UK Bathroom Warehouse

WALLINGFORD

BUYER'S GUIDE

Mastering your *dream bathroom*

The 14-step guide to planning a bathroom that works for you.



WELCOME

A bathroom that feels like *you*

Planning a new bathroom is exciting, and there is a lot to think about. This guide takes you through it in 14 short steps, from the first idea to the day it is finished.

Read it in order or dip into the step you need. When you would like to talk it through, our designers are here to help, with no pressure and no hard sell.







THE 14 STEPS

01 Start your journey

02 Design that works

03 Measure twice

04 Design your retreat

05 Plumbing and wiring

06 Water pressure

07 Pick your essentials

08 Make it personal

09 Tie it all together

10 Build it to last

11 Work with the right people

12 Make it greener

13 Install smoothly

14 Celebrate the space

Then: how we help, in five steps, and how to book your free design consultation.

01 Start your journey

STEP 1 OF 14



A good bathroom makes mornings quicker and evenings calmer. A bad one just adds stress.

This guide helps you plan it properly, from layout to lighting, so the finished room works for the way you live. It is about a space that feels right, functions well and lasts.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Who uses the room, and when?
- What frustrates you about the bathroom you have now?
- How do you want the new one to feel?

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02 Design that works

STEP 2 OF 14

Blend style with smart, practical choices.

START WITH YOUR STYLE

Modern, classic, minimal or bold. You don't need to know the names. Notice the colours, shapes and materials you are drawn to. That is your starting point.

THEN MAKE IT WORK

- Where do you want storage?
- What is used daily, and what only occasionally?
- Should it feel calm or energising?

BUDGET SMART

Set your budget early, then split it. Essentials first: plumbing, tiling and electrics. Then the style upgrades: taps, mirrors, lighting and extras. Keep something back for surprises.

AT A GLANCE

How to split your budget

FIRST
Essentials
Plumbing, tiling and electrics

→

THEN
Style upgrades
Taps, mirrors, lighting and extras

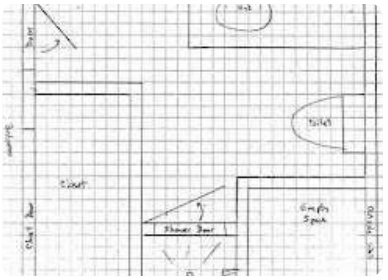
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KEEP BACK
Contingency
Something in reserve for surprises

03 Measure twice

STEP 3 OF 14

Before anything is ordered you need a clear plan, and that starts with accurate measurements.



WHAT TO DO

- Measure the length, width and height of the room.
- Mark where the doors, windows and key fixtures are now.
- Sketch the space to scale. Rough is fine, as long as it is accurate.

WHY IT MATTERS

Wrong sizes waste money. A wrong layout is a daily frustration. A solid plan now means everything fits later. Graph paper or a phone app is all you need.

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04 Design your retreat

STEP 4 OF 14

Your bathroom is practical, but it is personal too. Think of it as your daily reset space.

DECIDE HOW IT SHOULD FEEL

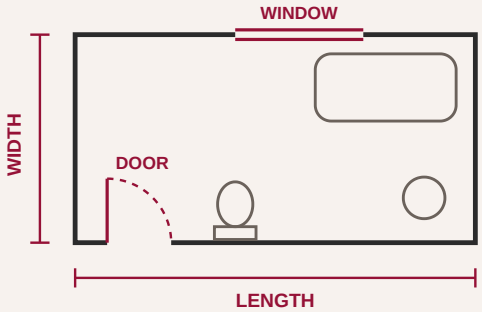
Calm and quiet? Clean and bright? Bold and energising? Design around that feeling, then choose the layout, lighting and materials that support it.

MAKE IT YOURS

A well-designed bathroom isn't a copy of a picture. It is a space that works for how you live, and feels right every time you walk in.

