



2015 BATH OF THE YEAR CONTEST WINNER

CLASSICAL CHARM Barbara Westbrook reimagines

Barbara Westbrook reimagines traditional design with a youthful verve. PHOTOGRAPHED BY Erica George Dines

MAKING TRADITIONAL DESIGN ELEMENTS feel young and fresh is no easy task, but designer Barbara Westbrook rose to the challenge with this master bath remodel for clients Jon and Farrah Lester. The first order of business was to bring the bath down to its studs, eliminating a cramped layout that had awkwardly divided the space in two. With a more open floor plan in place, Westbrook filled the room with her signature classical touches.

She began with the bath's most eye-catching feature: an elegant checkerboard floor from Paris Ceramics. "The checkerboard is a tried-and-true motif," Westbrook says. "This particular one, with its charcoal coloring, isn't as harsh and heavy as a black-and-white check, though, which keeps the floor feeling warm and fresh." For a complementary accent, the underside of the claw-foot tub was painted in a similar shade of gray.

In the shower, Westbrook mixed clean-lined marble with glossy white tile for a dazzling effect. "An all-white marble bathroom—even though it can be very beautiful—can register as cold," says the designer. "But when you start to mix finishes and materials, that's when things start to warm up." The bath's greatest sense of warmth comes from the towering French oak cabinetry, which has a hand-waxed finish by Carolyn Shedd that gives a sense of dimension and depth.

Thoughtful but subtle details complete this bath's refined appeal. Westbrook selected black porcelain plumbing fixtures and hardware to provide a hint of contrasting detail. At Farrah's makeup vanity, she placed a graceful low-back chair with delicate pleating, while a quirky Andre Petterson painting above the tub adds a dose of whimsy. "If you're trying to make a statement, I think it's important not to clutter the space," says Westbrook of her pared-down approach. "If you're careful about the details, it'll give you that newer, fresher feel, even if you're working with more traditional materials."





RESOURCES

INTERIOR DESIGN Barbara Westbrook, Westbrook Interiors. CONTRACTOR Greg. Cooley, Cooley Contracting CABINETRY FABRICATION Vintage Lumber CABINETRY FINISHING Carolyn Shedd FLOORING Paris Ceramics TILE Renaissance Tile & Bath TUB Waterworks SCONCES & MIRRORS Paul Ferrante at Ainsworth-Noah PLUMB-ING AND HARDWARE Lefroy Brooks at Renaissance Tile & Bath LIGHT FIXTURE Formations at Jerry Pair ARTWORK Andre Petterson, represented by Pryor Fine Art.