



Divide and rule

This refined bathroom remodel introduces a central dividing element to create distinct areas of use

With the tub and cabinetry most often pushed to the walls of a bathroom, the central area can be left underutilized. However, there is an attractive way to put this dead space to good use, enhancing the room's functionality.

This understated bathroom remodel, by interior designer Christine Julian, replaces a tired existing bathroom where a classic perimeter layout had left the heart of the large room a yawning void.

"My response was to introduce a new cabinetry wall element, perpendicular to

the original vanity and projecting into the room – dividing it into two areas of function," says Julian. "Given its high visibility from the bedroom and also from within the ensuite, this divider had to offer a warm, natural aesthetic, offsetting the cooler tiled surfaces."

The feature is finished in figured anigre veneer – the same wood used on all the cabinetry. Individual panels are framed in stained sapele, giving the entire element a furniture-like appeal.

The make-up counter is positioned on

one side of this wall, with the vanity, tub, shower stall and toilet room on the other.

"I also repositioned elements on this side of the room. This involved moving the new slipper tub – pulling it forward, so I could tuck the toilet and shower cubicles in behind. The block-like appearance of the separating wall contrasts with the fluid lines of the slipper tub."

The central wall ends just below the ceiling and the wall behind the bath seems to do the same – although here it continues up in clear glass. Cubicle doors to the left

Facing page: This bathroom remodel greatly increases its functionality, while retaining a degree of privacy from the bedroom. New doors were introduced between the spaces. Striated porcelain floor tiles, vertical wood grains and countertops inset with river stones all contribute a subtle textural interest to the room.

Above: Curved, bangle-like handles offset the regular lines of the anigre cabinetry and paneling. Laundry cupboards in the same wood flank the entrance to the bathroom. The three vanity mirrors double the size of this area visually.



Above: The tiled feature wall and wood dividing element both have a two-tone design. A convenient moveable mirror is attached on the wall in the make-up niche.

Far right and facing page, above: High-contrast white grouting forms a frame around each individual tile. In turn, the tiled wall frames the fluid lines of the slipper bathtub. Glass above and to both sides of the wall allows maximum light into the small areas behind. The shower cubicle shelf is finished in the same river stone surface as the make-up vanity.

and right are also glass – framing the tiled wall. The interiors of the toilet and shower areas are finished in the same tilework.

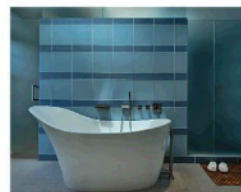
“A cove ceiling meant we could not extend the central wall right up, although I would have finished it at this level anyway,” says Christine Julian. “Providing views that take in the entire ceiling adds to overall sense of spaciousness.”

The design also provides a degree of separation from the bedroom. A T-shaped end to the anigre wall helps screen the make-up area as well as the main vanity.

The bathroom cabinets are set into the divider, with the joinery running up the sides and over the top of the unit, further shielding any clutter from the bedroom.

The natural feel of the rich veneers is continued on other surfaces. The make-up countertop and shower ledge are comprised of smooth white stones captured in clear resin. The effect is earthy yet refined – much like the aesthetic of the entire room.

➔ [View more images of this project at Trendsides.com/go/28793](https://www.trendsides.com/go/28793)



Interior designer: Christine Julian, Julian Kitchen Design (Oak Brook, IL)

Tub: Victoria & Albert Amalfi Slipper tub from Studio 41

Tub fittings: Dornbracht. Xtool thermostat in platinum matte, from Studio 41

Cabinetry: Custom sapelle and anigre stained timber from Julian Kitchen Design

Vanity countertop: Lightblocks resin in Cotton from Julian Kitchen Design

Basin: Toto in Cotton from Studio 41

Faucets: Graff Structure in brushed nickel from Studio 41

Shower fittings: Hansgrohe from Studio 41

Make-up vanity top and shower bench seat top: River Rock from The Fine Line

Tile flooring: Melange porcelain in Panama from Materials Marketing

Wall tiles: Glacier Bay sanded glass in Horizon and Marina from Waterworks

Lighting: Serien from Lightology

Linens and accessories: Waterworks

Story by Charles Moxham

Photography by Eric Hausman