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ALPINE ATTRACTION

Warm woods and other cosy features are going off-piste and making bathing spaces blissfully serene

OUTSIDE INFLUENCES

To capture the essence of alpine style, the trick is to take inspiration from outside and avoid non-essential modernising. When updating this 1930s Swiss chalet, Oakley Moore took care to respect its surroundings. 'By fusing contemporary details with the traditional vernacular, we aimed for a harmonious, comfortable en suite with a strong sense of place,' recalls founder and creative director Kate Aslangul. 'Referencing the local surroundings, we chose granite tiles and commissioned a woodworker to hone the pedestal for the basin, effectively bringing the outside in.'

Curtains in Wallace Stripe wool/linen in Aqua Red, £148m, George Spencer Designs. Curtain border in Byron wool by Sanderson, discontinued; Hector wool in Russet, £115m, is similar. Try Indigenous for a similar tree trunk washstand, from £1,134. Project by Oakley Moore



RUGGED BEAUTY

'Rough-sawn timber cladding where the saw marks are left unsanded lends a warm, alpine cabin-style atmosphere to this bathroom, creating a cosy and inviting space. The rugged, textured surface provides a rustic, natural feel, which pairs well with the reclaimed basin and rugged stone countertops,' says Gemma Holsgrove, studio director at Sims Hilditch. Beyond aesthetics, this type of wooden cladding can also prove to be very practical – it's durable, moisture-resistant when properly treated, and you don't have to be too precious about it. 'Any additional wear and tear will add to the charm, making the bathroom feel grounded, comfortable and uniquely connected to nature,' agrees Gemma.

For similar reclaimed rough-sawn cladding, from £96sq m, try Lawson's Yard. English Salvage is a good source for antique stone troughs. Project by Sims Hilditch

SURFACE LAYER

It may be tucked away in deepest Devon with not a ski lift in sight, but there's more than a hint of alpine atmosphere in the air at Tom Cox's own farmhouse retreat. In muted blues and browns, a layered approach and plenty of textiles really tune into the restorative ambience that seems to come so easily in mountain boltholes. 'Overlooking the green Devon valleys, this is my favourite bathroom,' says the founder of HÂM Interiors. 'Though there are space limitations and a sloping ceiling, the use of colour, pattern and textiles has transformed it into a cosy, characterful and much-loved room.'

Arrow Stitch wallpaper in Blue Ridge, £165 a roll, Dado and Studio HÂM. Bespoke Cowboy vanity with marble countertop, custom painted in Oval Room Blue by Farrow & Ball, Studio HÂM. Berber Stripe fabric in Denim, £129m by Mulberry Home at G P & J Baker →

PHOTOGRAPHS (SURFACE LAYER) WILL SLATER



BOXING CLEVER

There are strong sauna influences in this teak-clad double shower room by Kligerman Architecture & Design, which looks as cosy and cocooning as any Nordic design. But is placing so much wood in such direct contact with water a smart idea? Founding partner Thomas Kligerman thinks so. 'Teak is a rot-resistant wood used on boats from time immemorial. But rather than left unfinished, which would eventually allow the water to turn the wood patchy and grey, several coats of a water-resistant finish were applied at the time of fabrication,' he explains. 'On a roughly annual basis, it is reapplied to keep this shower ship shape.' As this property overlooks the ocean, Thomas chose polished, unlacquered brass for the Waterworks shower fixtures, as a reference to the durable and rustproof cleats, blocks and other hardware on an elegant sailboat. **Easton exposed thermostatic showers, £10,182 each, Waterworks. Project by Kligerman Architecture & Design**



PERFECT HARMONY

For this bathroom in Colorado's Rocky Mountains, interior designer Kara Childress drew inspiration from the serene mountain landscape and the inviting atmosphere of timeless alpine retreats. 'The goal was to create a space that feels like a warm embrace, where neutrals and earthy tones lay the foundation for an effortless sense of calm,' she recalls. 'Incorporating sheepskin elements was essential, introducing layers of texture and warmth that elevate the overall comfort. Natural materials were selected to harmonise with the surroundings, while soft, ambient lighting enhances the tranquil atmosphere.' By focusing on tactile elements and a cohesive colour palette, Kara has transformed the space into a sanctuary – a place to unwind after a long day on the slopes (or in the office).

Sheepskin rug by Auskin, from £89, Homer. Walls in Agreeable Gray by Sherwin-Williams [USA only]. Project by Kara Childress Interior Atelier

A photograph of a bathroom with a large window seat, a bathtub, and a rocking chair. The window seat is built into a gable wall clad in reclaimed floorboards and is filled with cushions in natural tones. A light blue bathtub is in the foreground, and a brass floor-mounted shower mixer is to its right. A wooden rocking chair is on the left. The floor is light wood, and a patterned rug is partially visible. The ceiling is white, and the walls are white. The window looks out onto a view of trees and a building.

ROOM WITH A VIEW

Evoke the tranquil, rustic spirit of alpine design by installing a cosy timber-clad window seat in your bathroom. Sophie Chapman, associate of The Vawdrey House, clearly got the memo in this attic space, where she has embraced the sloped ceilings to create a window seat for the owners to sit and enjoy the sweeping treetop views. Designed as a quiet, restorative sanctuary, the gable wall was clad in reclaimed floorboards and filled with cushions in natural tones. This softens the hard surfaces of the bathroom fittings and adds warmth and texture.

It's the perfect spot to relax with a book or chat with someone unwinding in the bath,' says Sophie.

Rockwell bath in Green, £6,783, The Water Monopoly. Landmark floor-mounted single lever bath/shower mixer, from £5,659, Samuel Heath. Project by The Vawdrey House →



FINE FINISH

Bathroom design inspired by the mountain regions is all about creating a cosy atmosphere; spaces that exude warmth and respite from the chilly outside air. 'Lived-in finishes are better than high sheens to achieve this, as they so beautifully suit the rustic woods and more hygge elements that are typical of alpine properties,' says Lizzi Catchpole, head of design, Catchpole & Rye. The weathered copper finish of this generous bateau bath, set against a backdrop of reclaimed wood flooring, is the perfect case in point. 'It's worth noting that metal bateaus are more effective at retaining heat than ceramic baths so lend themselves well to long soaks in colder climates,' adds Lizzi.

Copper bateau bath in Weathered Copper, 200cm-wide, £8,750, Catchpole & Rye [@](#)