialists.

### No written estimate or contract

- ◆ Without anything in writing, you can’t track what you agreed on, how much it costs, or when it should be completed.

### “Don’t worry, I know better” – without asking for your input

- ◆ A good contractor asks questions, explains things, and consults you. Making decisions without your input is unprofessional.

### No portfolio or refuses to show past work

- ◆ If they can’t prove their experience, they may be new to the trade — or trying to hide past unsatisfied clients.

### Promises “fast and cheap” completion

- ◆ Quality takes time and care. An offer that sounds too quick or cheap usually means rushed, careless, or unreliable work.

### Works messy, without protection or organization

- ◆ If they don’t respect your space or their tools, your project won’t be treated with care either.

### Uses leftover materials “from previous jobs”

- ◆ This may mean low-quality, incomplete, or non-guaranteed materials.



### Practical Tip:

Invest in people, not just in tiles.

A skilled professional may cost more upfront, but they give you peace of mind for years.

A poor contractor may save you money now – but you’ll pay twice as much later to fix their mistakes.

## ✦ Important: What You Need to Know When Working with a Contractor

### You’re the one paying — so set the rules from the start

- ◆ Don’t assume the contractor “knows what you want.” Be clear: what you want done, how, and by when.

### Take photos before, during, and after the work

- ◆ These serve as proof if any issues arise later.

### Pay in stages, not all upfront

- ◆ Example: 30% at the start, 30% mid-project, 40% after final inspection and full completion.

### Double-check even the “small” details

- ◆ Are the tiles aligned? Are the grout lines even? Are the drains level? These small things make the difference between an “okay” bathroom and a “wow” one.

### Be present during key phases

- ◆ Plumbing installation, sink positioning, tile layout — don’t leave everything “in their hands,” no matter how skilled they are.

### Test everything in real conditions at the end

- ◆ Turn on the shower, flush the toilet, fill the sink, walk barefoot on the floor — it’s the only way to ensure everything works properly.

## STEP 6

# Choose the Right Lighting for Each Area

Lighting isn't just about looks — it's about functionality, safety, and comfort.

A well-lit bathroom doesn't mean a single ceiling bulb. It means a layered lighting system: general lighting, task lighting, and accent lighting.

Use recessed LED spotlights in the ceiling — they provide even light without taking up space.

At the mirror, install wall sconces with neutral warm light (around 4000K), either to the sides or above the mirror. This ensures precise lighting for shaving, makeup, and grooming.

In the shower area, opt for sealed waterproof lights (IP65 rating). For ambiance, consider hidden LED strips under the vanity or in recessed niches.

Avoid cold, bluish light — it feels clinical and doesn't flatter your finishes or tile colors.

Good lighting makes your bathroom feel more spacious, clean, and luxurious.

It's what elevates a simple bathroom into one with true personality.

## 💡 Practical Bathroom Lighting Ideas

### ♦ 1. General Lighting – for overall room illumination

✓ Recessed LED spotlights (at least 2 for small bathrooms)

→ Provide uniform light without harsh shadows.

✓ Neutral white light (4000K) – not cold (6000K) and not warm yellow (2700K)

✓ Recommended power: 8-10W per spotlight (equivalent to 60-75W traditional bulb)

### ♦ 2.Task Lighting – mirror area

✓ LED wall fixture above the mirror or dual side sconces

→ Eliminates facial shadows — perfect for makeup and shaving.

✓ Recommended finishes: matte white, polished chrome, or matte black, to match your bathroom accessories.

✓ IP44 moisture rating – essential for humid areas.

### ♦ 3. Ambient Lighting – for atmosphere

✓ Warm LED strip (3000-3500K) installed under vanity, in niches, or around the bathtub.

✓ Motion sensor – lights up at night, perfect for nighttime bathroom visits.

✓ Connected to a separate circuit with a dual switch or smart app control.

### ♦ 4.Shower or Bathtub Zone

✓ IP65 waterproof LED spotlights – required in areas exposed to steam or water splashes.

