

BATH OF THE MONTH

Design by SCW INTERIORS

Alexandria, Virginia

A wall of tile and a wall with a tiled look link brother-and-sister baths.

Interview by
LISA CREGAN

Photographs by
GRIDLEY + GRAVES



his

In a teenage boy's bath, Barbara Barry's Chic Link wallpaper has the look of tile without the expense (it's now discontinued; turn the page for a similar option). Designer Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey modeled the vanity after a console and topped it with Ubatuba polished granite. She chose brushed nickel for the Kohler fixtures because "a boy's bathroom shouldn't have too much reflection; it should feel rugged." >>

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LISA CREGAN: *What a masterful use of tile in the 'hers' bathroom.*

SHAZALYNN CAVIN-WINFREY: It's a custom design, and so feminine, isn't it? All soft and curvy, laser-cut marble with lots of motting and movement. It's like a dishful of sea glass. And the twirling pattern makes me think of a little girl holding a pinwheel on a windy day at the beach. Which is appropriate, since it's the bathroom for my clients' 12-year-old daughter. The 'his' bath is for their 14-year-old son.

And his walls are more geometric.

Like a fishnet. More rectilinear and masculine. But his bathroom isn't tiled—that's wallpaper. For budget reasons we couldn't do tile in there, but I still wanted the look of tile. The scale of the patterns in both rooms is almost identical: they're small-scale, so I wanted a large-scale pattern on the floors. We used 12-by-12-inch stone tiles laid on the diagonal to visually expand the spaces. These are not large bathrooms. *Those full-length mirrors make her bath feel huge.* It also creates the feeling of a dressing room, which is nice for a preteen girl. But here's what I really love. Because there are mirrors on both sides of the vanity niche, they reflect the tiled wall, and it creates the illusion that all the walls are tiled. You feel enveloped in tile.

Why does that appeal to you so much?

People react to tile on a primal level. It's an ancient art and it's very experiential, like the way water splashes on tile and catches in the grooves—it's beautiful. And I love pattern. Give



me white tile and I'll lay it in a herringbone pattern every time. A benign grid creates a benign experience, and a boring one.

So is there a trick to using tile to create interest?

People tend to overdecorate. When they have a fantastic focal point like a wall of tile, they need to edit the rest of the room. In her bath, everything but the wall of tile has a white-cloudy look, a sense of the heavens. So the little bits of blue and green really stand out. I had those simple green polka dots on the floor laser-cut out of green tile to the exact same size as the round white voids in the pattern on the wall. You need to create synergy

like that for a room to be successful.

And how did you create synergy in his bath?

The front of his maple vanity is stained brown, and the inside is painted black. That creates symmetry with the browns and the blacks in the speckled granite on the countertop and floor. And we painted the window trim black.

Do you always work this hard on children's bathrooms?

I have to say I find it refreshing when a family wants attention paid to the children's rooms. They don't have to be extravagant, but I like to think a well-designed, orderly space puts them on the right path for life. ●

GET THE LOOK...

HER BATHROOM

Marquee Grande wall mosaic by Mosaïque Surface: mosaiquesurface.com.

Statuary marble floor tiles with green marble accents: architecturalceramics.net.

Caxton sink and IV Georges fixtures: kohler.com.

Carrara marble countertop: marblexinc.com.

Grafton clear glass pulls: restorationhardware.com.

Abbot single-arm sconces: visualcomfort.com.

HIS BATHROOM

Stone Trellis wallpaper from the Banbury Collection (similar to Chic Link), by Cole & Son: kravet.com.

Ubatuba polished granite floor tile: architecturalceramics.net.

Ubatuba polished granite countertop: marblexinc.com.

Caxton sink: kohler.com.

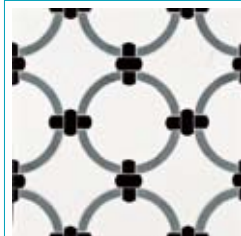
Mushroom Set accessories: dransfieldandross.com.

FOR MORE DETAILS, GO TO HOUSEBEAUTIFUL.COM/RESOURCES

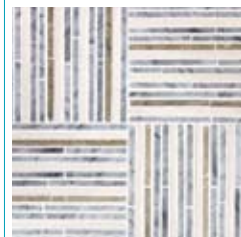
The showstopper in a preteen girl's bathroom is the marble tile, Marquee Grande by Mosaïque Surface. Cavin-Winfrey designed the vanity to look like furniture and floated it four inches from the mirrors on each side, which creates the illusion of more space.

MORE MOSAICS

A wall of decorative stone tile can make a whole bath come to life. Here are five more striking patterns.



Beau Monde in Cary, \$185 per square foot. annsacks.com.



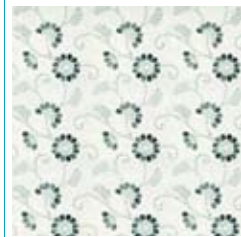
Winter Cross Current, \$37 per 16" x 16" tile. countryfloors.com.



Celestial Starry Blue, \$140 per square foot. artistictile.com.



Cote D'Or in Romanee Blanc, \$472 per square foot. walkerzanger.com.



Signet Clematis Tesserae, \$268 per square foot. waterworks.com.