

Ten Top Tips to designing a perfect bathroom

A beautiful bathroom is a great place to relax and wash away the stress of every day life. A stylish, well-designed bathroom is a pleasure to be in and can make a huge impression on prospective buyers. According to estate agents, an appealing bathroom can significantly increase the value of your property and is one of the top three things that buyers look for.

Achieving the perfect bathroom isn't always straightforward. In particular it can be difficult to get the look you desire in the space available. Here are some handy tips to consider when choosing products and planning the best layout:

1. Think practically as well as aesthetically when designing your bathroom. Consider the space available, who needs to use the room and the storage requirements
2. There's nothing worse than a cold bathroom, so choose practical heating methods. It is usually necessary to have both a radiator and a heated towel rail, as towel rails supply less heat to the surrounding area. Using underfloor heating can make cold surfaces warm and are great for bare feet, but won't heat the room itself
3. Check the water pressure - many taps and showers require higher pressure than a gravity feed system can deliver so it may restrict your choice of products
4. Find out how much water storage you have. Additional bathrooms or pumps may mean you need to increase the capacity of your hot and cold water tanks

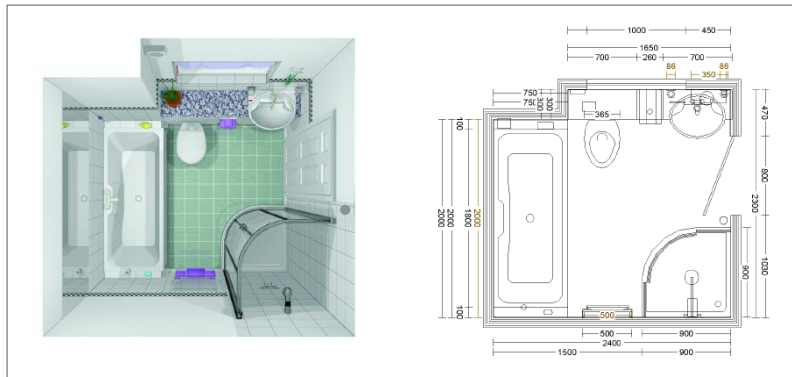
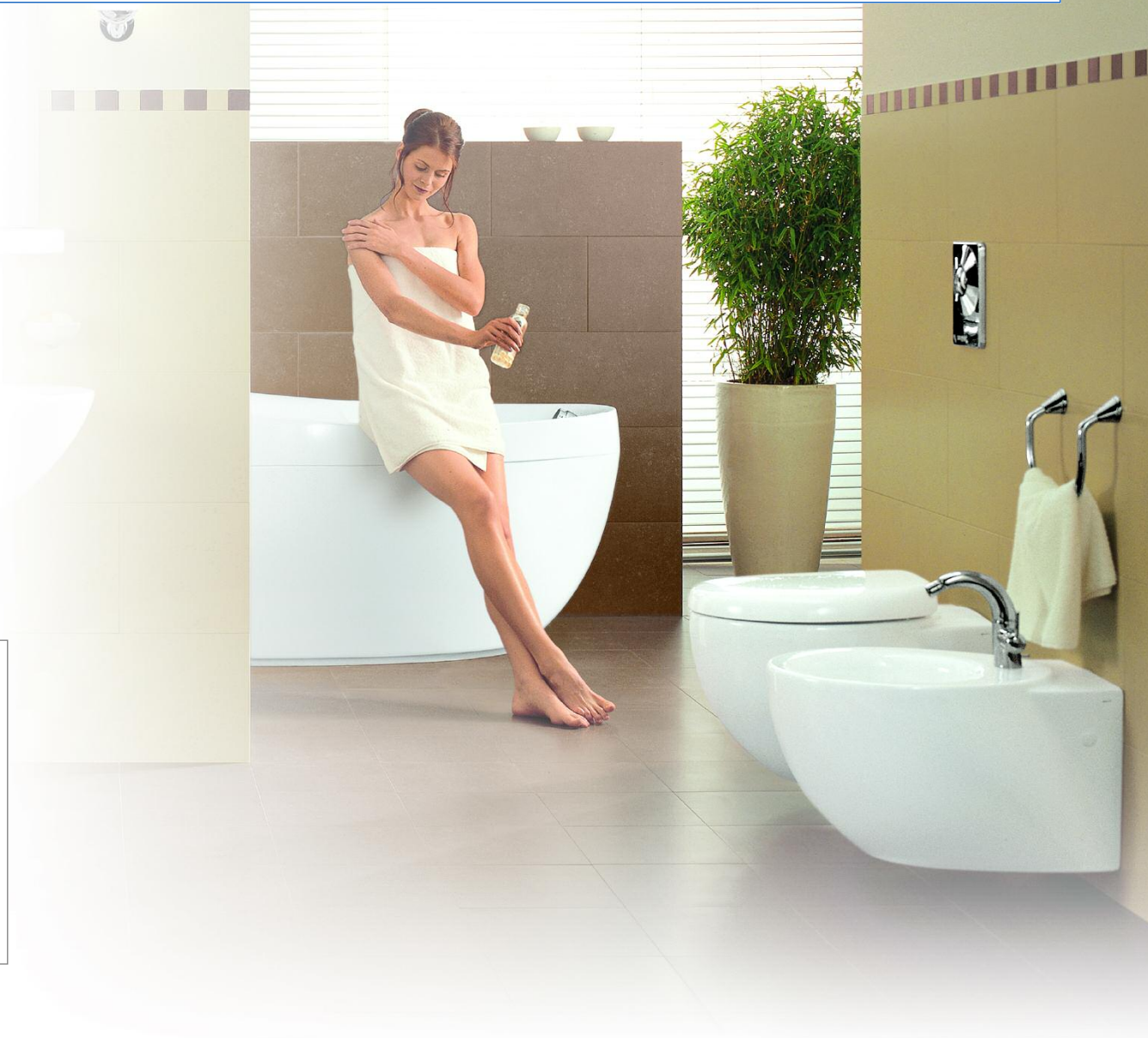
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- 5. If you have a small bathroom and require storage, use fitted furniture to maximise available space
- 6. A tiled bathroom is the most practical in terms of hygiene and maintenance. Choose larger tiles to reduce the amount of grouting and minimise unsightly limescale stains. When choosing your tiles, a neutral colour scheme is advisable if you plan to sell
- 7. Install an extractor fan to improve ventilation and reduce the risk of mildew
- 8. If using downlights, bear in mind that the beam of light is narrow and you may need more units than you would expect
- 9. Take advantage of the staff's experience for some free planning advice and suggestions. Measure your bathroom to help with the selection of suitable products
- 10. Make sure you use qualified, professional bathroom fitters for a beautiful finish

Sutton and East Surrey Water Services has a team of planning, project management and installation specialists with the expertise to help you create your perfect bathroom. All staff are fully qualified and there's a one-year peace of mind guarantee on all work. ■



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