

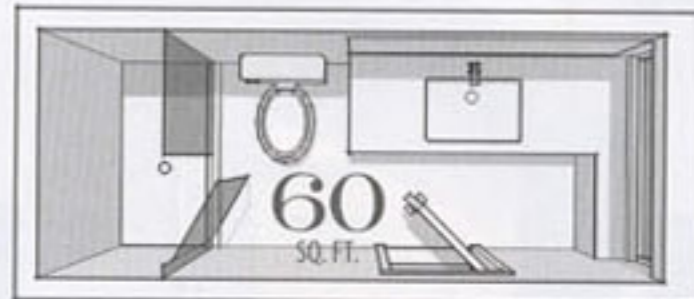
counter intelligence

The marble countertop was extended onto the low windowsill for continuity, and offers an extra spot for guests' toiletries and more.



SOFT MOD

Turning a kids' bathroom into a guest bath was part of the second-storey reno of an empty-nester couple's home in Toronto's Hogg's Hollow neighbourhood. This small yet bright grey-and-yellow space was given a friendly facelift that features clean square lines, "hidden" storage and an aura that says welcome. "I call the style 'soft modern,'" says decorator Liz Watkinson. "It's certainly contemporary, but not ultramodern."



guest bathroom

"A guest bath should have enough space for toiletries, good lighting and easy access to towel bars or hooks" LIZ WATKINSON, DECORATOR

**what was used**

Paint, Titanium OC-49 (walls), Benjamin Moore. **Vanico Linea vanity**, Kohler Kathryn undermount **sink**, Graff Solar **faucet**, Canaroma International. Desert Sky polished-marble **countertop**, floor **tiles**, York Marble. **Tiles**: Glacier Pebbled minibrick honed marble (backsplash), West Coast glass (wall), Giot. Alico chrome **lights**, EuroLite. Millette Shaker Panel **door**, The Home Depot.

DRAWERS AT WORK Unlike a typical bathroom with cupboards, this one features a cantilevered white lacquered vanity with wide drawers that provide easy access to toilet paper, towels and other bathroom supplies. All the drawers are working, though the top middle one is smaller and U shape in order to fit around the plumbing. **SOFT FINISH** Neutral undertones in the Desert Sky polished-marble countertop and floor tiles are soft yet sophisticated. The minibrick honed-marble backsplash is an attractive complement. **DETAILED APPROACH** Decorator Liz Watkinson of 5th Business Associates carried through the contemporary rectilinear styling in every design detail, right down to the shower fixtures. She says she would have installed a cantilevered square toilet, too, if she could have; in the end, she chose one that's a little more squared than a regular oval. **WARM & SHINY** Finished in yellow glass tiles and gleaming polished-chrome hardware, this sunny shower is an inviting substitute for a tub. →