✓ Position them to avoid casting shadows directly on the body.

✓ In walk-in showers, integrate into the ceiling or glass frame.

### ⚠️ What to Avoid:

✗ Cold blue lighting – makes the bathroom feel sterile and uninviting.

✗ Ceiling-only lighting – creates mirror shadows and dark corners.

✗ Non-IP rated fixtures near the mirror – deteriorate quickly from steam.

✗ Yellow lights (2700K) – distort skin tone and make the space look aged.

### 🔧 Recommended Brands:

*LEDVANCE, Philips, Eglo, Schneider, and Xiaomi Yeelight for smart systems.*

*Use CRI > 80 for accurate color rendering at the mirror.*

## STEP 7

# Ensure Proper Ventilation

Ventilation is one of the most overlooked, yet most critical aspects for both your bathroom's health and your own.

A bathroom without proper airflow quickly develops mold, bad odors, steam buildup that damages furniture and fixtures, and over time, it can even affect your plumbing.

If your bathroom has no window, install an electric exhaust fan with a humidity sensor or timer.

Choose quiet models (under 30 dB) with a backdraft flap to prevent air from flowing back in.

Mount it as high as possible, ideally on an exterior wall or connected to a ventilation shaft.

A well-ventilated bathroom dries quickly after showers, smells fresh, and maintains a clean look for years.

Even a low-cost fan can save you from thousands in future repairs.

## 💡 Practical Tips for Effective Bathroom Ventilation

### ✔ Choose a fan with a humidity sensor or timer

- Automatically turns on when steam increases, and shuts off by itself.
- Ideal if you often forget to turn it on manually.

### ✔ Install it high on the wall or ceiling

- Steam rises — that's where it needs to be extracted.
- If you have a ventilation shaft, connect it there.

### ✔ Add a backdraft flap

- Prevents odors from returning through shared vents or neighboring bathrooms.

### ✔ Clean the vent grill every 3–6 months

- Dust and lint block airflow and reduce performance.

### ✔ Use natural ventilation if you have a window

- Opening the window for 5–10 minutes after a shower = dry bathroom, fresh air.

## 💰 Smart Investment Ideas

### ◆ Quiet and efficient exhaust fan

Examples: Vents 100 Quiet, Soler & Palau, Helios

→ Low energy consumption, high performance, long lifespan.

### ◆ Wireless humidity sensor (smart)

→ Can be paired with a smart fan or home automation system (Tuya, Sonoff, etc.).

### ◆ Smart fan with mobile app

→ Control from your phone, set timers, monitor energy use.

### ◆ For small bathrooms: Combine ambient LED strip + lighted exhaust fan

→ 2-in-1 solution: functional and aesthetic.

### ✔ Conclusion:

Ventilation is not a luxury — it's long-term protection.

A dry space = durable furniture, clean walls, fresh air, and no mold.

## STEP 8

# Design Smart Storage Spaces

A modern bathroom isn't just about sleek design — it's about order, functionality, and open space.

Nothing ruins a relaxing atmosphere faster than cluttered countertops and scattered products.

That's why you need to integrate storage solutions from the start:

- Deep drawers under the vanity
- Wall-mounted mirrored cabinets
- Built-in shower niches
- Stylish corner shelves

Choose moisture-resistant furniture with easy-to-clean finishes, and avoid pointless open shelving — everything should have a designated place.

In small bathrooms, every inch matters:

Use vertical wall space for slim cabinets, organizer boxes, and shelves above the door.

A well-organized bathroom feels larger, cleaner, and more welcoming — just like a true space for relaxation should.

### 💡 Practical Storage Ideas for Your Bathroom

#### ✔ Vanity cabinet with deep drawers and organizers

– Don't settle for empty shelves. Use dividers and compartments for every item.

#### ✔ Wall-mounted cabinet with mirror + integrated lighting

– Saves space and combines 3 functions: storage, light, and mirror.

