



Heather Gilmour Herbert,
interior designer, Room by
Room, Toronto, [www.room
byroomdesigns.ca](http://www.roombyroomdesigns.ca)

BEFORE



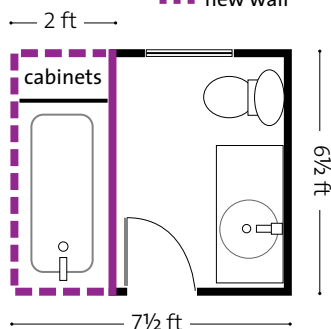
TIP: Is it a square or a diamond?
Give a square mirror a quarter-turn
for a fun new look over the vanity.

Bath Reno

How a family of four expanded the bathroom by stealing a few feet from the closets.

FLOOR PLAN

— removed wall
- - - new wall



BY KAREN KIRK

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL CHMIELOWIEC

A classic black-and-white bathroom can be appealing. But the look wasn't working for interior decorator Heather Gilmour Herbert of Toronto's Room by Room. "With two preteens in the house, water consumption and low maintenance are big issues," she says. Here's how Heather designed an efficient space with a fresh look that really works for her family of four. ▶

▶ The tiny 5½- by 6½-foot bathroom was expanded by bumping out a wall into the adjoining bedroom's closet and the hall linen closet (see floor plan). A whopping 13 square feet was gained to accommodate all the new fixtures.

▶ Choosing a deep, space-saving 60-inch acrylic tub allowed just enough room for a custom-built 15-inch-wide floor-to-ceiling storage cabinet, which was stained to match the new vanity. Towels and toiletries can now be conveniently stored in the bathroom.

▶ A new two-door vanity with a mint green tempered-glass countertop and porcelain vessel sink replaced the pedestal sink, which provided little surface area and no storage.

▶ Large 12- by 24-inch porcelain tiles, in a rich brown with a hint of metallic, line the shower wall. A glass tile border adds a touch of shimmer and decorative detail.

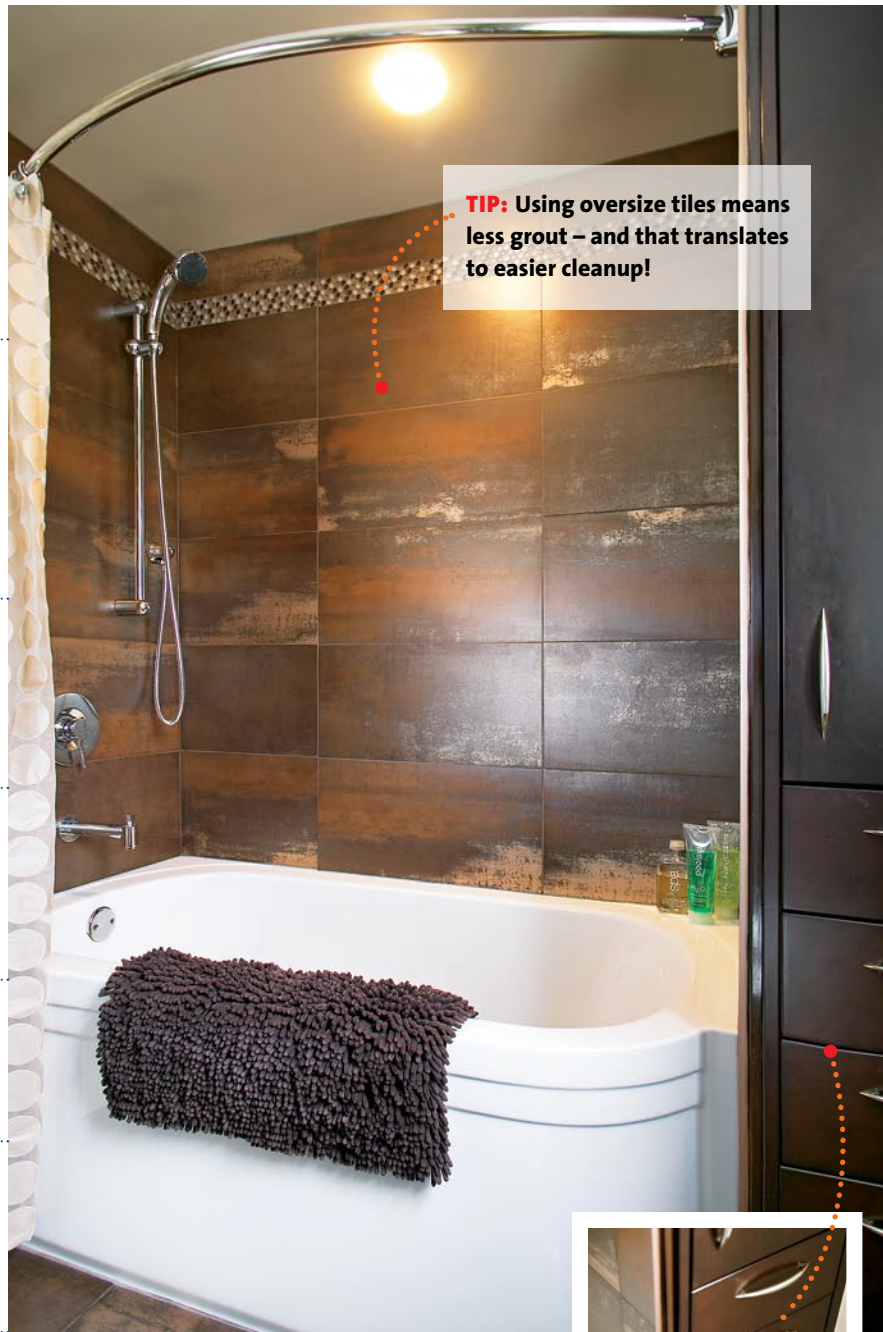
▶ The matching 24- by 24-inch tiles on the floor complete the clean and modern look, and make the room appear larger.

