

CUSTOM FEATURES GIVE HOMEOWNERS BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE

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What could arguably be called the most important room in the house deserves a much-needed makeover.

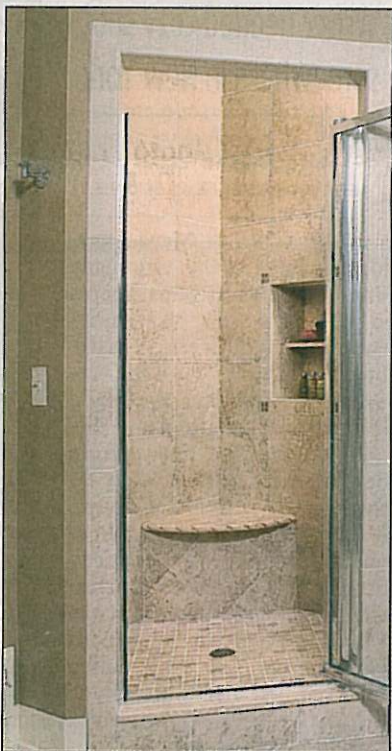
The bathroom is, after all, the place most of us start and end our days and occasionally use for an emergency escape. Remember the TV commercial slogan, "Calgon, take me away"?

Sterile medicine cabinets, tubs with peel-and-place non-slip snowflakes and loose-fitting toilet seats are not the ingredients of a Calgon moment, however.

Today's master suite bathrooms are likely to have one-piece toilets with a privacy door, soaking tubs, whirlpool tubs, walk-in ceramic showers and customized vanities that look like something you'd see behind glass at the Louvre.

Non-skid throw rugs have been replaced with heated floors, Formica vanity tops have given way to marble and quartz. Shade-covered windows are out; frosted glass is in. Say good-bye to the mold-covered vinyl shower curtain; glass shower doors are the rage.

SEE BATHROOM, K4



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A long soak: Angie and Todd Ripley's bathroom includes a walk-in shower.