#### ✔ Built-in niches (in shower or above the bathtub)

– Stylish and practical. Avoid plastic racks. Tile them with matching ceramic for a seamless look.

#### ✔ Slim vertical shelves

– Use corners, spaces between the wall and tub, or even behind the door. Great for rolled towels, toilet paper, or extra products.

#### ✔ Plastic or bamboo organizer boxes

– Instantly create visual order in drawers or cabinets.

#### ✔ Magnetic or brushed metal holders for small items

– Perfect for tweezers, brushes, or trimmers — nothing left cluttering the sink.

### 💰 Smart Investments

#### ♦ Soft-close drawers and moisture-resistant materials

(e.g., Egger Compact, treated MDF) – durable, elegant, and low maintenance.

#### ♦ Anti-fog mirror cabinet with integrated LED lighting

– Functional and modern = maximum utility and style.

#### ♦ Wall niche with hidden aluminum profile + ceramic finish

– A one-time investment, customized design, and zero maintenance.

#### ♦ Modular organizing systems

(e.g., IKEA ENHET, Godmorgon, Blanda) – adaptable and easy to reposition during renovations.

#### ♦ Hanging accessories (baskets, shelves, suction-cup holders)

– Easy to install, no drilling required – ideal for rentals or temporary setups.

#### ✔ Conclusion:

Smart storage clears the clutter, reduces visual stress, and enhances both style and comfort.

A modern bathroom isn't just about what you see — it's about how it works.

## STEP 9

# Details Make the Difference – Accessories, Colors, and Finishes

A bathroom with technically correct finishes but no personality remains simply functional.

What transforms a good bathroom into a memorable and luxurious one are the details — thoughtfully chosen and harmoniously combined: the right mirror, quality accessories, a balanced color palette, and complementary textures.

Choose a cohesive accessory set (towel holder, soap dispenser, toilet paper holder) with matching finishes — matte black, polished chrome, or brushed gold — depending on your overall bathroom style.

Add a warm touch for balance: treated wood, bamboo, or soft textiles.

Don't overlook texture contrast: glossy wall tiles pair beautifully with matte furniture surfaces. A decorative accent — like a mosaic strip or a colored niche — can breathe life into the space.

Always think of the bathroom as a complete composition, not a set of isolated elements.

Well-thought-out details say one thing:

"Someone with real taste designed this bathroom."

### 💡 Practical Ideas for Impactful Bathroom Details

#### ✓ Matching Accessories

– Choose all fixtures (toilet paper holder, towel rack, soap dispenser, faucets) in a unified finish: matte black, brushed gold, or polished chrome for a cohesive look.

#### ✓ Contrasting – but balanced – textures

– Example: glossy wall tiles + matte furniture, or smooth ceramic + treated wood or stone countertops.

#### ✓ Use one accent color – in small doses

– Green in plants, navy blue in towels, gold in hardware. One accent, applied with intention.

#### ✓ Large mirror with LED lighting

– Visually expands the space and adds elegance. Modern models with frosted edges are both aesthetic and functional.

#### ✓ High-quality soft textiles (towels, bath mat)

– Choose neutral tones or match the bathroom's accent colors. Clean and stylish makes a big difference.

#### ✓ Decorative niches or shelves finished differently

– For example, tiled in mosaic, wood, or stone to add depth without clutter.

### 💰 Smart Investment Ideas

#### ◆ Mid-to-high quality faucets and accessories

– From reliable brands like Grohe, Kludi, Ferro, or Hansgrohe – durable and premium-looking.

#### ◆ Backlit mirror with anti-fog feature

– Daily comfort with a touch of modern elegance.

#### ◆ Smart LED bulbs with adjustable color temperature (2700K–4000K)

– Cold light in the morning, warm in the evening – customizable to your routine.

#### ◆ One impactful decorative piece

– A small painting, accent wall, or live plant replaces clutter with purpose.

#### ◆ Hidden magnetic holders integrated into furniture

– Clean and discreet organization for small items.