▶ A new energy-efficient window was installed and trimmed with window jambs made from wood shelves salvaged from some old kitchen cupboards.

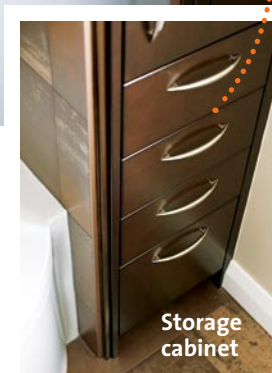
▶ A water-efficient toilet was repositioned beside the window and away from the bathroom door.

▶ Baseboards recycled from a kitchen wall that was removed were installed in the bathroom.

▶ An adjustable-height shower bar makes sense in a house with growing children, and the hand-held showerhead makes cleanup easy.



TIP: Using oversize tiles means less grout – and that translates to easier cleanup!



Storage cabinet

Not sure what to recycle, toss or take to the toxic waste depot?

Our online bathroom clean-out guide has the answers – plus some great clutter busters.

www.canadianliving.com/october

FOR SHOPPING INFORMATION, SEE PAGE 252

get THE LOOK



Vanity Plus

Magickwoods 27-inch Espresso Continental Vanity (73482), includes vanity with granite top, glass vessel bowl and brushed nickel faucet, \$496. Coordinating mirror, linen tower, wall cabinet and space saver are also available. All Lowe's, www.lowes.ca.



Shower Rod and Curtain

The Crescent Rod Curved Chrome Shower Rod (\$50) is easy to install, uses any regular shower curtain and fits perfectly on all five-foot standard and oval tubs. Eclipse Chocolate fabric shower curtain, \$50. Both Bed Bath and Beyond, www.bedbathandbeyond.com.

Steal Heather's fabulous look with these stylish, low-maintenance products in the bathroom.



Tub and Shower Fittings

Cabano Der pressure balance valve in chrome (12150), from \$300; Cabano Der spout in chrome (12144RL), from \$250; Cabano Impulse rail set in chrome (75103), from \$140. All Taps and Stone, www.tapsandstone.com, www.cabanobath.com.



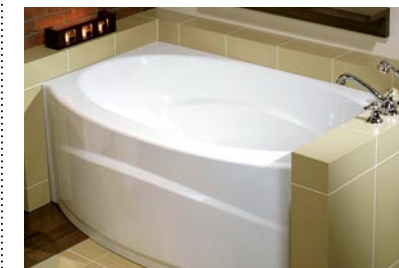
Toilet

Kohler Serif Comfort Height two-piece toilet in white with lift-knob actuator (K3464-0), from \$464; Kohler Cachet Quiet Close toilet seat (K4636-0), from \$86. Both Taps and Stone, www.tapsandstone.com.



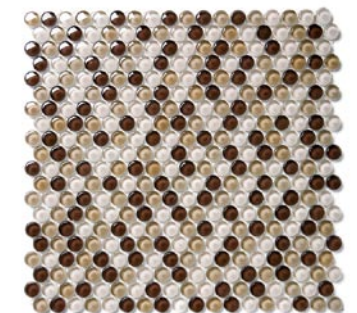
Mirror

Debbie Travis Tilt Mirror (63-0445-2) in ebony finish with polished nickel mounting brackets, \$100, Canadian Tire, www.canadiantire.ca.



Tub

Rona Collection Zen 60-inch acrylic tub in white (2003473), with built-in apron and tiling flange, \$499, Rona, www.rona.ca.



Glass Tiles

Terra Verre ⅝-inch Micro Dot Coco Blend glass tile, \$31.50 per sheet, www.terraverre.com.