

Latest in Luxury: The See-Through Bathtub

Some homeowners are fitting their luxury bathrooms with see-through bathtubs, opening up the space and offering a lighter alternative to carved-stone models

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Glass is the new marble for some homeowners searching for the perfect bathtub. Designers say their clients like the aura of luxury that transparent tubs provide. The appeal extends across all ages, from children's bathrooms to the elegant master baths in the second homes of older clients. Still, the full exposure can be a bit jarring, designers say. "To some people, that might be absolutely unacceptable," says Anne Fougeron, principal architect of Fougeron Architecture in San Francisco. For certain homeowners, however, the novelty of see-through tubs outweighs modesty concerns.

Here are some examples of glass-bathtub designs from around the world.



PHOTO: ERIC ROTH

Splish Splash

The glass bathtub in this Boston residence was designed to be a "playful" feature for the family's children, says principal architect [David Stern](#). When his clients made the request, he wasn't sure how to build it. "We rolled up our sleeves and went with it," Mr. Stern says. His team at Stern McCafferty Architecture & Interiors developed a watertight system with concealed brass channels. The 2011 remodel spurred more than 100 queries, he says.