

southern belle

Fifties-era glamour lives again in a young woman's Hollywood-inspired South Carolina bath.



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THIS PHOTO: The shapely slipper tub in Stephanie Potts' bathroom rests on a raised platform, creating an elegant and dramatic focal point.

OPPOSITE: Cross-handle fixtures and a drop-in sink add to this bath's vintage look.





Before Dianne and Steve Potts remodeled their daughter's bath, they asked for her design input.

It proved to be a wise move because the 18-year-old had a very specific look in mind.

“Stephanie knew exactly what she wanted,” interior designer Sissy Bradham says. “She wanted the look of old Hollywood glamour—like a space Audrey Hepburn or Grace Kelly might have specified.”

To bring Stephanie's vision to life—and to set the stage for the room's retro feel—the designer began at floor level, using black and white basket-weave marble tile with a black border. To soften the black and white, she wrapped the walls in pink floral wallpaper, added white cabinetry, and finished the look with brushed-nickel fixtures. But the T-shape room needed a focal point, and Bradham obliged.

“The most striking and luxurious part of the room is the tub niche,” she says. Taking advantage of a dormer window,



she created an arched entry to a raised platform, where an elegant slipper tub sits at window-height. Bifold wooden shutters provide privacy when needed, but they can be opened to welcome natural light. The curved front of the platform highlights the shape of the tub and the entrance arch.

“The tub needed its own presence,” Bradham says. “It has a glamorous feel, and the curves leading up to it are relaxing and a bit more romantic in nature.”

Next to the tub niche is a large walk-in shower with a custom glass door, built-in shelving, and classic cross-handle fixtures. “Brushed-nickel fixtures look like they've been around a while,” Bradham says. “The antiqued look is elegant, glamorous, and subdued.”

To make room for the shower, Bradham borrowed space from a neighboring bath. “Adding that space completely changed the layout and made room for a double vanity,” Dianne says.

Bradham designed the vanity with plenty of storage. Below each sink is a bank of drawers and a set of doors. The

“As a little girl, Stephanie was something of a tomboy,” her mom says.
 “But she’s older now, and definitely wanted a **very feminine bath.**”



center base cabinet houses a pullout drawer for a laundry basket. The tower cabinet on the countertop provides ample space for makeup and toiletries.

“Stephanie always has friends over,” Dianne says. “A large vanity was important so they could have room to put on makeup and get ready for parties.”

Light fixtures mounted directly on extra-large mirrors also aid Stephanie’s daily routine. This treatment not only functions well, but also gives the space the look of a Hollywood dressing room.

In addition to the grand, furniture-style vanity, timeless architectural details—such as tall baseboards, multilevel crown molding, wide trim, and wainscoting near the tub—reflect the room’s vintage character.

Each element contributes to the cohesive design. “This bathroom suite is just what Stephanie dreamed of,” Dianne says. “It’s what every girl wants—to feel like a star.” **KBI**

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OPPOSITE LEFT: The carefully planned layout and color scheme tie together the separate grooming areas in the large space. **OPPOSITE RIGHT:** Carved feet and crown molding give this vanity area a furniture-style feel. **ABOVE LEFT:** The wide, glass-enclosed entrance to the shower makes the space feel more open. The white tile threshold keeps water contained. **ABOVE:** A second entrance allows guests to access the bath without entering Stephanie’s bedroom.

