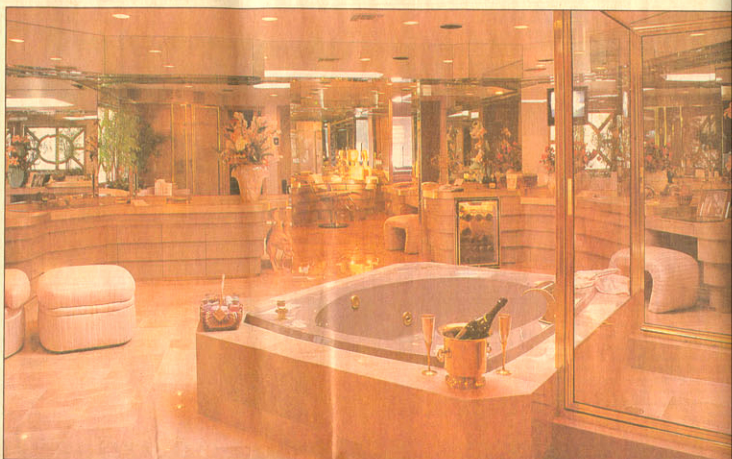


HOME & GARDEN



C.J. WALKER/Staff Photographer

Bathrooms now overflow with elegance and space. Sam Caliendo designed this one with a champagne refrigerator and beauty salon area.

SPLENDOR IN THE BATH

Gone are the days of tiny, rectangular nooks that made bathing boring. Today's homeowners want to be pampered, and they're opting for bathroom design that drips with warmth and elegance.

By KATHRYN ROBINETTE
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Forget everything you thought you knew about bathrooms.

They're not predictable any more.

Today bathrooms are sensual dream worlds — places where the harried can retreat and smooth life's hard edges. The buzz word is rejuvenation.

"The bathroom has become another living room for the private use of the owners," says Martin Horn, a Palm Beach interior designer who is in the process of restoring an 18th century house in Nassau. The bathroom there, he says, will be the ultimate in luxury complete with a Japanese soaking pool and a sitting area with wood-burning fireplace, writing table and a built-in stereo system.

"Bathrooms are getting back to where they were during the height of Roman decadence," Horn said.

Personalized luxury

Each person has his own interpretation of luxury. Billionaire John Kluge, the Metromedia chairman, and his wife, Patricia Kluge, had five digital clocks — indicating time zones around the world — installed in the Brazilian blue granite walls in the bathroom of their New York apartment.

Jewelry designer Kenneth Jay Lane uses the bathroom of his New York apartment to display his bronze sculpture collection. New York interior designer Michael de Santis likes the look of lots of plants

and fresh flowers in his airy Southampton bathroom.

"The bathroom has become a major, major room in the house," de Santis said. "She wants hers; he wants his. Today designing a bathroom is a major thing."

"We try to keep them as open as possible," said John Butte, vice president of Design Homes of Palm Beach. "We try to keep the marble in a neutral color because it adds to the expanse of the bathroom. The trend is toward showing a sexy, very inviting bathroom."

"The whole mode of bathroom design has changed," said Barbara Lally, who specializes in bathroom design at Bern Simons Associates in West Palm Beach. "People look at the bathroom now more as a place to relax and unwind. When the space is large enough, we always include a *Quadrant* whirlpool tub. A bathroom is a very personal place, and it should reflect your own taste."

"I like to use clear glass around shower enclosures so you can see the beauty of the tile and the fixtures. Some of the new fixtures — the German imports, for example — are absolute works of art."

Not a beer budget

The bathroom in a Boca Raton estate home designed by Sam Caliendo is larger than the average two-car garage. It includes therapeutic bathtubs, four sinks, his-and-her dressing rooms, a steam room, television and stereo equipment, a

Please see BATHROOMS/8H



'THE ALTERNATIVE TO THE SECOND BMW:' American Standard's Sensorium/Ambiance combination includes underwater lights, temperature controls and much more. The price: \$25,000.

PRICELESS BATHING BEAUTIES

If money is no object, you can bathe in a luxurious bathroom decor. Don't forget to include:

■ Floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto an arboretum.

■ A sitting-lounging-writing area with a fireplace and some genuine works of art.

■ A bidet.

■ Gold or gold-trimmed fixtures.

■ An oversized sunken marble bathtub with a built-in whirlpool and computer control panel to regulate water level and temperature and adjust lighting.

■ A separate extra-large shower with several adjustable shower

heads, steam unit and built-in massager.

■ An in-house video for answering the doorbell, telephone.

■ Built-in television and stereo equipment regulated from built-in audio command systems.

■ A refrigerator for cosmetics and beverages.

■ A gym area with a wide assortment of athletic equipment.

■ Heated towel racks.

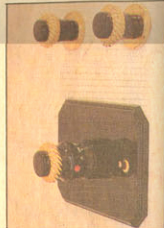
■ Separate his-and-her pedestal sinks.

■ Clothes hampers that also are laundry chutes that deliver soiled clothes to laundry area.



LYNNE SLADKY/Staff Photographer

BOWLED OVER: Bidets have become *de rigueur*.



C.J. WALKER/Staff Photographer

GOLD RUSH: Precious metals add class to sinks, showers.

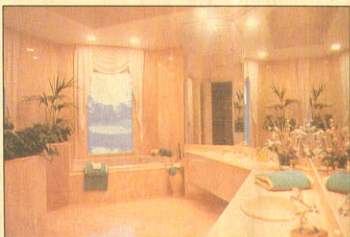


Photo courtesy of Design Homes of Palm Beach

In this golf-course home in Frenchman's Creek, the unique configuration of the his-and-her sinks leaves plenty of room for two people to maneuver. Neutral-colored marble helps the bathroom seem bigger. The commode and bidet are in a separate room.

Roy Jacuzzi is soaking in whirlpool of success

By KATHRYN ROBINETTE
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

People can't resist making jokes about Roy Jacuzzi — the man who "got Americans into hot water" while "making a splash" on "the bath to success."

Even *Fortune* hasn't resisted the temptation to get playful. The business magazine recently described him as — "the man who brought the bathtub out of the water closet." "Jacuzzi may be all wet, but his business isn't taking a bath," the story said.

The jokes bounce around him like the bubbles out of one of his own pumps. They are one more indication

that the family name has earned a recognition factor equal to Coke or Kleenex or Xerox. This kind of humor means money in the bank.

He made his own contribution to the comedy routine when he starred in an American Express commercial wearing a bathing suit and playing with a rubber ducky. His message: "You may not know me, but my name sends chills up and down your spine."

Given time, the bathroom might one day be called the Jacuzzi room, and that would suit him just fine. Too. Just don't forget the capital "J." Pat

Please see JACUZZI/8H