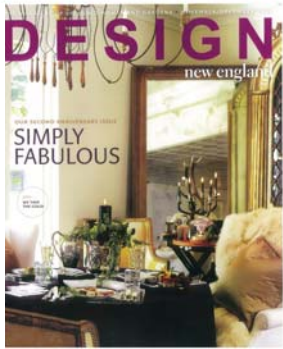


## GUEST WORK

A spare bathroom's contemporary renovation refreshes its Old World style



Written by COURTNEY KASIANOWICZ  
Photography by JOHN HORNER

**W**ITH HOLIDAYS APPROACHING, most of us look forward to visiting family and friends for weekend get-togethers and festivities. Overnight visitors to Laurie and Michael DiLorenzo's 1896 Tudor-style house in Winchester, Massachusetts, have an added bonus: a beautifully refurbished guest bathroom.

To execute the renovation, the DiLorenzos called upon Feinmann Inc., a design and building company in Lexington, Massachusetts. "The bathroom was beautiful the way it was," says company president Peter Feinmann, but it didn't meet the needs of a modern family. "Our challenge was to create something as equally beautiful while elevating the style."

Clean lines and elegant colors are the basis for the room's new aesthetic. "We wanted the bathroom to have a new, fresh face while staying with the older style of the house," says Marina Novoa, the project manager who collaborated with Tammy Russo, Feinmann's senior production manager. "We also wanted the room to have an intimate feeling — not something that could be picked out of a catalog."

The renovation began by swapping out the old for the new. On the lower half of the walls, tiny multicolored tiles were replaced with graceful white wainscoting. Above the paneling, the walls were painted a sophisticated yet friendly khaki.

Updated fixtures and classic details complete the bathroom's look. A stylish glass door sets off the petite shower room, which is lined with grey-veined marble tiles. A matching marble floor and vanity top create a subtle, unified theme. Nickel-finished fixtures are centered and mounted on the wall behind the bathtub, a modification of the classic claw-foot silhouette. Separating the toilet from the tub is a small

**THE LIGHT TONES** of the marble floor, beamed ceiling, and wainscoting are warmed by the soft khaki color of the walls, making the room at once sophisticated and cozy.

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## bath

privacy wall that establishes nooks for each component.

The DiLorenzos initially wanted recessed fixtures to illuminate the room, but the old house lacked the ceiling space. So they settled on wall sconces, a feature they now love, as the light from the sconces bounces off the khaki-colored walls and gives the room a feeling of warmth. For actual warmth, they chose a Runtal heater, which fits neatly under the windowsill. Known for being quiet, energy-efficient, and durable, the Runtal is more chic than the iron radiator it replaced, and its slim profile allows the shower door to open freely.

Lastly, despite the inherent charm of the original marble-top sink, the homeowners wanted something fresh. “We didn’t want the washstand to look tired compared to the rest of the room,” says Laurie DiLorenzo. Feinmann Inc. designed a cherry vanity as a focal point and An Duc Bui, a company carpenter, built it. “It turned out to be more of a piece of furniture than simply a sink,” says Novoa. And it has drawers and compartments that add storage space the old sink lacked.

One thing the DiLorenzos left untouched were the beautiful ceiling beams that match those found throughout the house, an eye-catching architectural detail that unifies each room.

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**QUAINT BUT TOO busy, the old bathroom needed a fresh start. With the help of Feinmann Inc., the DiLorenzos were able to update the functionality and style of the room to create a space that is inviting and harmonious.**

“I love the simplicity of it, and I love the elegance of it,” says DiLorenzo about the new bathroom. “I was so pleased that someone could actually take a design idea and style it according to our home,” she says. “It came out exactly how I envisioned it.” ■



Replacing the clunky old cast-iron radiator with a slim European Runtal model was a conscious decision to maximize space; the old heater protruded 9 inches from the wall, while the flat-panel Runtal extends a mere 2 inches. Runtal radiators also can operate using 140 degree water, a much lower temperature than traditional water heaters, making them as energy-efficient as they are design savvy. Says homeowner Laurie DiLorenzo: “The new heater frees up so much more room, and it doesn’t get in the way when we open the new shower door.” Plus, Runtals are locally made; the North American factory is in Ward Hill, Massachusetts.

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