



HOME BY  
Hochstetler Log Homes

# Make a SPLASH

*Small bathrooms are deserving of strategic design. Make the most of your space with these 10 big ideas for little lavatories.* By Karen Marley

THERE'S A LOT TO LOVE about a cozy log cabin or tiny timber frame, but the bathroom is one place where you might start to really feel the pinch of a smaller footprint, and "cozy" can easily turn into "cramped."

Before you start searching for ways to add space,

see if you can't find it within your current design. If you look closely, you just might discover the storage and square footage you desire are hidden all around you. We'll show you how a little creativity can transform a basic bathroom into a blissful sanctuary.



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Woodhouse, The Timber Frame Company

## Optimized Space.

Bathrooms, despite their petite footprint, are one of the hardest-working rooms in a home. The tighter the space, the more every inch matters. Dwellify, an online home remodeling service, recommends using floating fixtures and wall-mounted sinks to reclaim precious inches. Plus, it's a fast pass to a clean and contemporary look, if that's what you're seeking.

LEFT: Photo by Tim Murphy; TOP: Photo by Kris Miller



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Timberlyne

Cody Wortmann / Timberlyne Group

## Pattern and Texture.

If the room is not graced with tall ceilings, subtle or large-scale geometric designs on feature walls, mats or tiles create the illusion of grandeur, according to Dwellify's experts. Textured tiles or understated wallpaper infuse elegance and personality. (And the good news is, you'll need less of it!)

Photo courtesy of Dwellify

## Savvy Storage.

Stash essentials in covered spaces for privacy and to minimize visual clutter. Dwellify suggests organizational solutions like vertical cabinets or vanities with built-in storage. You can even look for hidden space between wall studs, where you can carve out built-in shelves and store rolled-up towels or bathroom essentials.



Photo by Heidi Long

DESIGN BY  
River + Lime

## Bold Lighting.

"It may sound counterintuitive, but in small spaces, one light fixture can be more valuable than several," Caroline Sussman, lead designer with Ethan Allen at R&G Furniture in Rochester, New York, says. For a touch of eclectic style (and less visual clutter) she suggests experimenting with a statement chandelier or eye-catching pendant.



### Special Sinks.

Distinct designs like those you'll find in log or timber homes demand something unusual. "Seek out creatively sized and shaped sinks that tuck into a corner or are elongated to reduce depth," Caroline says. "They free up floor space and provide unique, visual interest."



### Reflect on Mirrors.

With their ability to amplify light and space, mirrors are a small bathroom's best friend. The Dwellify team suggests incorporating a well-placed decorative mirror or even installing a mirrored wall. Caroline puts a twist on the concept: she suggests hanging a mirror in front of the window to forgo the congestion of window coverings. "You can still open the window and have the functionality of a mirror while saving valuable wall space," she explains.



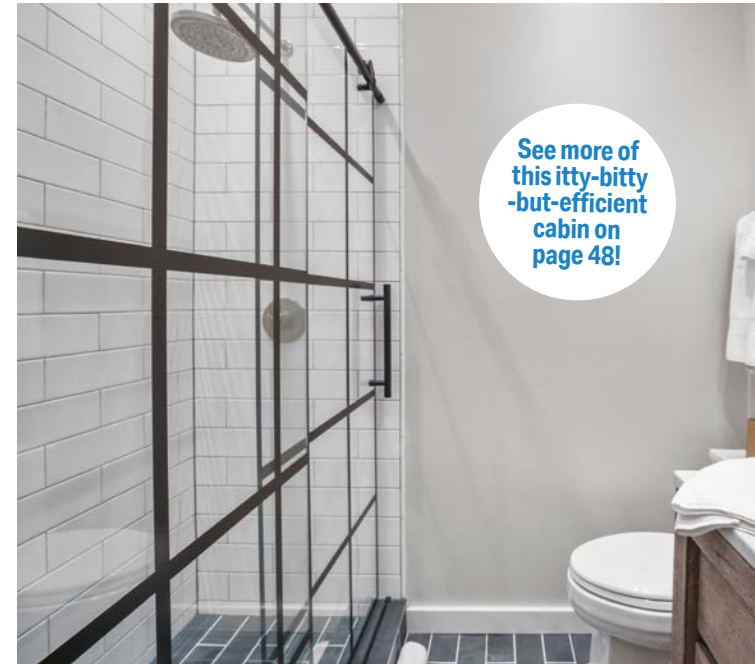
### Mimic Nature.

Features infused with nature, like natural stone for a shower or biophilic sinks and fixtures, blur the lines between indoor and out and bring a sense of soothing tranquility to the space. (This is especially effective if a window with a view anchors the bathroom!) Dwellify explains that monochromatic, neutral tones — whites, pastels, muted grays and earth tones — are a quick way to create a cohesive atmosphere that exudes openness.



### Tub Time.

Elevate the tub's style, literally. Placing it under a window or creating a tiled, step-up platform separates the wet zone and adds grandeur to your restful retreat. Should you place your tub next to the window, build out the windowsill area to be deep enough that you can place bath products on it while in use.



### Showers That Shine.

A tub-shower combination can quickly occupy more than its fair share of visual space. Remedy this by hanging the curtain from a ceiling track for a tidier, more intentionally designed appearance. Alternatively, eliminate the curtain for a glass door. Even better, replace the existing tub with a dedicated shower. By including a shower bench that extends into the room, you can enclose the space under the bench for additional storage.



### Unusual Optimizations.

Reclaim precious inches with a dash of panache. Caroline has loads of suggestions. Can't part with a beloved clawfoot soaking tub? A ladder resting between the tub and wall converts unusable space into one that puts towels and magazines in easy reach. Found an irresistible cabinet or baker's rack while antiquing? Repurpose it into a sink base. And a stylish vintage spice rack could be mounted for extra storage with apothecary flair. "You can even transfer contents into antique bottles," Caroline adds.

With these small bathroom strategies, you'll find a petite washroom can really live large. Sometimes, extra square footage and storage is hidden in plain sight — you just have to know where to look.

*Save space while adding some rustic flavor to your cabin's bathroom decor by mounting a spice rack to hold items. You can even transfer contents into antique bottles.*

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