

JULY/AUGUST 2021

# KBB

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF **NKBA + KBIS**

JULY/AUGUST 2021

COUNTERTOP CHOICES/WHAT'S NEW IN SHOWERS & DISHWASHERS/FAVORITE OUTDOOR PRODUCTS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NKBA + KBIS



K&B BRANDS SHARE  
THEIR **SUSTAINABILITY**  
STORIES



APPROACHING  
& PERFECTING  
**LUXURY DESIGN**



SOLUTIONS TO  
TODAY'S **PROJECT**  
HURDLES



## Five Bathrooms, One Bold Story

*A designer balances subtle and wild for bright and fun-filled looks*

WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING multiple spaces bursts of color, the challenge is not only connecting these rooms but also giving each its own character. This was the goal for the design team of Kitchen Design Concepts in Dallas, which befriended a client whose love of florals and bright colors inspired this project.

“Both the husband and wife are creative,” said owner Mary-Kathryn Reese, who worked alongside team member Rebecca Sutton and designer Abigail Evans on this project. “Color is especially important to the wife and is part of what makes her smile and be happy every day.”

### CREATING A SMALL BATH FULL OF PERSONALITY

The downstairs half bath is tiny and narrow, with a toilet in the corner and a pedestal sink to save space. With only these two white pieces and otherwise four blank walls, the design team lined this room with a bright yellow wallpaper covered in pink flowers and tropical birds.

“The brightness of this yellow color made this room feel cheery,” said Reese, adding that the apricot pink is an echo of the nearby pink dining room chandelier, and the yellow recalls the flowers on the dining room wallpaper.

The brick flooring remained the same, as this was a continuation from the main space, and the antique wood mirror was a find of the client’s, who enjoys shopping at antique auctions in Texas.

### DUAL BATHROOMS NEED DISTINCTIVE COLORS

Giving life to the small half bath through pops of color is a technique the team also used in the upstairs ensuite bathrooms. While they are structurally mirror images, they each needed their own personality.

Against a simple white vanity with square matte-black knobs, the first bathroom boasts an adventurous wallpaper filled with lemon trees, multicolor butterflies and other miscellaneous greenery. A large oval and gold-framed mirror is the centerpiece over the sink.

In the other bathroom, the same white vanity has pink knobs and is surrounded by a wildly floral wallpaper with blues, soft pinks and greens. A square mirror with a blue-striped frame gives this space a final touch of flair.

**ABOVE PHOTOS** The cedar walls of the nearby den, where the husband enjoys playing music, complement the green of the bathroom. “These rooms make a story together,” said designer Mary-Kathryn Reese.

The downstairs den bath has the same floral appeal as the other spaces but with a slightly more masculine feel created by darker flowers and vines.

**BOTTOM RIGHT** According to the design team, these stunning wallpapers were not cheap or easy to ship; some took months to arrive. Fortunately, they were worth the wait, as seen in this kids’ bath (ensuite 1).

“The primary goal for these bathrooms was to make them fun, lively and colorful,” said Reese, adding that they are used mainly by the clients’ grown children and grandchildren. “The grandkids now ask to go to the bathroom!”

To balance these bold wallpaper patterns, the showers in both spaces offer calmer palettes, with white subway tile on two walls, hexagon-shaped mosaic tile flooring in soft yellow and pink and a back wall of square tiles with subtle floral patterns also in apricot pink and yellow.

### A MORE MASCULINE FLORAL FOR A MULTIUSE BATHROOM

The downstairs bathroom doubles as a space for the client’s mother when she comes to stay, as well as the area off the husband’s den, where he enjoys playing music. For this multiuse space, the



By **ERINN LOUCKS**



team chose a wallpaper in deep green, which is the clients' favorite color and was used throughout the home. While still covered in flowers and vines, the wallpaper's darker palette – accentuated by scattered black-lined flower petals – has a slightly more masculine appeal that works well with the nearby den. Several of the flowers also have the same apricot tone used in the other bathroom wallpapers.

Against this backdrop is a unique stone slab – a remnant of what was used around the main fireplace – awash with peach and soft green colors. Glass sinks and stainless-steel hardware mix with a gold-framed mirror and gold light fixtures; this blend of finishes ties together the multiple colors and tones in this bathroom.

#### **A DEPARTURE FROM BOLDNESS IN THE PRIMARY BATH**

In contrast to the saturated colors in the other bathrooms, the clients wanted their own primary suite to have a soothing and relaxing feel. This room's wallpaper is lined with birds in gray and green – the latter to tie in the clients' favorite color again – and is balanced by white wainscoting and gray-and-white hexagon-shaped floor tiles.

"The white is easy to clean and brings serenity to the space," said Sutton. "The idea behind using that hexagon shape was to add visual stimulation to the bath while still keeping it calm."

While this tranquility stands in disparity to the other bathrooms, it still connects with them because of its green tone and overall natural theme. According to the design team, relating each space through this theme – as well as using similar tones of mint green, apricot and soft blue – was the key to making all these bathrooms work together.

"We used a combination of bold and subtle for every space in the home," said Reese. The tile is subtle while the wallpaper says "Pay attention to me!"

When designing multiple bold spaces in a home, it's a good idea to connect them subtly through similar colors and patterns. It is also important to relate them to each other and to the rest of the home's design. ●

**ABOVE** The design team debated about getting a statement-making, colorful freestanding tub, but in the end they decided that it would be too glaring in what the client hoped would be a calming space.

**RIGHT** Floating vanities and white cabinets and countertops make the upstairs bathrooms feel larger than they actually are. Shown is another kids' bath or ensuite 2.

**BELOW RIGHT** This half bath is an echo of the nearby dining room, which also boasts a floral wallpaper and a pink chandelier. The flowers also recall the lavish flower arrangements the client puts weekly in her kitchen.



## **SOURCES**

**OWNER:** Mary-Kathryn Reese; **DESIGNER:** Abigail Evans, NCIDQ; **TEAM MEMBER:** Rebecca Sutton, CKBD; **PROJECT MANAGER:** Ed McDaniel; **PHOTOGRAPHY:** Lance Selgo – Unique Exposure Photography

### **DEN BATH**

**CABINETS:** UltraCraft; **COUNTERTOPS:** The Stone Collection; **FAUCET:** Brizo; **SHOWER FLOOR TILE:** Daltile; **WALLPAPER:** Marimekko; **SHOWER WALL TILE:** Crossville; **SINK:** Duravit; **TOILET:** TOTO

### **ENSUITE BATH ONE**

**CABINETS:** UltraCraft; **COUNTERTOPS:** Caesarstone; **FAUCET:** Newport Brass; **SHOWER WALLS AND FLOOR:** Pratt & Larson; **SINK AND TOILET:** TOTO; **WALLPAPER:** Schumacher

### **ENSUITE BATH TWO**

**CABINETS:** UltraCraft; **COUNTERTOPS:** Caesarstone; **FAUCET:** Newport Brass; **SHOWER FIXTURES:** Brizo; **SHOWER WALLS:** Pratt & Larson; **SINK AND TOILET:** TOTO; **WALLPAPER:** Caitlin Wilson

### **HALF BATH**

**FAUCET:** Grohe; **SINK:** Duravit; **TOILET:** American Standard; **WALLPAPER:** Eijffinger

### **PRIMARY BATH**

**CABINETS:** KitchenCraft; **COUNTERTOPS:** Cambria; **FAUCET & SHOWER FIXTURES:** Newport Brass; **SHOWER WALLS:** Crossville; **SINK:** TOTO; **TUB:** Cheviot; **WALLPAPER:** Graham & Brown