

Toolbox News

'She Builds Better'[™] Newsletter by *Dawn*

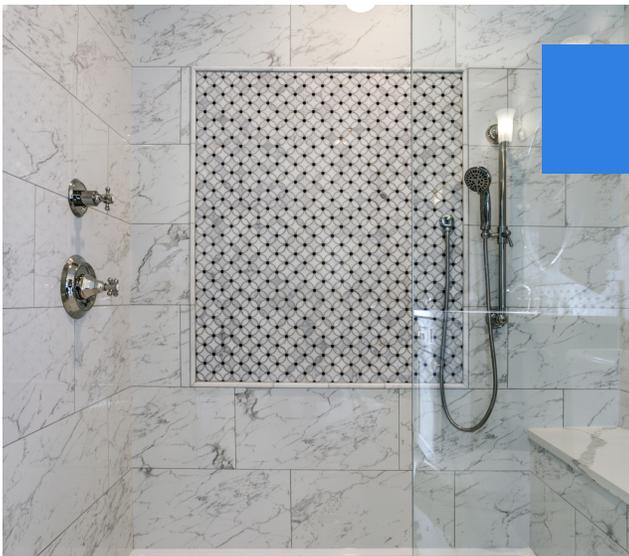


Tile Craze

It's back to the 1960's and 70's folks. The bright colors, crazy geometrics and wild shapes and sizes. How the heck are you supposed to decide? Brick, mosaics, glass, carrera, porcelain, wood plank, bamboo, cork or more..... Remember the hippie era of Peace & Love? Everything in design repeats itself. Color is free, why not flaunt your personality with color and design you love.

Safe or Sassy?

Who cares about safe and neutral anymore? NEWS FLASH....NOONE! Go bold and dramatic, use your own personal expression to create a unique and bold tile look. To be honest I struggle with designs that are way 'out there'. But here's the thing - we are all more interesting when we are authentic and take design risks. Whether it's a bathroom or speaking on a stage, inspire others to be as brave as you!



Carrera love

I'm not talking about the car. I'm talking carrera stone tile and it's still hot! Did you know that if you install this stone on the shower pan it will stain? Yes. When your dear partner pee's in the shower the acid will stain it. So beware here gals...ceramic mosaics are a better match and won't stain from shampoos and well, urine! The incredible selections of mosaics are unlimited. Shop online. The brick and mortar stores don't have much inventory so go online and definitively get a sample before buying.



Float it!

Floating your shower walls is a process that is truly custom. No cement boards, the 'real' custom way is to float your walls if your budget allows for it. The process goes like this. Demo your old tile down to the studs, Lath or paper and wire goes on next, the scratch coat of mortar and then the float coat. All before a single tile is laid. TIP: tile does not waterproof your shower. It's the paper, often called Aquabar is the waterproofing, as well as jiffy seal on those niches and seats to protect behind that tile and keep it dry!

Tile behind the vanity

Add texture and interest to the wall behind that beautiful mirror. It is an inexpensive element and screams that you've thought out your bathroom design thoroughly. To tie in the shower or tub tile this way gives a rich and sophisticated texture. A perfect value add that many contractors or investors ignore. Lots of visual bang for the buck!



Hot Mop



What the heck is this? When your remodeling the shower pan needs to be waterproofed properly. The hot mop or hot tar like material is heated to over 400 degrees and mopped onto your rough foundation or plywood structure. It creates a waterproof membrane when it cools overnight. Some contractors use a heavy liner from home depot or other supply houses. My opinion is that this 'old school' way is the very best tried and true way to go!

Power tools I love



Ryobi makes a great cordless finish nail gun. I'm all about easy and this tool hits the mark. You just load your finish nails and go! Its great for those projects like installing baseboard or a shiplap wall like I just finished. Did I tell you it's not very expensive either? A gotta have for any size home project!

Where do I start?

ANSWER: Start in your bathroom! Get your Bathroom Remodel Checklist for FREE? Download it now below.

[I want it](#)



What makes you happy?

The seasons of life come and go. The chapters of our lives are layered like an onion. What is my next renovation on myself? To reignite my relationship with my husband John. Now that all the kids are gone and we have time to reflect, it is my grateful heart that smiles for a man that is always happy to see me. His belief in me as a woman that thinks she can conquer the world or cry with frustration is so amazing. I am forever grateful and happy even after 30 years of the ups and downs of life, family and business.