

# Make plans for an elegant bathroom

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## THE DESIGN FEED



Here's my advice on how to get understated elegance in your own bathroom, in five easy steps.

### Tile talk

For a calming sense of consistency, I used one series of porcelain tile floor-to-ceiling, including on the floor itself (although in a larger scale for a sense of being weighty and "grounded").

What you don't see is the Nuheat in-floor heating system hiding underneath which adds an affordable sense of big luxury to the small space.

Tip: Tiling a wall top to bottom gives a more "finished" effect than tiling only halfway up. Balance your budget by choosing a less expensive tile, or cladding just some walls, and the look won't suffer.

### Find your niche

One of the most noticeable features of this space is probably the sleek shelving compartment adjacent to the vanity mirror. This was actually an existing niche that we converted by adding a semi-transparent glass door.

An inset niche can cheat more space out of a bathroom, giving you storage that doesn't shrink the room like a bulky projecting medicine cabinet can.

Tip: Companies like Schluter now make pre-formed niche moulds perfect for DIYers. Position your niche at about elbow height for easy reach of your products, and clad it in a subtle mosaic tile for visual interest that follows the flow of your scheme.

### High impact glass

Speaking of adding glass, skipping a shower curtain for

the fixed shower panel was an essential part of giving this room a "designer" appeal.

I used a clean-lined tub (the Adora from Mirolin) for a perfect fit, with a skirted front (rather than tiled) to break up the tile with some sparkling white.

Tip: For larger tubs or showers, a glass panel can include a hinged swing door for easy access to the controls before stepping in. Either way, aim for minimal hardware and take the glass as high as possible.

— Yanic Simard is principal designer of the award-winning Toronto Interior Design Group ([www.tidg.ca](http://www.tidg.ca)) and a regular TV design expert on City's Cityline. Check out his accessory line at **YANIC SIMARD SELECTED** at [www.yselected.com](http://www.yselected.com).



Warmth and personality distinguish this bathroom's look.



A clever way to add storage to a small space.



A sparkling white tub brings variety to a tiled look.