AT A GLANCE

Your measuring sketch



- Length and width, wall to wall
- Ceiling height
- The door, and which way it opens
- Windows, and the height of the sill
- Where the toilet, basin and bath or shower are now

05 Plumbing and wiring

STEP 5 OF 14

The hidden work that makes everything else possible.

PLUMBING

Your layout depends on where water and waste pipes can go. Know your pipework before you start moving things around.

ELECTRICS

Plan lights, shaver sockets, mirror wiring, underfloor heating and ventilation before the walls are finished.

REGULATIONS

Bathroom electrics have their own safety rules, especially near water. Use a qualified electrician who works to the current regulations.

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06 Water pressure

STEP 6 OF 14

Your water pressure decides which taps and showers will perform well in your home.

LOW PRESSURE

Choose taps and showers made for low-pressure systems. Check the minimum pressure each product needs before you fall for it.

HIGH PRESSURE

You have a wider choice, including larger shower heads. Look for fittings that give a good flow without wasting water.

Work out which water system you have first, then choose. The four common types are on the next page.







STEP 6, CONTINUED

Which water system do you have?

Most homes have one of these four. Knowing which is yours means you can plan it right first time.

LOW PRESSURE ●○○

Gravity fed

A cold water tank in the loft feeds a hot water cylinder.

PROS

- Simple and reliable
- Low maintenance

CONS

- Low water pressure
- Tank and cylinder take up space

HIGH PRESSURE ●●●

Pumped

A gravity-fed system with a pump added to boost the flow.

PROS

- Better water pressure
- A better shower
- Flexible installation

CONS

- Pump noise
- More maintenance and wear

HIGH PRESSURE ●●●

Pressurised cylinder

A sealed hot water cylinder fed directly from the mains.

PROS

- Hot water at mains pressure
- A large store of hot water

CONS

- Relies on good mains pressure
- The cylinder needs space

MEDIUM PRESSURE ●●○

Combi boiler

The boiler heats water on demand, with no tanks or cylinder.

PROS

- Space saving
- Hot water on demand

CONS

- Relies on good mains pressure
- No backup if the boiler fails
- Not suitable for pumped power showers

Not sure which you have? Tell us what you can see at home, such as a tank in the loft or a cylinder in a cupboard, and we will help you work it out.

07 STEP 7 OF 14 Pick your essentials

Build the core first, then upgrade.



START WITH THE BASICS

- Toilet
- Basin
- Shower
- Bath, if you have the space or want the luxury

THEN LEVEL IT UP

- Heated towel rails
- Underfloor heating
- Smart toilets and touchless taps
- Motion-activated lighting
- Mirrors with built-in lights, demisters and speakers

Get layout, size and style right for the basics before anything else. The upgrades are more than gadgets: they add comfort, hygiene and everyday ease.

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08 STEP 8 OF 14 Make it personal

This is where your bathroom stops being generic and starts feeling like yours.

COLOUR AND TEXTURE

- Cool blues feel calm and spa-like.
- Warm neutrals feel cosy and inviting.
- Bold accents work too, if they suit you.

SIMPLE TOUCHES

- A piece of artwork
- Some greenery
- Towels and textiles that bring it to life

MATERIALS THAT WORK, AND LAST

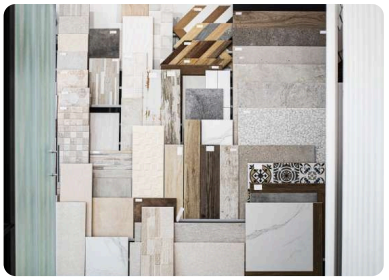
- Porcelain tiles: durable and easy to clean.
- Natural stone: adds elegance.
- Wood: brings warmth, as long as it is sealed properly.







09 STEP 9 OF 14 Tie it all together



Great bathrooms don't feel busy. They feel put together, because everything works as a whole.

