

Inspirations by **KOHLER®**



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*A*fter the remarkable success of Inspirations Book Vol I and II, I am proud to present Inspirations Book Vol III from Kohler Africa. In keeping with our rich tradition of staying cognisant of the fast changing times and influences that surround us, the inspirations book is a tool designed to aid our business partners and end customers to reimagine their bathroom creations and experiences in a new light altogether.

Inspirations Book Vol III offers a collage of best ideas filtered through the lens of design trends, technology and function. For architects and designers, the book serves to inspire in creating masterpieces. For our end customers; to imagine experiential spaces where each element is a reflection of their personal preferences and desires.

The book also features words of wisdom by Mr. Alex Yoo, Senior Design Director at Marriott International for Middle East and Africa. In his story, Alex reveals his favourite piece of architecture and explains it. We are indebted to Alex for his contribution.

I hope you have as much fun reading the book as we had preparing it for you. I look forward to your comments and suggestions to help us recreate the future in bathroom design and experiences.

As always, my team at Kohler stands at the ready to advise and collaborate. We are committed to make your journey with us a memorable one.

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Black is the new black



The color black is both flirtatious and chic. Like the little black dress or a sharply tailored tuxedo, black interiors are bold and arresting and it's no different for a bath space. Faucets or WCs in matte black elevate the overall look of a washroom, providing comfort in their starkness.

Complementing these with black vessels, bathtubs and showerheads would enhance the space with a bold look.

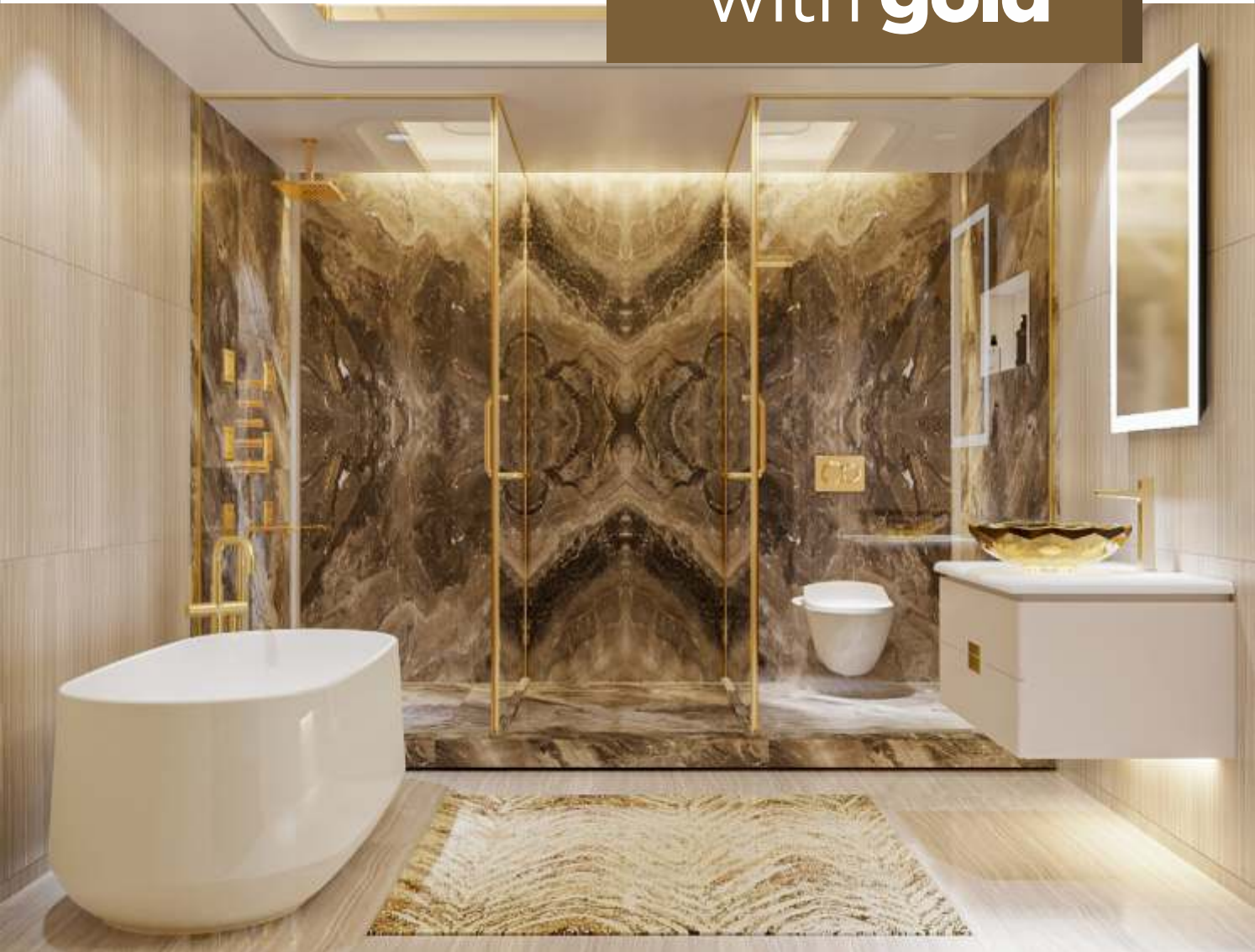
Using black stone can add plenty of character to your bathroom and hence is a great pick for the floor and walls. If the bathroom is black-and-white, adding in small touches like pastel-colored towels or a colored vanity can give it a feminine flair.



