



BACK TO NATURE

Soft industrial meets country style in this sleek bathroom that brings the outdoors inside

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The French doors swing open to let the sounds and smells of the garden waft over the claw-foot centerpiece bath – welcome to bathroom luxury Provence style.

The space in this inner-western villa once looked tired, with damp terracotta floor tiles, discoloured yellow paint and green wall tiles that simply “had to go”. But owner Dijana Sladic, together with interior designer Rebekah Cichero from One Small Room, transformed the wet area into a smart, light-filled bathroom that brings the outdoors in.

Rebekah took inspiration from the existing worn sink, reminiscent of an old French bathroom console, and created a space that seamlessly combines classic and contemporary with a touch of industrial.

“Mixing old and new felt right and the look evolved from there,” Rebekah says.

The bathroom is comprised of a series of small rooms that were originally part of a quirky addition to the otherwise symmetrical property and housed the bathroom, toilet and laundry.

The renovation was a mammoth task, with the entire space gutted, underfloor heating installed, walls painted white and, finally, new tiles, tapware and light fittings added. The

TRADE SECRETS: STEAL THE LOOK

- THE CLAW-FOOT BATH ADDS TO THE CLASSIC FEEL OF THE ROOM AND IS POSITIONED TO LET BATHERS VIEW THE GARDEN.
- A FREESTANDING BATH-FILLER ADDS AN INDUSTRIAL ELEMENT.
- WHITE PAINT AND FLOOR AND WALL TILES HELP FILL THE SPACE WITH LIGHT.
- THE SMALL FLOOR TILES FINISHED WITH BLACK GROUT GIVE THE ROOM A RETRO FLAVOUR AND CREATE AN ELEMENT OF CONTRAST.
- UNDERFLOOR HEATING KEEPS THE TILED FLOOR WARM IN WINTER.
- BLACK PENDANT LIGHTS HELP TO CONNECT AND UNIFY THE THREE SMALL ROOMS THAT COMPRISE THE WET AREA.



1 'D38' tall basin mixer, \$1100, Paco Jaanson 2 'Pugg' 32cm chrome-plated wall clock, \$39.95, Ikea 3 Thonet No18 'Cane' chair in dark oak, \$302, 1000 Chairs. See page 121 for stockists.



choice of small white tiles for the floor, sourced from Ceramica 2000, gives the space a distinctly retro flavour. “A large-format tile just didn’t feel right for the unique space,” Rebekah says. Black grout was then used to create contrast and keep the space looking classic.

Dijana spent a great deal of time deciding on the fittings and chose Paco Jaanson D38 tapware and washbasin, and a Duravit Scola console, all from Routleys Plumbing Innovations.

The striking Paco Jaanson freestanding bath filler rises from the middle of the room, adding a “soft industrial” element.

But it’s the windows facing onto the garden that give the room its country feel – like taking a bath in the middle of the garden.

Black pendant light fittings and the clock were sourced from One Small Room, the yellow bentwood Thonet chair was picked up at 1000 Chairs, while the Art Deco mirror was found in a second-hand shop.

“It’s so beautiful that you do tend to spend more time in there than you should,” Dijana says. “Even ironing is a pleasure because you have a great outlook to the garden.”