



[Log In](#)

[Sign Up](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Buy](#)

[Sell](#)

[Rent](#)

[Mortgage](#)

[Find Realtors®](#)

[My Home](#)

[News & Insights](#)

---

[Advertise](#)

---

[Home Improvement](#)

## Would You Try the Black Bathroom Trend? 5 Ways to Bring It Home

By Jennifer Kelly Geddes | Apr 23, 2019



tulcarion/iStock

Black is back—in the bathroom, that is. This dramatic [trend](#) of decorating with a primarily black color palette in your powder room is having a major moment. Some say it's an outgrowth of the designs seen in commercial venues, like sleek restaurants and nightclubs, while others call it a direct reaction to the fad of [all-white](#) interiors. Either way, there's no denying the chic, modern impact it can have in your home.

"We love a black bathroom in a residential space for its moody, romantic feel," says **Stephanie Thornton Plymale**, president and CEO of Heritage School of Interior Design.

— ADVERTISEMENT —



Ready to go to the dark side? Here are five design tips that will help you achieve harmony in your black bathroom.

## Related Articles

- [6 Things in Your Bathrooms That Are Freaking Out Potential Buyers](#)
- [How to Choose Paint Colors for Your Home That You Won't Regret](#)
- [Thank U, Next: 8 Interior Design Trends That Are So Over in 2019](#)

### 1. Play with finishes



Photo by Burmeister Woodwork

The fixtures and finishes you incorporate into a black bathroom's design should be varied to add visual interest to the monochromatic look.

---

"Try a matte tile on the floor and then a glossy finish on the shower walls," says Plymale. You might also consider different depths of black such as dark gray for variety in the space.

"Large-scale black hexagon tiles with gray or even white grout will pop here," she adds.

Other finishes like black and white penny tiles "are now considered sweetly vintage and salvageable," says **Darla DeMorrow**, author of "Organizing Your Home With SORT and SUCCEED."

You can also try the black trend with faucets and other accents.

"Instead of traditional stainless steel or brass trim on a glass shower door, think about doing it in black with a black door handle," says **Karen Gray-Plaisted** of Design Solutions KGP. Black taps and drawer pulls can also be a part of the scheme.

### 2. Combine paint and paper



Photo by Studio Gild

A powder room is one of the best places in your home to experiment with wallpaper, and Plymale recommends trying a primarily black graphic print.

If you're not one for patterns, she suggests a matte black wall paint with warm undertones to keep the room intimate and cozy.

Gray-Plaisted says black-painted walls look especially nice with white sinks, toilet, tub, and subway tile. The balance of black and white can help you pull off the look—and if you're tired of it after two years, just repaint, she says.

### 3. Light it right



Photo by dSPACE Studio Ltd, AIA

Lighting is the key to pulling off a black bathroom. A poorly lit powder can make guests feel uncomfortable, but as long as there's ample lighting, they'll never feel like they've stepped into a cave.

Overhead lights and wall sconces are especially important if the surfaces you've chosen are matte or nonreflective, say DeMorrow.

Plymale suggests bulbs with a warm glow in a black bath so as not to create stark shadows.

#### 4. Bring in texture



Photo by BLAINE architects

Gray-Plaisted also loves the combination of natural wood cabinets with greenery like succulents in a black space. To add texture, use accessories like a seagrass hamper, rattan baskets for towels, and a simple woven mat under foot.

#### 5. Mix in metals



Photo by Aspen Leaf Kitchens

Metals including those on faucets and handles, a soap dish, wall sconces, and waste cans will add a luxe look to any black bathroom.

Plymale says that gold finishes, for example, will bring in some warmth and offset the coldness of black surfaces. Pewter, gunmetal, and copper accents are the other hot metal tones of the moment.

[Claim your home](#) and get tips on remodeling and design inspiration.

Jennifer Kelly Geddes creates content for Chewy.com, the National Sleep Foundation, Fisher-Price, and Mastercard.

[Follow @jkgeddes](#)

The [realtor.com](#)<sup>®</sup> editorial team highlights a curated selection of product recommendations for your consideration; clicking a link to the retailer that sells the product may earn us a commission.

Related topics: [bathroom](#)   [home fixtures](#)   [paint a room](#)

---

## Editors' Picks

Trends

Say 'Hola' to 9 Spanish-Style Homes on the Market—All Priced Under \$400K