

Soft grays and creamy whites create a soothing ambience in a bath that flows out of the master bedroom and into a courtyard. The wall-hung TV, mounted on a pivot arm, can be shifted for viewing from the tub or the shower.





CUSTOM OASIS

The sands of the beach—not the desert—inspired the look of this Arizona master bath.

writer MERYVYN KAUFMAN
photographer LAURIE BLACK
field editor BARBARA MUNDALL



It was a challenge to instill a sense of personal style in a

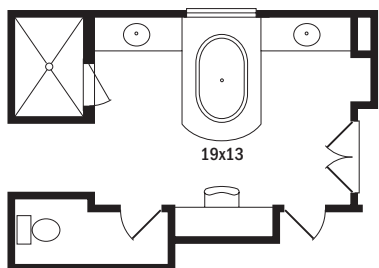
builder bath. The layout for this master bath in Scottsdale, Arizona, was already set by the time designer Caroline Tyler DeCesare came on the scene. “I worked within an established space,” she says, “but I knew my clients liked much of the floor plan.” Homeowners Miesje and Dana Corbo weren’t particularly happy with one element, though: a tub that ate up square footage in the middle of the room. Miesje and the designer softened the impact of the tub with cabinetry and finishes that make the bath special and personal.

The Corbos were weary of the predictable desert looks. “They wanted something more crisp, young, and fresh but also timeless,” DeCesare says. Miesje was eager for her bathroom decor to play against the regional stereotype: “We envisioned something that would feel like we were somewhere else. If I close my eyes I can imagine an ocean breeze.” In contrast to Arizona’s sunny warmth, the couple chose cool colors. Gray and creamy white are dominant tones. Blue accents were introduced in rugs. And these rugs are functional as well as decorative, protecting the Belgian white oak flooring from stray water drops.

The bath has a large window and French doors, but no privacy issues. The lined linen curtains resist heat and deflect sunlight. Otherwise the bath is a wide-open extension of the master bedroom. The Corbo children—three boys and one girl, all under 10—love to congregate in this bathroom, seated on the tub deck awaiting their turn in the shower.

Like her kids, Miesje says, “I’ve always felt great in that bathroom,” crediting the colors, finishes, and decorative items her designer suggested. “Your environment can make a big difference psychologically. Little details mean a lot.” **KBI**

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Takeaways

- 1** Curtains hung from rods a foot above door and window openings accentuate ceiling height.
- 2** The focal-point tub is outfitted with beautiful paneling and a generous marble deck.
- 3** Sconces flank each mirror, providing optimum lighting for grooming.
- 4** Using the same marble for the shower, tub deck, and countertops establishes unity.
- 5** A curved countertop on the makeup vanity allows a chair to tuck out of the way when not in use.



OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: Set high into the shower's wall of 12x12-inch marble tiles is a tiny window that brings in a dollop of sunlight. **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** Extending into the room, a whirlpool tub separates dual vanities. Gray and white linen curtains pull shut for privacy; they also shield the space from Arizona's intense heat and sunlight. **OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT:** "Light and feminine" is how designer Caroline Tyler DeCesare describes the tufted-linen chair that serves the bathroom's built-in dressing table. **THIS PHOTO:** Custom cabinetry throughout is alder in an elegant raised-panel design; the painted finish is lacquered gray.