Stainless steel, gold, and brass fixtures look great paired with black, too. The neutral backdrop offers so much versatility for accessorizing, so adding decor elements or an accent wall in a bright color can offer a perfect contrast.



Go **bold** with **gold**



There's no easier and equally elegant way to bring some gold to your bathroom than with the simple addition of faucets and fittings. Gold for your basin and shower faucets and even your hygiene spray are sure to bring a royal look to your simple surroundings. Adding in a gold towel rack, soap dispenser or toothbrush holder will enhance the sparkle, without seeming too over the top.



A skillful pairing of matte and polished golds with whites or blacks can truly elevate a bath space without compromising on elegance. Start subtly with gold-bordered mirrors and a touch of gilt on the vanity counter below. Splash the gleam. Add gold faucets and fittings to enhance the sparkle without seeming too over the top.



A Glass Act



There's no material quite like glass. It can be hard and substantial, yet it can also mimic the soft appearance of undulating water or the diaphanous lightness of a cloud.





Our exquisite one-of-a-kind bathroom sinks are inspired by generations of artisans who have crafted many of the sculptures and vessels found in the world's great museums. The result is pure art in a wide range of shapes, sizes, and forms.

Think **outside** the **box**



It's a widely accepted belief that everything has to balance in a space. While this may seem easy, a plethora of other combinations can be really elevating – from print and color on surfaces to varied material textures and sanitary ware finishes. Lay it out on a mood board and see how beautifully it works. Also, you don't need to match your washrooms throughout the house. Give each its own identity.



When it comes to bathroom fixtures, white is often the go-to choice. While going with something unexpected might feel like a risk, the pop of color could be better fitting to your style. Colored ceramic vanities and toilets add panache to a bathroom. For those who prefer traditional white fixtures and are shy to experiment, try using shades of a single color on your surfaces, so the pristine white sanitary ware stands out.



Tech it Up a **Notch**



While the world may think of technology as limited to phones, fitness gadgets, and cars, we imagined it to be an integral part of the bath space, too.

Intelligent toilets are the way forward when it comes to both comfort and cleanliness. Not only do they include a self-cleansing functionality, but features like automatic flushing, heated seats, inbuilt nightlights, foot warmers, and Bluetooth syncing add fun to functionality.

Digital showers bring together water, steam, music, and light to create a brilliant sensory experience. Some showers even allow you to pick from spa settings that target different areas of the body with varied spray types and temperatures, all for your good health and overall wellbeing.



The art of illumination



The way you light your bath space is based on the usage and mood you would like to form.

Do it right with ambient, task, and night to create the perfect bathroom scheme. Task lighting augments your grooming space through large modular lights or discreet built-in lighting found in cabinets and vanities. Not only does this lighting ease the task of getting ready, but also adds flair to your bathroom.



