

How to Give Your Bathroom that WOW factor

The secret is in spending the right amount of money on items that will deliver the right aesthetic appeal and functionality that you require.

Always keep in mind that any item you place in the bathroom should be assessed as to the appeal and practical purpose it will serve in the room.

Here are some clever tips and advise that have been put together based on experience and first hand market knowledge :

1. **Bathroom Furniture** : Make your bathroom furniture the main showpiece in your bathroom. It is the only item in the bathroom that is both aesthetically appealing and is functional. Dedicate the largest portion of your budget to these items, as you will derive the most value from them. When selecting what furniture to purchase consider the following :

TIPS:

- ✓ Stay away from cheap imported vanities. They often last around 6-12 months before major problems start. Their prices start from \$150 and up. But consider having to replace one every time it swells up from water damage or it leaks. That means a plumber will charge you around \$400 to install a new one each time. And this also does not include whatever damage a leaking vanity can do to your bathroom.
 - ✓ Consider Wall mounted vanities. Wall mount vanities not only offer a modern look to a bathroom but are easier to maintain, clean, and look great.
 - ✓ Make sure that the furniture matches. The last thing you want is having to install bathroom furniture that does not math giving your bathroom an odd look.
 - ✓ Something Different, But not too different. Select carefully with colours and designs. Some designs date before they even have a chance to launch on the market.
2. **Tiling** : Tiles serve a limited function in a bathroom aside from being a form of surface protection. This item is the most invested item which people spend on in order to differentiate their bathroom. Be sensible with your selection. A good tile needs to have good coating which is wear resistant. Other features are really not that important. Most tile retailers will sell thicker, imported, polished etc... features but at the end of the day they all do the same job. A budget of around \$30-\$60 per sqmt is sufficient and will often get you a good well wearing tile. Remember people can not value a tile as they could value bathroom furniture. So a beige porcelain tile at \$100/sqmtr will look very similar to a tile that is \$30/sqmtr, and with the naked eye probably very little difference.

TIPS:

- ✓ Purchase a tile that look good and is water tight.
 - ✓ Don't invest more on tiles than you need.
 - ✓ Don't pay for features that the naked eye can not appreciate.
 - ✓ Always try to keep floor tiles and wall tiles the same colour.
 - ✓ To differentiate wall and floor go for white on the wall and any colour on the floor and use a border feature tile to match the floor on the wall.
 - ✓ Let you bathroom furniture be the showpiece in your bathroom and not the tiles. Always select plain coloured tiles, stay away from patterned tiles as they will date quickly.
3. **Frameless Screens:** Frameless shower screens are great to look at and offer some function in terms of containing water. Frameless screens are however very expensive. Often they are custom made and can range from \$1500 for a basic screen and upwards. If you are looking at saving some money try installing a semi-frameless screen. Semi Frameless screens also look great and are actually better wearing that frameless screens.
 4. **Accessories :** Be sensible. A toothbrush holder at \$50 will do the same as one at \$100.00. If you are not careful a small selection of these items can really add unnecessary costs to your budget. Select items that are functional. Try to stay away from glass based items, especially ones where the glass is not fixed in place. Once broken they are often very hard to replace, as it will mean buying new a item. And in some cases when the accessories break they are not easily replaced and you will need to buy a totally new item and this will mean new drill holes in your beautiful tiles.

Now that you have learned how to save some money on the nonessential items.

Consumers have resulted in making the big mistake of over investing in these items as they are the only ways they know how to differentiate their bathroom. Now consider investing that money on bathroom furniture that will showcase your bathroom and really give it that WOW factor !

Avaria customers have an added advantage that by sticking to a sensible quality focussed budget they are able to differentiate their bathroom by showcasing unique, distinctive and functional bathroom furniture that is truly an investment in any bathroom. Speak to your Avaria representative for free advise on how you can have that WOW factor at an affordable price.