

BRITAIN'S BESTSELLING HOMES MAGAZINE

Ideal Home

Peak
summer
energy

50
PAGES OF
REAL HOMES
PACKED
WITH INSPO

**Bijou
homes**
EXPERT TIPS &
SPACE-SAVVY
SECRETS

COLOURS PROVEN TO
BOOST YOUR MOOD
SMALL KITCHEN
EXTENSION ADVICE
WALLPAPER HACKS
FOR INSTANT IMPACT

103+ EASY IDEAS
FOR YOUR GARDEN

◆ GREAT-VALUE SHOPPING ◆ AMAZING TRANSFORMATION
◆ TIME AND MONEY-SAVING SOLUTIONS

BATHROOM FOCUS

FLOORING ESSENTIALS

UNLOCK THE SECRETS TO FLAWLESS BATHROOM FLOORING WITH THESE KEY RULES FROM DESIGNER PROS IN THE KNOW

When it comes to upgrading a bathroom, what you put on the floor can make or break the space. But it's not just about shopping for fancy flooring. The way it's fitted, how the grout lines have been planned and how it works with the rest of the decor all have a significant impact on the end results. We asked several interior designers to share their secrets to achieving perfect bathroom flooring...

CHECK IF IT IS UNDERFLOOR HEATING COMPATIBLE

Most interior designers only choose bathroom flooring that's compatible with underfloor heating, enhancing comfort and energy efficiency in the process. Stepping onto a warm floor on a chilly morning adds a sense of indulgence and sophistication to your daily routine. Another reason is to combat spatial restrictions. By doing away with radiators or heated towel rails, there's more wall space left free for positioning the sanitaryware and shower.

'The best type of bathroom flooring to work with underfloor heating is tile and stone as they conduct heat well,' advises Grazzie Wilson, head of creative at Ca' Pietra. Some laminate flooring and luxury vinyls are also compatible.

ENSURE SLIP RESISTANCE

You don't need an expert to tell you that any flooring you choose for your bathroom should be moisture-resistant at the very least. But do you always remember to check the slip ratings before you buy? Interior designers do.

'My go-to flooring choices for bathrooms need to be non-slip, especially if they're to be used by young children. It's just so important for safety,' says Kate Aslangul, founder and creative director of Oakley Moore. Textural tiles will inherently provide good grip, and many interior designers like to specify mosaics in a bathroom because the grout lines



Lighter colour choices create a cool, airy style

provide built-in slip resistance. Slip-resistant porcelain tiles are rated using an R scale (ramp test), which ranges from R9 (minimal slip resistance) to R13 (maximum slip resistance). When selecting floor tiles for bathrooms, do check the stats. For wet-room floors or inside shower areas, aim for an R11 rating or higher to ensure maximum safety.

CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLOUR CHOICES

Choose the right colours and tones for your bathroom flooring as your starting

point, and the rest of your scheme will follow. 'Colour selection is another critical aspect of design that we take into account; lighter coloured floors can help to create a sense of airiness in your bathroom, while darker shades and bolder tones can introduce a touch of sophistication, drama and fun colour,' explains interior designer Emma Deterding of Kelling Designs. 'Going for patterned tiles will help to create a more unique look, with a mix of patterns and textures, or combining gloss and matt finishes, an additional way to add depth and interest.'