

## BATHROOMS, KITCHENS & BEDROOMS: by G D Evans Interiors

**Q:** How can I get the luxury bathroom look?

**A:** Firstly you need to consider budget. How much you want to spend will determine the quality of products supplied and the scope of works required in doing so.

If you buy cheap you tend to get cheap and there is a lot of marketing done by major retailers and internet companies offering bargain deals on suites, which quite honestly are sometimes not really fit for purpose.

A designer, whether freelance or from a bathroom specialists, can advise on quality products and what will and will not work within your property.



There have been many occasions where I have carried out a survey and clients have grand ideas for their bathroom with massive freestanding baths, walk in showers etc, and the room sizes cannot accommodate them all. So it is important to seek expert advice on what will work with the existing services within the room.

There are also many manufacturers of bathroom products on the marketplace today, which can be quite mind-boggling at times. This is where a designer can assist you and perhaps narrow it down through their own personal recommendations or advise through experience on products you may be considering.

Advances in bathroom products also present many options for a luxury look such as shower wall panels that can provide the look of a marble wall or digital showers that can be operated remotely and provide preheat so you never have to fiddle with valves to get the temperature right prior to stepping into the shower.

A variety of storage solutions through fitted and modular furniture is available to put all the daily essentials away, providing a clutter-free look for style and practicality.

So your budget should not only reflect how you achieve the look, but also to ensure that you that it is a one that will achieve a better return for your investment through durability, quality and style.

G D Evans Interiors are Kitchen Bedroom and Bathroom design and installation specialists and if you have any questions for Gary Evans or require any assistance or advice please contact him on 01491 244244, 0118 9474744 or gdevansinteriors@yahoo.com

## INTERIOR DESIGN:

Caroline Newsome, Director Arq-A Interiors

**Q:** How do you choose the right interior designer for your project?

**A:** We all know that finding the right person for the job is the hardest part, whatever that job may be.

There's a lot to consider as a homeowner embarking on a costly project, you need to get it right first time.

So from a professional point of view, these are my tips.

Firstly, take time to define the scope of works you need help with; just soft furnishings and furniture or are you looking to completely remodel your home including space planning, bathrooms and a kitchen? These are different skill sets and not all interior designers are comfortable with structural works, electrics and plumbing.

Secondly, ask your friends and neighbours for recommendations and do some online research. Short list those whose previous work you are drawn to and excited by and previous experience suits your project.

Finally, the first meeting or consultation should always be free of charge, this is your opportunity to see if you can work together.

Choose the designer you connect with and trust, someone who listens and interprets ideas quickly and confidently. It's our job to remove the time consuming and sometimes costly deliberation from your project and to give you



the confidence to create the home you have always dreamt of.

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## SPECIALIST BLINDS:

Nick Pelly-Fry, Design Director, Grand Design Blinds

**Q:** I have an awkwardly shaped window which I am struggling to find a blinds solution for, what options are available?

**A:** The type of blinds that will be suitable for your window depends very much on the exact design, layout, geometry and angles involved. We always ask clients to send us photographs and approximate dimensions so we can advise on the best solution and the costs involved.

In brief, for a triangular window, the options usually cover Venetian blinds, pleated blinds, vertical blinds, Pinoleum blinds, plantation shutters, and, in some cases, roller blinds.

The majority of our blinds are made, mostly by hand, in specialist factories in Wimbledon and Kent – the pleated blinds are particularly tricky to make, but have the advantage that they are fully retractable.

The most popular type mounts on the sloping side of the window and rotates closed like a fan, perfect where the blinds are to be discreet as possible as they require no support wires (whereas a blind pulling upwards would).

We can also cater to arched, circular, curved, and sloping windows, as well as skylights and very large areas of glass – with options including blackout solutions, custom powder-coating and electric operation, available for integration with home automation systems.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer solutions for any shape or size of glazing and we have not yet been defeated! Do send us an email or give us a call if we can help.

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