#### ✓ Conclusion

Details communicate taste, elegance, and care.

You don't need many — just a few thoughtful, consistent, and well-balanced choices.

## STEP 10

# Think Long-Term – Maintenance, Durability, and Warranty

A beautiful, modern bathroom isn't just about how it looks on day one — it's about how well it functions and holds up after 5 or even 10 years.

That's why every decision should be made with durability and maintenance in mind: choose tiles that don't stain easily, grout that's easy to clean, faucets with real warranties, and accessories that resist steam and humidity. Avoid materials that scratch easily, furniture made from basic chipboard, or overly porous surfaces.

Think about who will be using the bathroom: children, elderly family members, or tenants?

Choose solutions that are functional, safe, and easy to maintain.

Keep all invoices and warranties, take photos of hidden plumbing, and write down key measurements — they'll be helpful if any issues arise later.

A quality bathroom is not an expense — it's an investment

## ✗ What to Avoid:

- Classic white grout (easily stains, yellows, or molds)
  - Use epoxy or silicone-based grout in beige or gray tones.
- Untreated wood countertops or plain MDF near water zones
  - These swell, crack, or stain easily.
  - Use HPL, composite, or oiled water-resistant wood instead.
- Products with no warranty or technical specs
  - If something fails, you'll have no claim for repair or replacement.
- Furniture with plastic hinges or cheap drawer systems
  - These squeak or sag within months, ruining the whole look.
- Porous or unglazed tiles in wet areas (e.g., shower)
  - They absorb water, stain easily, and are hard to clean.
  - Always choose glazed, anti-slip tiles for floors.

## 📌 Smart Documentation & Protection Tips:

- 📷 Take photos of hidden plumbing and installations (pipes, drains, niches) before covering them — they'll save you in future repairs.
- 📁 Keep a digital folder (Google Drive, Dropbox) with all warranties, invoices, and product specs.
- 🧼 Prepare a cleaning guide with safe products for your finishes — avoiding damage caused by harsh or wrong cleaners.

# Conclusion

The purpose of this book is not to sell you expensive ideas or impress you with picture-perfect bathrooms.

My intention is simple: to help you avoid regrets when it comes to the choices you make for your bathroom.

I've seen dozens of projects that started with enthusiasm and ended with painful compromises—not because of lack of money, but because of lack of planning, knowledge, or timely advice.

These 10 steps are a realistic guide, grounded in real-life experience on construction sites. They offer you clear direction, helping you avoid common mistakes and poorly made investments.

You don't need to be a designer or contractor to make smart decisions—you just need to know the right questions to ask, where to pay attention, and what truly matters.

If this book has helped you avoid even one mistake or make a more confident choice, then it has fulfilled its purpose.

Thank you for reading this far—  
and I sincerely wish you not just a beautiful bathroom, but one built with wisdom.

– George Grigoraş



# Closing Thoughts

Thank you for reading this book.

I hope it has been a clear, honest, and practical guide in helping you make the right decisions for your bathroom. Maybe you discovered new ideas, maybe it confirmed what you already believed, or maybe it made you realize how important it is to choose wisely, not in a rush.

This book doesn't promise magic solutions — but it offers clarity, direction, and confidence. Because a successful bathroom isn't the result of luck, but of a well-executed vision.

If this book has helped you in any way, then my work has been worthwhile.

I wish you success in your renovation and joy in every detail you create.

With respect,  
George Grigoras

## 🧱 About Me

My name is George Grigoraș, and since 2011 I've been working with passion in the field of interior finishes — specializing in tile, stone, natural stonework, and underfloor heating. Over the years, I've helped dozens of families transform their bathrooms and homes into spaces that are not only beautiful but also functional and built to last.

This book was born from a desire to share what I've learned on the job — so that every renovation can become a successful investment, not a burden.

I work with seriousness, integrity, and a love for detail. For me, finishing is not just about aesthetics — it's about respecting someone else's home.

