

# renovate it



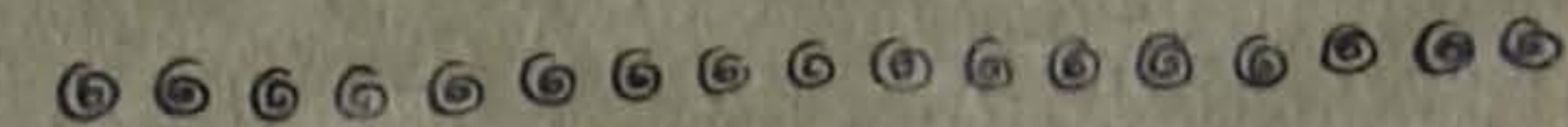
with *Emma de Smit*



GET THE FACTS:  
**bathrooms**

PHOTOGRAPHY: SUPPLIED BY BUBBLES BATHROOMS

## trade notes



### GET YOUR COLOUR BACK

Bath an unsightly green hue? Tiles a displeasing orange? Instead of tossing them out and starting from scratch, a cost-effective way of giving your bathroom a facelift without major upheaval is to have it resurfaced. Companies such as Nu-Pride can resurface your bath, wall tiles, shower base or basin in the colour of your choice. Resurfacing a bath costs about \$650 and takes about half a day. [bathresurfacing.com.au](http://bathresurfacing.com.au).



### AWASH WITH WOOD

Eco-friendly bamboo has become a popular material for flooring or cabinetry and is now making an appearance in bathrooms. With its natural grain and warm, honey tones, this handcrafted, Japanese-style Moku bamboo basin (pictured above) would make a stunning bathroom addition. The basins (\$339.95-\$369.95) are impervious to water, highly scratch-resistant and available in four different shapes. [renovatorstore.com.au](http://renovatorstore.com.au).

**D**esigning a fabulous new bathroom worthy of a day spa can be great fun, but there are many practical considerations to keep in mind. There are a lot of different elements and fixtures to co-ordinate and space is often in short supply.

"Function should take precedence over form," advises Owen Barnes, principal designer at Bubbles Bathrooms.

He points to the freestanding bath as an example – a persistently popular feature of modern bathrooms. "The biggest complaint is access to clean around them," Owen says. "So either position it with plenty of space around it, or try semi-insetting it – a great way to get the aesthetics of a freestanding bath while keeping the bathroom easy to maintain."

Owen also recommends being open-minded about the bathroom's location. "The original position for your bathroom may not be the best place for it. Relocating it to an under-utilised space is well worth considering and it may not necessarily add much cost."

## expert advice

**ENSURE** the product styles flow well together – a stunning bathroom needs a consistent theme and sense of flow.

**CHOOSE** a single point of interest for the bathroom as too many distractions will create an overly busy space.

**CONSIDER LOCATING** the toilet behind the bathroom's entry door as the door will provide a visual barrier to the toilet. Source: Bubbles Bathrooms

**CHECK IT OUT**  
FOR MORE BATHROOM IDEAS  
[bubblesbathrooms.com.au](http://bubblesbathrooms.com.au)



## POINT-AND-CLICK PLUMBING

Reece has launched a 3D bathroom planner that allows users to create their dream bathroom online and preview the final results from any perspective. Products can be selected from the entire Reece range, and finishing touches such as fittings, lighting and tiles can also be added. The planner is designed to work with your bathroom's dimensions and location of existing plumbing, power points, doors and windows. [reece.com.au/bathrooms/3d-bathroom-planner](http://reece.com.au/bathrooms/3d-bathroom-planner).