

'Better fittings made it work'

The right furniture and a few clever design tricks transformed Geoff Lunt's tiny en suite

When Geoff Lunt bought his London flat off-plan, he had some input on the design of the en suite but it was never quite to his taste. After five years he decided to change it, along with the other rooms in his home, and he asked designer Nicola Holden to come up with a new look and manage the work.

'These are what I call "yuppie flats" and they're completely featureless,' says Geoff. 'I really wanted to stamp my character on the room and change it dramatically. Nicola actually had to rein me back.'

The bad use of space was the main problem. 'The large cupboard under the basin dominated the room, and the space either side of the loo was wasted when it could have been used for storage,' says Geoff. The bathroom is so small that it wasn't possible to reposition the suite, so instead Nicola sourced compact fittings and removed a stud wall in the shower area to allow for the bigger shower Geoff wanted. He is thrilled with the results. 'It proves small spaces can be functional and stylish, without blowing the budget,' he says.

Fitted furniture
Built-in cupboards on either side of the loo with a counter-top above provide useful storage and display space



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THE PROPERTY

A three-bed flat in Primrose Hill, London, bought in 2004.

WHAT IT COST

Basin & loo	£373
Furniture.....	£507
Shower.....	£791
Tiles.....	£940
Paint.....	£23
TOTAL.....	£2,634

WHO LIVES HERE

Geoff Lunt, a fund manager.

WHAT HE DID

Stripped out the old en suite and gave the room a new look that tied in with the adjoining bedroom. A few tweaks to the

layout made better use of the space and created room for a larger shower.

THE LOOK

Fresh and modern, with restful shades of green and touches of wood adding character to the white suite and furniture.

LESSONS LEARNED

“If, like me, you have trouble visualising how things will look and don't want to lift a finger, employ a designer. Spend time looking for a person who not only produces great results but who you really click with.”



THE LAYOUT The position of the suite hasn't changed, but the new shower is bigger and the basin is smaller. The loo is opposite the shower, with the basin on one side



Stylish design

'I wanted to inject colour into the room and am fond of this soothing green', says Geoff. Vertical stripes of mosaic tiles were used to make the ceiling of the small room seem higher. They were custom-made to echo a circular design on the bedroom curtains

Love his **STYLE?**

GEOFF'S BASIN IS FROM BATHSTORE ££. FOR SIMILAR, TRY IDEAL STANDARD'S CONCEPT CUBE £ OR AQUABLISS'S MINI QUADRO £££



Shower

The flat's other bathroom has a bath, so Geoff wanted a big shower in here. The folding door is a wise choice in a small room

How I did it



“ I paid Nicola £1,000 to do everything from coming up with the design to sourcing products and overseeing the work. The room is so small that there were no more than two men working on it at a time. They stripped out the en suite, removed a stud wall, fitted the suite and lighting, and painted and tiled. The work cost £1,550 and took three weeks. ”

Where to buy **ITEMS SHOWN**

Bi-fold **shower door**, £366; **shower tray**, £156; both Bathroom Trade. Techno 250 Rain **shower head**, £199; Thermostatic **shower valve**, £70; Soho cloakroom **basin**, £139; Contour mini mono **basin mixer**, £69; Click-clack **basin waste**, £30; **bottle trap**, £25; Soho back-to-wall **loo**, £139; Soho **loo seat**, £40; Hogarth **loo unit**, £126; **base units**, £100 and £89; Chrome 'D' **handles**, £10 each; wenge **worktop**, £63; white gloss **plinth**, £109; Flow corner **basket**, £29; all Bathstore. Jade Accent Stripes **mosaic tiles**, £237 per sq m, Zenith Mosaic & Tiles. Blanco Brillo **wall tiles**, £23.55 per sq m, Walls and Floors. Neutral Sepia **floor tiles**, £84.67 per sq m, Fired Earth. **Walls** painted in Stalk III flat emulsion, £23.48 for 2.5ltr. Paint & Paper Library. Bari J131907 **lights**, £47.61 each, Light IQ. **Mirror**, £40, Frontispiece. **Towels**, from a selection, House of Fraser. Landscape **print**, £21.73; 'Stillness At Dark' script **print**, £41.73; both Allposters.co.uk

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