Ambient lighting, through lighted mirrors, provides overall illumination with a soft glow that envelops the space and allows safe navigation through your bathroom. Vanities and mirrors with in-built backlights enhance visibility and illuminate the general space at night with low, diffused light that is soft on the eyes.



Let your wall do the talking



The solid, vertical structure that is built to protect and divide, can be the single most important feature for a washroom. It's all about how you accentuate this surface by bringing in a little boldness and personal style.





Incorporate an ample amount of texture, color, and pattern to create a bold visual impact and still find tranquillity with the negative white space. Team up a blue-and-white-tiled highlighter wall with neutrality of grey for the rest of the space.



The chemistry between the two materials plays off brilliantly, giving the bathroom a timeless and refined feel.

Warm beige walls create an open and inviting space, as the color has a relaxing effect that allows fittings and accessories to stand out. Natural light also plays its role in breaking the monotony of the color palette, adding to the cheerfulness of the room.

Calming Aura of **Wabi Sabi**



Elevate your bath space with the Japanese philosophy of impermanence and incompleteness. The Wabi-Sabi effect celebrates the imperfect, impermanent and incomplete. 'Wabi' stands for understated elegance in Japanese, while 'Sabi' represents enjoying the imperfections.



Tie the bath space together to create a calming ambiance with a concrete countertop, black-and-white patterned tiles, wood, black metal, a whole lot of greens, and natural sunlight. For a truly impactful Wabi-Sabi effect, always strive to keep the bath space area light and uncluttered, and remember that less is more.

Essentially **Forest**



Taking inspiration from the environment can help to consciously craft a bath space, for example using hues associated with tropical rainforest. The aesthetic will reflect a biophilic indoor space by rejuvenating the inhabitants with a metaphorical visual connect with nature, through various creative interpretations.



Even the powder room, one of the most used bathrooms in any home and probably the only one guests may visit, can be thoughtfully conceived. It can for one be inspired by a little cave of fuchsia, with a black and white chevron floor that tends to transcend one into another parallel world temporarily whilst upholding boldness and contrast.

Sea **your** space



Windows, glass doors, and skylights let sunlight brighten the room, so allow light to illuminate your space by using simple translucent window treatments. If natural light is limited, consider mounting a mirror opposite a window or creating a faux skylight to make the space feel larger and brighter.

Mixing modern, vintage or rustic fittings with robust textures and a neutral palette allows flexibility whilst textured whitewashed surfaces are also a great way to bring in a coastal look.

If you choose to accent your space with color, splash it rather than saturating it. Incorporating blue tones is a great way to capture the serenity of water and sky. Accentuating your bathroom wall with some sea-toned serene wallpaper is also a good idea. The pattern, texture, and splash of color will transform a neutral canvas into a realm of tranquillity.



Guest Column



My favorite work of architecture is the Church of the Light by the Japanese architect Tadao Ando. The reinforced concrete chapel, located in Ibaraki, Osaka, Japan has inspired and influenced my own architectural design sensibility. I love the way Ando has used the concrete surface as a canvas on which his adroit manipulation of natural light creates a contemplative environment that varies throughout the day.

ALEX YOO

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This use of natural light on concrete surfaces is a motif used through Ando's projects, and The Church of the Light is particularly striking in that it represents the perfect balance between mass, volume, and levity: the offset intersection of four concrete panels at the altar forms a cross of natural light which in itself is a structural marvel, embodying a delicate equilibrium between solid and void.

The Church of the Light for me has been an inspiration as it is a powerful and compelling statement of minimalist aesthetic as a catalyst for deep reflection, worship, and meaning. I would someday love to sit in the pews and reflect both 'within' and 'without'.



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Kohler, for the last 148 years, has led with a unique sense of design thinking and innovation. Our philosophy of integrating art, superlative craftsmanship, technology, heritage and exploring a plethora of creative ideas has been at the heart of our novel approach.



Live the possibilities of futuristic innovation, diversity, inspiring craftsmanship and artistic distinction with us. Our uncompromising commitment to quality has turned us into a benchmark of quality.

Kohler's global footprints are a testimony to how our artisans and craftsmen translate ideas from different cultures and traditions, times and themes into extraordinary celebrated designs.





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