HOW TO KEEP IT COHESIVE

- Stick to one clear style rather than mixing trends.
- Choose a colour palette and repeat it throughout.
- Match your hardware finishes: brushed brass, matt black or chrome.
- Keep lines and shapes consistent where you can.

THE GOAL

Tiles suit the taps. Colours feel connected. Finishes don't clash. Nothing feels random, and everything feels intentional.

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10 STEP 10 OF 14 Build it to last

Your bathroom is used every day, so don't cut corners on the things that matter.

WHERE QUALITY COUNTS

- Choose solid fittings over cheap alternatives.
- Pick tiles and materials that cope with steam, moisture and wear.
- Invest in quality brassware. It lasts longer, looks better and causes fewer problems.

THINK LONG TERM

Short-term savings often become long-term issues. A bathroom built to last is peace of mind.

AT A GLANCE

Pick one finish, then repeat it

Brushed brass **Matt black** **Chrome**

CARRY IT ACROSS

- Taps and shower
- Towel rail and handles
- Wastes, flush plate and accessories

STEP 11 OF 14

11 Work with the right people



A bathroom is only as good as the people who build it.

WHO MATTERS MOST

- Plumbers make sure every tap, toilet and drain works.
- Electricians provide safe, legal wiring for lighting, mirrors and underfloor heating.
- Installers bring it all together, cleanly and correctly.

WHY IT PAYS

The best tiles, taps and technology won't work if they are fitted badly. The right experts spot problems before they happen, and save you money in the long run.

STEP 12 OF 14

12 Make it greener

A well-planned bathroom runs efficiently and wastes less.

ENERGY

- Use LED lighting and make the most of natural light.
- Insulate walls and floors where you can.
- Fit an extractor fan with a humidity sensor to help prevent mould.

WATER

- Water-saving taps
- Dual-flush toilets
- Efficient shower heads

AT A GLANCE

Three places a bathroom can waste less

Light

LED lighting, and as much natural light as you can get.

Water

Water-saving taps, dual-flush toilets and efficient shower heads.

Air

An extractor fan with a humidity sensor helps prevent mould.

13 Install smoothly

STEP 13 OF 14

You have planned it. Now it is time to build it.



TIMING IS KEY

- Book your fitter well in advance.
- Line up deliveries to arrive when they are needed.
- Double-check lead times and availability.

DELAYS HAPPEN

Damaged items, supply issues, trades running behind. Stay flexible and keep in touch with your installer. Problems are easier to solve when everyone is calm and on the same page.

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14 Celebrate the space

STEP 14 OF 14

From the first idea to the final fitting.

A finished bathroom doesn't happen by accident. It comes from clear decisions, good advice and careful work. It reflects your style, fits your life and makes every day a little easier.

When yours is done, take a moment to step back and enjoy it. You will have earned it.

AT A GLANCE

The usual order of events

1. **Finalise your design** → 2. **Book your fitter** → 3. **Order your products** → 4. **Deliveries arrive** → 5. **Installation**

HOW WE HELP

Our simple *five-step* process

You don't have to plan it alone. This is how we work with you, from first conversation to long after your bathroom is finished.

01

Free consultation and brief

We listen and outline your priorities.

02

Design and product proposal

Clear options to suit your space, style and budget.

03

Technical pack

Drawings, specifications and notes, ready for your installer.

04

Transparent quote

No surprises, just line-by-line clarity.

05

Aftercare

Advice, spares and support whenever you need it.

45+ years
designing bathrooms

Local and independent
a showroom in Wallingford

Free consultation
in-store or by video call

YOUR NEXT STEP

Book your free *design consultation*

In-store or by video call. 30 to 45 minutes, with no obligation.

Book online →

SCAN TO BOOK

HELPFUL TO BRING

Come as you are

- Your room measurements, even a rough sketch
- A few photos of the room as it is now
- Pictures of bathrooms or products you like
- Any questions from this guide

Don't have these yet? Come anyway. We can start with a conversation.

FIND US

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