

Designed by David Hintgen
DH Interiors, Denver
dhinteriorsdenver.com

Grand Illusions

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID PATTERSON

INTERIOR DESIGNER David Hintgen admired this graphic gray-and-white striped marble and always wanted to use it. He got the opportunity when designing a new guest bath for an upscale Denver residence, incorporating the material for the countertop, tub surround, floor and wall tiles. “I love to take a spa approach to my bathrooms and keep materials to a minimum,” Hintgen says. “This very linear pattern created illusion upon illusion. It’s hard to tell where the tub ends and floor begins.” The shower, tucked into a back corner, is barely discernible.

Hintgen countered all that cool marble with a contrasting mahogany vanity. “It was clear to me that a rich, grainy wood tone would offset the marble and warm the room. It stands out nicely but it is still integrated,” he says. The custom floating vanity provides closed storage, and LED lighting underneath the raised cabinet acts as a night light with an integrated motion detector. Ceiling-to-countertop mirrors enhance the clean, ethereal look.

Unbridled Luxury

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID PATTERSON
SHOWN ON FOLLOWING PAGES

AN EXPANSIVE picture window opening to the Denver skyline is the focal point of this magnificent bath in a residence at the Four Seasons, for which Hintgen was given carte blanche in his design—a rare opportunity. “I really got to stretch my legs and exercise creative freedom,” Hintgen says. “There was nothing holding me back creatively.”

It’s easy to imagine the pure decadence of soaking in the sculptural egg-shaped bathtub with the lights of the city in full view. “I wanted a tub that had a beautiful, flowing shape since it would be the center of attention and nicely framed in the window,” Hintgen says. The symmetrical design includes custom vanities in high gloss white lacquer with thick-profile white quartzite countertops, lighted mirrors and bright touches of chrome throughout, all wrapped in a rare Turkish marble with eggplant-colored veining.

DAVID’S TIPS

- Don’t be afraid to repeat a lot of the same material in a bathroom. Fewer ingredients help accomplish a flowing spa look, where less is often more.
- Light fixtures mounted on mirrors increase the light output. It’s almost like getting an extra sconce for free, thanks to the reflection.
- Install a shower door pull horizontally and it doubles as a towel bar. This trick works best with a handle that’s longer than the standard eight inches.







Deceptively Simple

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID PATTERSON

WHILE THE main powder bath in this transitional Hilltop house is very opulent, interior designer David Hintgen took a more subtle approach to the ‘back-of-the-house’ bath. “The room is deceptively simple with a lot of fine details and a nice combination of colors and textures,” says Hintgen. He created visual interest with a blended gray porcelain tile floor that looks like marble. It is set on the diagonal to make the small space appear larger. The vinyl-upholstered wall, while neutral in color, offers added dimension with a subtle animal skin texture.

Against this backdrop, Hintgen installed a high-gloss lacquer vanity with a quartz countertop. Its clean lines and all-white color palette make it appear petite. “When you lift the vanity off the floor, it gives you a lot more visual space underneath,” the designer says. “And it has just the right amount of spaciousness by using a six-foot long mirror that accentuates the high ceiling. Slim-lined drop pendants contribute to a layered effect. While sleek and minimal in design, every detail is carefully considered. “It’s the very best of simple,” Hintgen says.

DAVID’S TIPS

- Create a vertical, linear effect if you have a high ceiling. It’s a huge mistake to put a small mirror at eye level in a ten-foot tall room.
- Install upholstery vinyl as a wall covering. It is water-repellent (no backsplash needed), wider than wallpaper (fewer seams) and comes in cool faux animal skin textures not always available in traditional wallpaper.
- Try something different for a towel bar, like this simple ring that holds a towel vertically and also makes a design statement. A horizontal towel bar in this vertical room would have been a mistake.



Daring Drama

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID PATTERSON

WELL KNOWN for his neutral palettes, Hintgen says strong color is not often his preference. “But when I saw this rich, vibrant orange, textured wall covering, I knew it was right for the powder bath in a contemporary Denver residence,” he says. The designer chose equally sensational lights and fixtures for the room. The pedestal sink is a glass cylinder that folds back down to form the basin. “It is elegant and beautiful,” says Hintgen, “and the smoked glass relates perfectly to the orange walls.” He chose a Kohler Karbon faucet that echoes the cylindrical shape of the sink: “It is commonly used in kitchens but the wall mount works in a bath.”

Lighting is all-important in this vividly colored space. “The room is high drama with intense, definitively focused lighting,” Hintgen says. He incorporated LED lights into a two-inch gap between the walls and ceiling to create a perimeter halo glow around the room. The only other sources of light are an art light and a single spot above the sink. A small mirror suspended by a leather strap and intricate herringbone floor tiles are other bold moves in a room that dares to be distinctive.

DAVID’S TIPS

- Step out of your comfort zone and take a chance with color. You can control the impact with lighting and strategically placed touches of a complementary color.
- Place a can light directly above the sink to highlight this focal point. The intense light is functional and helps balance other sources of illumination, such as sconces.
- Have fun with tile in a powder room. With limited square footage, it should be interesting, so why not splurge?

