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Yanic Simard's 10 TIPS
for the perfect bath

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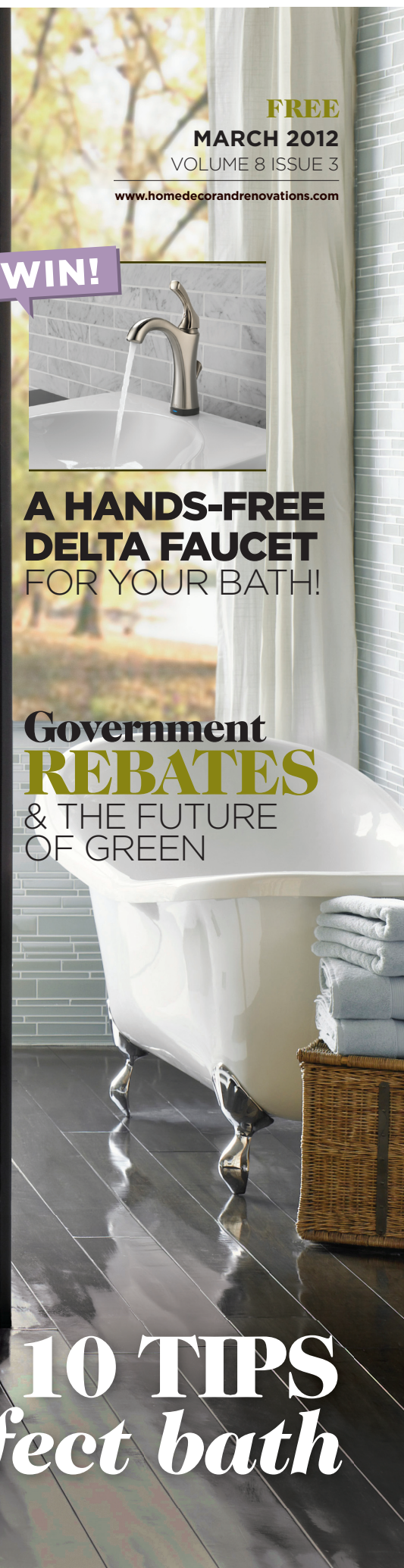
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bathroom *renovating* TOP 10 TIPS

by **YANIC SIMARD**

if you have a pink tub and gold antique faucets, it just might be time to renovate and invest in something you'll actually enjoy using and admire. Using the "it's vintage" excuse is getting old, and I can almost guarantee that once the renovation is complete, you'll ask yourself, "Why didn't I do that 10 years ago?"

01 IMPORTANCE OF LAYOUT

When homeowners finally decide to renovate their bathroom, I often find that people like to jump the gun and head shopping before coming up with a functional floor plan. The significance of creating a layout that works is paramount – take the time to measure and draw out the space (to scale!) and create a design

THE CALABRIA VANITY FROM THE CONTEMPO
COLLECTION, BY RONBOW (RONBOW.COM)





AZURRA ADORA BATHTUB FROM MIROLIN (MIROLIN.COM)
PHOTO BY TED YARWOOD

that works; keeping in mind the flow of traffic, having enough space to move around comfortably, the right amount of clearance to open doors and drawers, and the end result in the way everything looks in relation to each other. Manipulating the layout can increase your floor space, but you might also be able to move walls to give yourself even more room. If you have a linen closet next to the bathroom or closet from another room that is on the other side of the wall, you might be able to shorten the closet depth to give you a couple extra square feet for your bathroom. Explore all of your options before beginning work.

\$\$ SAVING TIP Don't change the location of the tub and toilet, and you'll save a bundle of money!

02 RELY ON THE CLASSICS

You can never go wrong if you choose white and chrome finishes and fixtures. TOTO has some beautiful options, and I really like their Aquia and Upton Lines. They make choosing the components for your bathroom easy and stress-free with their coordinating collections. You'll never have to worry about making sure pieces match or look good together again!

03 THE SHOWER & TUB

Having both a shower and a tub in your main bathroom is definitely something that you want to think about if you're planning on selling your home in the future. It's something that young homeowners with children in mind for their future want. If your bathroom is on the smaller side, combine the shower and tub. Mirolin has the perfect tub for small spaces – it's 60 inches, smaller than the standard size – called the Azurra Adora. Pair it with the popular rainfall showerhead and a beautiful bathtub waste & overflow drain (OS&B offers drains in many styles and finishes—available through plumbing boutiques and retailers such as The Home Depot) and your house is practically sold!

04 VANITY

Finding a nice vanity with ample storage space can be a tough task. If you're looking for something that's good quality at an affordable price, I suggest taking a look at the options from RONBOW. They have several different size options, meaning they will work well whether your space is small or large.

05 SINK SPACE

There are so many different shapes and sizes when it comes to sinks – it's really about finding what is most suitable for you. Make a list of what you're looking for and take it with you shopping – you might want something deep, round and polished – or shallow, rectangular and matte. Choose your vanity first and bring the measurements with you before going out and making the purchase.





BATHROOM BY NUHEAT (NUHEAT.COM)

06 DURABLE FLOORING

There's no doubt that the bathroom floor gets a lot, if not the most abuse out of any room in the house. Make sure you choose something that can handle a lot of wear and tear. I like choosing a tile or stone that has the coloration running all throughout it, not just one that has a layer of colour on top. That way it will always look the same even as the surface begins to wear down.

07 MIRROR ART

Choosing a mirror is like choosing the artwork for a room. It's the finishing touch for the space. The mirror adds the sparkle and reflects the light – the larger the mirror, the larger the impact. Want a designer look? Tile the walls of your bathroom and insert a large-sized mirror to be flush with the tile work. The end result always looks incredible!

08 LIGHTING

The light fixture you choose will determine the mood you're trying to create. Choose a fixture that will emit a lot of bright white light. A bathroom is not an area that needs to be ambient – you'll want good light for getting ready so keep this in mind when choosing your selection.

09 HEATED FLOORS

If you're doing a full bathroom reno and ripping up the floor, why not consider treating yourself by installing a heated floor system? In Canada we have climates that would make a penguin cry so having this feature in the winter is particularly enjoyable! NuHeat is my go-to company for heated floors. With them you can customize the mat to fit the exact measurements of the space so every inch of the floor will give off warmth.

10 TIME TO ADJUST

At the end of the day it's all about creating a unified look that you'll be happy to wake up to and come home to every day. Completely transforming your bathroom will be a big change and believe it or not, it will take some getting used to – especially if you change the size and/or the location of the pieces within it. Give yourself four to six weeks to adjust to the new look and really fall in love with your new bathroom.



PHOTO BY BRANDON BARRE

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