

FALL 2018

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

ourhomes

T O R O N T O & Y O R K R E G I O N

ATRIUM ADDITION

FRANK LLOYD
WRIGHT *inspired
reno*

MAKING BRIGHT
WHITE FEEL WARM



CREATIVE
SURFACES

FIRESIDE
DESIGN

savory
PUMPKIN
SOUP

GIVING
THANKS

Rub a Dub Dub

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TUB



VICTORIA + ALBERT: Vetralla 2 Freestanding Tub in Gloss Black

I am a huge fan of the showering experience. However, when I was expecting my first child and suffering shin splints, I found a soothing bath something I couldn't get through the night without. When you need to get clean quick, a shower is hands-down the way to go. If, however, you find yourself with more than a few minutes, running yourself a bath can be a rewarding and comforting personal experience. Picking the right tub for you is important.



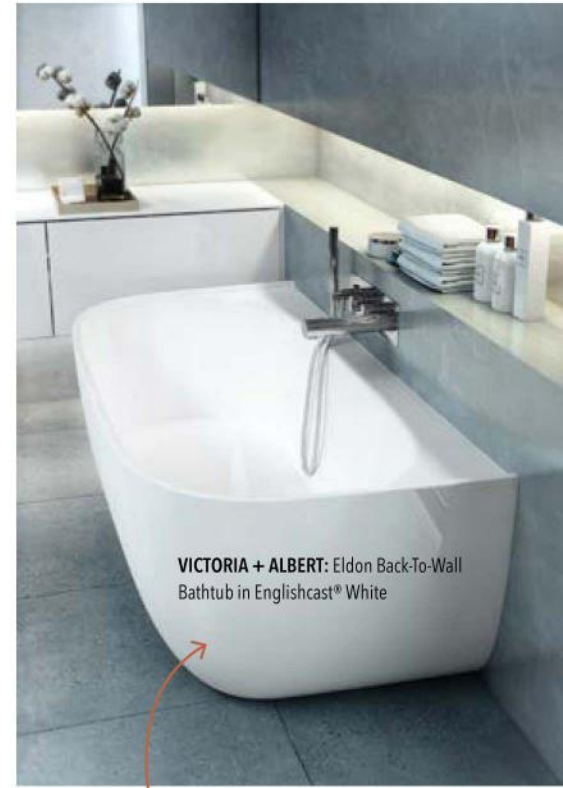
STORY **CYNTHIA SODA**

STYLES

Bathtub manufacturers today offer a large assortment of styles, shapes and design features to coordinate with any taste and budget. While the most popular pin-worthy tubs are typically vessel free-standing or claw-foot, there are a multitude of options available to suit your needs. For those with limited square footage, a tub-shower combination or three-wall alcove design would be the most common tub style to maximize space. In standard-built homes, we've all seen the drop-in tub, made of enamel-coated cast iron, that sits fitted inside a framed enclosure. A more seamless alternative to the drop-in would be an undermount tub, which essentially is the same concept as an undermount vanity sink, only for your bathing pleasure.

FAVOURITES

One great resource is Victoria + Albert with tubs crafted from the brand's signature Englishcast composition, a unique blend of a naturally white material that is rich in volcanic limestone and high-performance resins, hand-finished to create a glossy white coating with excellent stain resistance. They also offer a choice of trending colour options. Since the material is solid all the way through, internal scratches simply polish away. In our latest bathroom remodel, I can personally speak for the quality of a Victoria + Albert tub. For us, with four little ones who enjoy splashing around in mom and dad's bathroom, the Eldon tub was the perfect fit. Wanting to have luxe European-modern style and not having to worry about clean up behind the tub was the dilemma. The Eldon appears completely free-standing from the front, but its back-to-wall design makes it perfect for busy families with style.



VICTORIA + ALBERT: Eldon Back-To-Wall Bathtub in Englishcast® White



NATIVE TRAILS: Avalon 62 NativeStone Freestanding Soaking Tub in Ash



NATIVE TRAILS: Santorini Freestanding Copper Soaking Bathtub in Polished Copper

The best of both worlds. Get the modern style of a free-standing vessel tub, with the practicality of an enclosed tub.

MATERIAL

The material that a tub is made from is also an important consideration for your investment in relaxation and comfort. The least expensive and lightweight options available are generally acrylic or fibreglass. The aforementioned cast iron is made by pouring molten iron into a mold, then smoothing and coating it with a thick layer of enamel. Possibly the most durable tub available, the finish is resistant to chipping, scratching and denting, as well as most types of chemicals. The cast iron option keeps bathing waters warm for a long period of time and although rewarding, they are one of the most challenging tubs to bring up a flight of stairs. If you're looking for something unique, you may consider a couture tub made of copper, enameled steel or even carved of stone or wood.

BELLS & WHISTLES

A quiet soak is not the only appeal of the tub experience so some amenities may be important to research. Jets, in-line heaters, chromatherapy, music, air-only jets, or sit in your very own champagne and soak with micro-bubble effervescent jets.

TEST DRIVE IT

Not all bathtubs are created equal. Depending on the features you choose, prices range from the hundreds to the tens of thousands. One of the most important things you can do as a consumer is take a test drive – that's right, go and physically sit in the tub you plan to invest in to make sure you like the fit and depth. After all, the bathtub can be more than just a beautiful piece of sculpture in your bathroom, you can, you know, use it. **OH**