

WORDS OF WISDOM

Charu Gandhi, of Elicyon, on wow-factor bathrooms

Charu Gandhi is founder of Elicyon, a luxury interior design studio based in Chelsea. Having cut her teeth at Candy & Candy, she is well acquainted with top-end luxury bathroom design. Here she shares her expertise and offers an insight into current trends.

BEAUTIFUL STONE

Book or slip-matched marble makes an impressive feature in any bathroom. We put a lot of effort into displaying natural vein patterns behind a bathtub or in a shower. In our recent One Hyde Park apartment we clad the whole master ensuite in Calacatta marble matching the veins on every surface, even across drawer fronts. It took three visits to Carrara, Italy, to find 'the one'.

SCULPTURAL FREE-STANDING BATHS

Although we always love a stone-clad undercounter bathtub, the sculptural free-standing version is currently on trend. Give it plenty of space and make sure it's not sitting right next to a wall. Treat like a piece of art.



FURNISHED BATHROOMS

Seeing the bathroom as an extension of a master bedroom is a great way to add wow-factor. Furnish with luscious seating like a daybed, bench or pouf. A metal trolley holding beautiful accessories is another way of giving a focal point.

HIS & HERS

Creating symmetry with 'his and hers' sides looks spectacular in a spacious bathroom. A central double-sided shower adds further drama.

HIGH-TECH SHOWERS

While we have noticed that our clients prefer simple light controls and straightforward functioning taps, it seems to be the opposite with showers – the more wizardry the better with jets, alternating mood lights and steam functions.

CHARU'S TOP TIPS

- 1** Space planning is key for functionality and flow.
- 2** Add lots of hidden storage, the more the better.
- 3** Make it easy to clean – no hard to access areas.
- 4** Allow for both mood- and task-lighting.
- 5** Make grouting as thin as possible using a tone-on-tone colour.
- 6** Choose high quality fittings that last.

PLAYFUL POWDER ROOMS

We love creating bold and decorative themes for powder rooms. Go for a quirky, colourful or ornate look using wall finishes such as intricate wallpapers, backlit precious stones or playful sanitary ware.

Elicyon used Calacatta marble in this One Hyde Park apartment

