

walls. Lights tucked into the top of the false ceiling bounce indirect light off the walls (photo right). Hinged panels on the side of the dropped ceiling swing down, allowing access to the fixtures for bulb changes. Two rows of recessed cans in the false ceiling add another layer of light.

Concrete counter, slate splashes

I love working with wood. But I also like working with plenty of other materials, and remodeling my own bath gave me a chance to set slate tiles and to make a concrete counter.

I cast the counter right side up in the backyard in a form that included 3-in. dia. flexible-plastic drain pipe. I used the pipe to shape the counter's bullnose edges. A slate backsplash overlaps the back of the counter. The slate, in turn, is overlapped by the veneered panels ("Great Idea," right). □

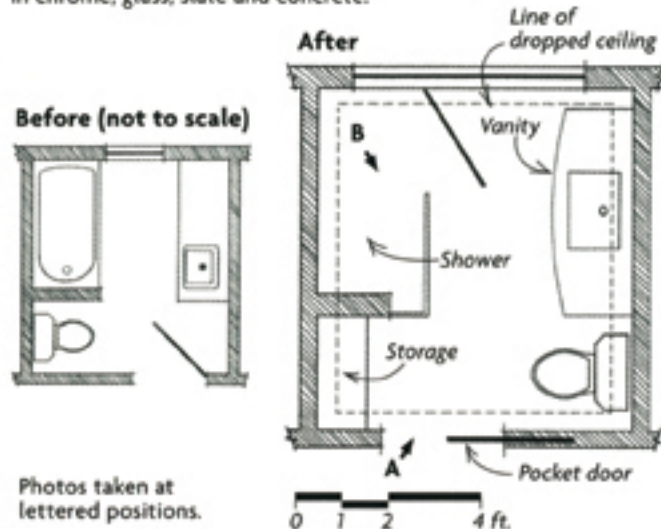
Dan Allen lives in Seattle, WA, and works at The O. B. Williams Co. Photos by Charles Miller.



Meticulous layout and clean lines. At the bathroom's entry, a pocket door with frosted-glass panel admits light from the hall. Lights above the false ceiling illuminate the walls' tops. Photo taken at B on floor plan.

SIMPLE LAYOUT, HIGHLY REFINED

Occupying the same footprint as the original bath, the remodeled one succeeds by dressing up the walls, vanity and shower with furniture-grade woodwork and sculptural accents in chrome, glass, slate and concrete.



NOTABLE FIXTURES

Electric radiant floor

NUHEAT
(800) 778-9276
nuheat.com

Shower head and mixing valve

Online In Touch II
(800) 423-9485
interbath.com

Wall sconces

Leucos Lighting
Leucos Micetta-P2
(732) 225-0010
leucos.com

GREAT IDEA: VENEERED PANELS FOR BATHROOM WALLS

The keys to getting my paneled walls to work out were careful layout, panels of a manageable size and hidden fasteners. As shown in the drawing, the fasteners are a simple 1/4-in. thick by 2 1/2-in. long aluminum panel clip (Brooklyn Hardware; 503-232-1151) that I screwed to a 1/2-in. thick plywood batten affixed to the wall. A corresponding clip screwed to the back of the panel acts as a wedge-shaped hook that pulls the panel tight to the wall. I used eight pairs of clips for large panels, arranged in two rows—one at the top and one at the bottom. Small panels got four pairs of clips. The panels have 1/4-in. gaps between them, and they break over 1/4-in. thick battens finished in the same veneer.

To keep the medium-density fiberboard panels from cupping, I applied an inexpensive veneer to the back of each panel and finished it with two coats of sealer. The anigre veneers on the edges and faces received four coats of acrylic-modified lacquer.

—D. A.

