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# Kitchen & Bath Business

**Kitchen and Bath Trends from Milan  
The Smart Kitchen Uprising  
Family Needs Inspire Renovations & Additions**

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**IN PREPARATION FOR HOSTING AMPLE GUESTS** visiting for a family wedding, a couple in Lake Tahoe desperately needed to renovate all of the bathrooms in their vacation home — specifically the master bath. As the master had frequently been used by guests as the main-floor bath, there was also the need for the addition of a powder room they could use instead.

As the three-month timeline was going to be a challenge, as well as adding a powder room to the master bath square footage, the homeowners enlisted the expertise of local designer Scott Corridan of Scott Corridan Design.

“Everything was facilitated by the urgency of their first daughter’s wedding coming up,” he said. “The primary impetus for the master bath renovation was to add a powder/guest bathroom on the main floor.”

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## Painful Past to a Fruitful Future

**ACCORDING TO CORRIDAN**, the homeowners bought the house in the early 90s with the intent of remodeling it every year for the past 25 years but never had. Their daughter’s impending nuptials finally gave them their motivation.

“There were remnants of extra-plush seafoam green and mauve carpet in each of the bathrooms and lots of high-polish brass fixtures,” he said. “Dingy white, textured drywall walls and poor fluorescent lighting proved the need for a full gut renovation.”

Corridan described the homeowners as his dream clients and said they gave him free rein with the renovation of all of the bathrooms. He asked them for visual inspiration, which they showed him through Houzz, and he did some pencil sketches of designs that would last for the next 10 years.

## Modern Day Master

**CONTEMPORARY WAS THE DESIGN OF CHOICE** for all of the bathrooms, particularly the master. It features a floating vanity with undercabinet, dimmable lighting; energy-efficient yet spa-like fixtures, including a wall-mount, low-flow toilet; a glass-enclosed, curbless shower; and a design in tune with the other bathrooms in the house.

**Adding a powder room for family visitors prompted the renovation of the master bath in a vacation home**  
By Chelsie Butler



"Tile and stone were incorporated throughout the master bath to provide continual textural experiences that allowed this bathroom to seem like it flowed into the other baths in the home design wise," said Corridan. "The clients fell in love with the materials we used when we began our sourcing, and we just landed on the limestone and the marble combination with the porcelain wood-textured elements."

The clients' contemporary-style Houzz images proved useful in choosing the vanities for the master bath.

"The dark-stained, walnut veneer vanities are actually floating stone-framed cubes," said Corridan. "Within all of that custom fabrication, we incorporated top-notch fixtures, handles and lighting, as well as exceptional craftsman detail throughout."



He ripped out the dated tile-surround Jacuzzi tub, and driven by resale value, incorporated a sculptural piece in its place.

"We debated even adding a bathtub because neither of them take baths," said Corridan, "but at the end of the day we thought better safe than sorry, so we decided on a tub for that once-a-year special occasion bath. And if the house is ever sold, a gorgeous sculptural tub in the corner will look lovely and help support the overall aesthetic of the bathroom."

One element from the former space the designer wanted to leave but the husband loved was the glass block window wall. Corridan hardly had a leg to stand on once he heard the reasoning behind keeping it.

"He used to be a fighter pilot in the armed services that led to a lifelong love of piloting his own aircraft," said the designer. "The glass block reminds him of the Deco-style air terminals he was familiar with, and it's an emotional comfort for him."



### Power to the Powder Room

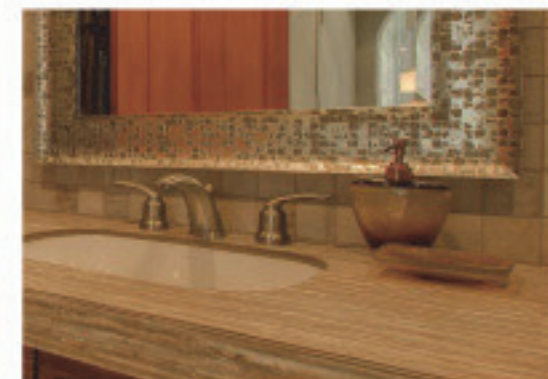
THE MAIN FLOOR WAS IN DIRE NEED of a powder room/guest bath so that visitors didn't have to use – and the homeowners didn't have to share – the master bath, as they had both been doing for 20 years.

According to Corridan, because of the building restrictions in the Lake Tahoe area, he could not build onto the house, so he built the powder room onto the existing master where there was already existing plumbing.

"The former space was a huge, boxy room, so it was easy to steal the footage we needed," he added.

The designer cites the powder room as a great example of a high/low-budget project. He splurged again here on the walnut-faced cabinets, but spent less on the vanity tiles than he did in the other bathrooms.

He chose ridged 12-in. by 24-in. tiles and added a thin seaming to give as much of a seamless look as possible. He also purchased the stylish mirror from T.J. Maxx. Where limestone and marble from Ann Sacks were used in the other bathrooms, he chose 12-in. by 12-in. sheets of limestone tile from Floor and Décor here.



### Design's "Little" Challenges

IN JUST THREE MONTHS, the design team was tasked with renovating four bathrooms, including the master, as well as adding a powder room before the guests started arriving for the wedding. Aside from the quick turnaround, Corridan said the owners also decided on a variety of add-ons after the scope of work was finalized and budgets were approved.

"With every wall we tore down, they were excited to add on another element – paint the whole-house interior, install new carpet, purchase new furniture on the first floor, install new lighting and update the hardware for the kitchen," he said. "They increased the budget of course, and even with all of that we finished one month ahead of schedule – and it was smooth as silk. That is a testament to great clients and a great team."

Corridan said they were expecting some challenges once they

broke into the demo, but no issues were exposed. He and the contractor started their mornings together during the critical weeks of the project, and each week they worked together to overcome critical issues.

"We were a rock star team, and our contractor was our guy 24/7 for the whole project," he added. "Without that team, it would have not gone that way."

Corridan said he has become dear friends with the clients, who have great senses of humor and an understanding of the design process – useful qualities during a sometimes stressful renovation.

"They had the ability to fund a vision and stretch as things evolved," he added. "They had the joy of going through the process and having every day be like Christmas morning when it was time to show off the newest evolutions of the build-out." ●

### SOURCES

**DESIGNER:** Scott Corridan, Scott Corridan Design;  
**CONTRACTOR:** Ross McMahan, McMahan Homes; **PHOTOGRAPHER:** Kurt Williams

**CABINETS:** DB Cabinetry;  
**GLASS:** Incline Glass;  
**HARDWARE:** Rocky Mountain Hardware;  
**MIRRORS:** Custom Made & T.J. Maxx (powder room);  
**PLUMBING FIXTURES:** Kohler; **SCONCES:** Restoration Hardware;  
**STONE & TILE:** Ann Sacks (master), Porcelanosa (master and powder) All Natural Stone Gallery & Floor and Décor (powder)

**TOP RIGHT** Although the ceiling was lowered and recessed lighting was added, the master bath still feels like a large space even though the addition of the powder room borrowed some of it.

**RIGHT** The husband is physically able at the moment, but Corridan installed a zero-threshold shower in the master bath in the event he needed to use a walker or a wheelchair in the future.

**BOTTOM LEFT** A sculptural tub in the corner of the master bath replaced a dated tile-surround unit.

