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TO SINK OR NOT TO SINK?

BY DVIRA OVADIA | The evolution of the bathroom sink has taken us through many trends, styles and options. Today it almost seems impossible to make a decision on what's hot and what's not! The market is flooded with bathroom sinks of all types, colours, finishes and materials. From vessel sinks to recess mounted, to semi recessed mounted, deciding on the right one is a personal preference that follows function.

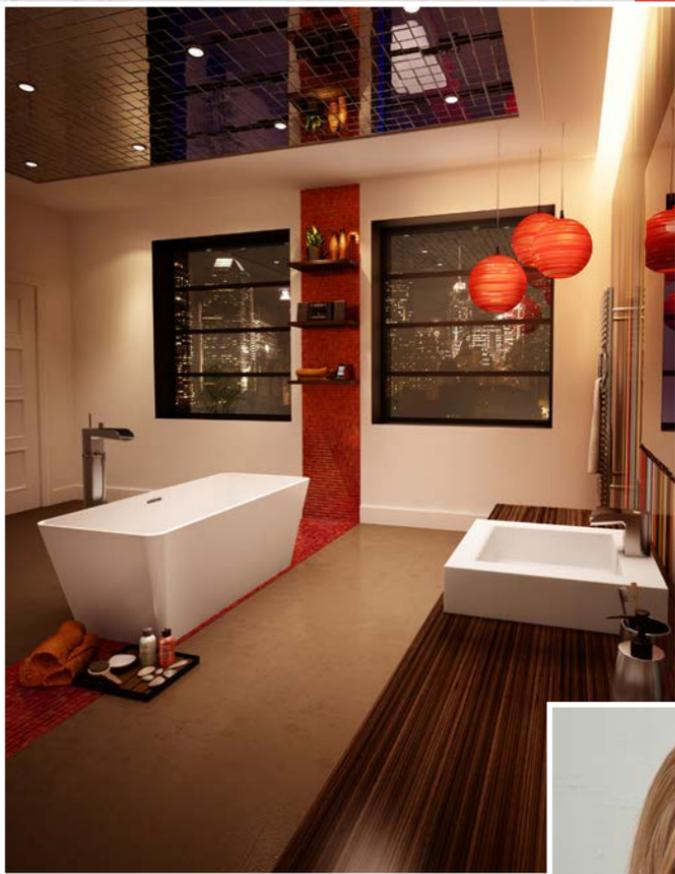
Vessel sinks, also known as above counter sinks are quite popular these days. The concept of these designer bowls is derived from the archaic days where there was no running water and people used ceramic and marble bowls for washing. These bowls have really turned around since and have made a splashy introduction in residential powder rooms! Renovation savvy homeowners have brought these modern sinks into their master ensuites and other bathrooms around the house!

Whether round or square, the vessel sink really provides that custom hotel and spa feel to any bathroom and it's no wonder that nowadays these are at the peak of bathroom preferences. The one element to consider when selecting a deck mounted sink for everyday use as opposed to a powder room use, is to understand the shape and the style for ideal comfort and function. A basin that is too shallow will cause splashing! And a basin that is too deep may not be comfortable for daily teeth brushing and face washing. Kohler has some of the most beautiful choices that are aesthetically pleasing and functional.



Photo: Stephanie Buchman Prehistoric Stoneworks Inc

The beauty of the vessel sink is that it can be mounted to any surface! An antique dresser, a new vanity, or a converted cabinet – from designing bathrooms over the years I have found that any one of these combinations will work well with a vessel sink and provide a distinctive look to any bathroom! Here are my designer tips to consider when buying a vessel sink:



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A) Consider the total height of the vanity plus the bowl. A comfortable vanity height including the sink should measure between 32-36 inches.

B) Explore various faucet options, for vessel sinks you more than likely need a taller faucet or a wall mounted faucet!

C) For wall mounted faucets a little more prep work is required and you must insert the proper rough-ins into the wall prior to installing your wall-mounted faucets. This option requires a little more work but looks fantastic!

If you think that a vessel sink is not for you, the options are infinite with undermount sinks and even semi recessed sinks. From round, oval, or square, the classic look of these lend themselves to clean, contemporary and even traditional bathrooms.