

## Easy Wow-Factor Bathrooms

If you want to add some pizzazz to your bathroom but don't want to spend big on a renovation there are plenty of ways to upgrade without going broke.

Most bathrooms with the so-called “wow factor” feature elegant fixtures and luxury additions, and many of these can be added inexpensively. Here are some ideas for giving your bathroom that extra zing on a budget.

### VANITY MAKEOVER

Creating a focal point is always a good place to start when considering renovating your bathroom. Two easy ways to add cozy elegance is to center the room around your vanity.

If your vanity has good bones, there's no need to start from scratch. Adding some new door and drawer pulls, fixtures and a fresh coat of paint can make the room pop. Add new, upscale accessories to complete the look. Tired of that old mirror or one that doubles as a medicine cabinet? Pick out a new, larger mirror and frame it and surround it with a DIY frame, maybe shimmery glass tile surround-



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### REAL ESTATE 101

#### Home Ownership and Your Responsibilities

If you decide to go all-in on a complete bathroom renovation, a home improvement loan can help you pay for the upgrade. For more advice on loans, NerdWallet offers a rundown of steps to find the best rates and terms at [bit.ly/3fgzJtw](https://bit.ly/3fgzJtw).

ed by reclaimed wood, to bring it to life.

### LIGHTING

Bathrooms are all about lighting — bright in the morning to shave or apply makeup; lower light in the evening or whenever you want to relax in a bubble bath.

The first easy update is a

dimmer switch. But remember, there's more to changing a switch than connecting a few wires. You'll need to check the grounding and box size for a safe job. Also, make sure to upgrade the wiring if necessary to make it safer and meet code requirements. Check with a local electrician to ensure you meet these

requirements.

Adding new accent lighting can also brighten your bathroom. Elegant dual sconces in finishes that match your vanity hardware will bring another touch of elegance.

Don't forget scented candles. Candles create a warm, cozy atmosphere adding both mood and, if you like, a

pleasing scent.

### TOWEL WARMER

There's nothing as luxurious as warm towels when you step out of the shower or bath. Installing an attractive towel warmer, whether attached to the wall or free-standing, is another easy, inexpensive way to create a spa-like look for your bathroom and provide you with extra warmth.

With that new towel warmer, you may also want to upgrade your towels and washcloths with fancy newer versions featuring a plusher, more absorbent luxury feel.

### THE SHOWER

Without spending on a complete upgrade, you can add luxury touches to your shower that will bring you comfort and add “wow” factor. Consider a rainfall shower head and upgraded shower shelves. Adding a curved curtain rod — and an elegant new curtain that matches your towels and rugs — can create more space and a refreshed look.

### GET INSPIRED

Need more ideas and inspiration? Visit your local home improvement store or check out the boards online at such sites as Pinterest. You'll find now shortages of suggestions and ideas to add the coveted wow factor to your bathroom.



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### HOMEWISSE GLOSSARY

**Loan commitment:** A lender's written approval granting a specific loan amount, conditions and a set time limit for closing the loan. SOURCE: MLS.com

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