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SMALL SIZE PREMIUM SPA

Text & photos by sieger design GmbH & Co. KG

This architectural concept for tiny bathrooms combines functionality with a spa-like feel within six square metres of space.

In his new concept study, Michael Sieger turns his attention to the modern premium bathroom and the way it reflects societal trends. The increased scarcity of living space and rising apartment prices caused by growing urbanisation are just two of these tendencies. With numerous individual usage options, the Small Size Premium Spa concept, SSP for short, meets the highest standards in terms of comfort, functionality and enhanced quality of life.

What will the bathroom of the future look like, and how will it be used?

What trends can be discerned? As designers, Michael Sieger and his team carefully observe society and its needs, seeing themselves as seismometers that detect overarching trends. Of particular importance in this regard are demographic change and so-called mega trends, which require the industry to develop potential new solutions in advance. Concept development for tiny bathrooms could hardly be more relevant. Even today, a bathroom measuring 6.2 square metres is getting closer to the German average, with original bathrooms even smaller.



The Bathroom: A Small Space That Makes Big Difference

The effects of urbanisation can be felt across the globe, with cities acting as magnets to more and more people. A look back over the previous century puts this development into focus. Whereas around 29 per cent of the world's population lived in cities back in 1950 (0.73 billion people), this figure rose to 51 per cent by 2010 (3.5 billion). By 2050, it is set to reach 70 per cent (6.8 billion). Rural exodus is no longer regarded as the primary cause, but the shift is being increasingly attributed to natural population growth. The result is vertical construction, with living space becoming smaller and more expensive.

In parts of New York or Berlin, for example, the prices per square metre have more or less doubled over the past few years. The demands placed on apartments and bathroom design are high, and therefore increasing all the time as space becomes ever scarcer. The bathroom is becoming ever more important as a part of overall living space. Not only does it serve to prevent illness and boost quality of life, but it is also becoming more and more of a refuge, a place to refresh and revitalise.

Functionality and Spa Quality within 6.2 square metres

The "Small Size Premium Spa" concept is based on a carefully designed zone architecture and a functional arrangement of elements. The premium bathroom meets the highest of standards in the smallest of spaces while promoting health by supporting illness prevention and relaxation. In order to achieve this, individual processes are supported in two areas, namely the spacious wet zone, measuring approximately 3.5 square metres, and the adjacent dry zone, which is separated only by a glass screen. The two zones create a spacious and harmonious ambience in a total area of just 6.2 square metres. The room is fully networked, which is highly convenient for the occupants. Settings for the room can be comprehensively configured to suit their requirements either ahead of time or spontaneously via an app from wherever they happen to be.

The Wet Zone

Despite the limited space of just 6.2 square metres, the room offers a range of usage options, including for two people. This applies in particular to the generous and luxurious shower area, which is separated from the rest of the space on two sides by a glass barrier. The bathroom flows visually into the sleeping area, enabling daylight to enter. If necessary, a curtain can be drawn.

As new shower applications offer a similar level of comfort to bathing and, as these are set to grow in importance, the Small Size Premium Spa concept



does not contain a bath. The space gained can therefore be used for other functions. With the Ambiance Tuning Technique (ATT) fittings technology and the Horizontal Shower application by Dornbracht, users can enjoy the shower both standing up and lying down. The system is operated using electronic control elements, using a display switch for example, and a dial like the Smart Tools by Dornbracht. An integrated shower tube with a laminar water flow enables a variety of additional regenerative applications on the heatable ledge.

Right from the ceiling down, minimalist design maximises the quality of the user experience. With an integrated rain panel, the water comes down as though from the sky (Big Rain, Dornbracht). Furthermore, additional elements can be added to enable various soothing and regenerative sensual experiences, incorporating the preconfigured scenarios of Light, Fragrance and Sound. Just like a steam bath, these also help prevent illness and maintain and promote health.

The Dry Zone

The "dry zone" is also characterised by minimalist design and a high level of functionality. Specialist discharge points have been positioned at the double washbasin (with Unisono basin, Alape). An extendible sprinkler head that can be used, for example, to wash hair, a tube for applying water to individual parts of the body, and a fixed outlet that can be used in conjunction with a 180-degree aerator jet for oral irrigation (Water Modules, Dornbracht). The shower toilet (SensoWash, Duravit) also offers well being and convenient personal hygiene. It is positioned in such a way that the user of the toilet is not disturbed– and in fact is covered up– whenever the door to the room opens.

In addition, a large mirror with a built-in screen, minimalist bathroom fittings, and surfaces such as marble and macassar ebony give rise to an inviting atmosphere. The underfloor heating takes away the unpleasant feeling caused by cold tiles.

For more information, visit www.sieger-design.com.



TARA ULTRA

by **DORNBRACHT**

Dornbracht has recently refined its popular TARA ULTRA tap series, which is defined by its timeless design and versatility. A pull-down version of the classic fitting is now available, along with a spout that can be extended downwards to give more freedom of movement at the sink. In addition, the spout is made of a heat-insulated matt-black grip and intuitively guides the user's hand to the pull-out element.

www.dornbracht.com