

Designed for Living: An Accessible Owner's Bath



PROJECT SCOPE

This project focused on removing and replacing the existing owner's suite bathroom and updating the adjacent closet. The goal was to **create a safe, accessible, and beautiful bathroom** that would support the homeowners as they age in place, while honoring some of the original features that made the space meaningful to them.

BACKSTORY & CHALLENGES

The homeowners have lived in this house for over 40 years. The addition where the bathroom sits was designed by a neighbor—an architect—in the 1990s.

The bathroom itself, however, had become outdated and increasingly difficult to use. The homeowner, who stands 5'2" and faces health challenges that limit the mobility of her hands, found many elements impractical. The family tub in the secondary bathroom was no longer accessible, making a safe and functional shower in the owner's suite a necessity. Due to past water damage and repairs, she wanted this renovation to be comprehensive and lasting.



Universal design integrated as an elegant feature rather than an add-on

INNOVATION

Shower outfitted with a built-in bench, handheld fixture, and strategically placed grab bars for stability. On the shower floor, smaller mosaics tile to prevent slipping.

SAFETY

Through deliberate stone selection and placement, non-matching materials were harmonized to create a visual flow. The shower glass was expanded to introduce more light and openness—a subtle but transformative change—anchored by a bold black frame.

AESTHETICS

SHOWER DESIGN

Nº. 2 of 7

A built-in shower bench adds safety and a touch of timeless style.



What was once a dark, cramped shower is now a light-filled retreat designed for safety and style.



A built-in bench offers a secure place to sit and wash. The marble surfaces and bold veining elevate the look, combining everyday function with timeless aesthetics.

FUNCTION & AESTHETICS

SHOWER

Nº. 3 of 7

A Ritual Worth Preserving



BEFORE

Vanity hardware was difficult to use due to limited hand mobility.



Accessible lever hardware enhances both ease and design.

One feature she was certain about keeping was the dropped vanity sink, a hallmark of the 1990s addition.

She enjoys sitting at the lowered section of the vanity to do her makeup, a ritual that supports both function and comfort. Designing the new vanity with multi-tiered surfaces allowed this feature to remain while improving storage and accessibility.

FUNCTION

BATHROOM VANITY

Nº. 4 of 7

Easy-to-use levers and



Additionally, the plumbing hardware selections were made with limited hand mobility in mind, ensuring functionality without sacrificing style.

FUNCTION

ACCESSORIES

Nº. 5 of 7

Thoughtful lighting, in every corner.



Recessed lighting is tucked in the angles on the shower ceiling.



The honed finish of the marble minimizes glare while enhancing natural light.

- **Intentional fixture placement:** overhead light above the toilet, dedicated shower lighting, and a vanity fixture to ensure balanced illumination.
- Countertop material chosen to **minimize glare** and enhance visibility.
- **Built-in nightlight** inside the toilet bowl and washlet seat for safe nighttime use.

FUNCTION & SAFETY

LIGHTING

Nº. 6 of 7



- Comfort-height toilet with washlet bidet seat, heated functions, and added electrical connection.
- In-floor heating for comfort (thermostat along toilet wall).
- Reinstalled grab bar for stability and accessibility.
- Upgraded high-performance ventilation fan ("super fan") to improve air quality and manage moisture.

————— **FUNCTION & SAFETY**

