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TURN DREAM INTO REALITY

The area's best designers, tile shops, and other experts who can help you create a beautiful bath **BY MARY YARRISON**

Even in classic, older homes, such as this one in Cabin John, showers are replacing tubs.



BATH DESIGNERS AND BUILDERS

These businesses are recommended for bathroom design and renovation. Most architects, contractors, and design/build firms also do bathrooms as part of larger renovations.

ALEXANDRIA KITCHEN & BATH STUDIO handles a project's design and installation entirely in-house, using tradespeople who are masters in their fields. Look to this firm for help in remodeling older spaces—its location in Old Town makes that type of project common. *1502 King St., Alexandria; 703-549-1415; akbs-oldtown.com.*

ANTHONY WILDER DESIGN/BUILD used to focus on large-scale projects, but bathrooms now make up about a quarter of its business. Designs are customized, and styles vary—the firm does everything from contemporary to traditional. A certified kitchen-and-bath expert handles tile and plumbing fixtures. *7913 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John; 301-907-0100; anthonywilder.com.*

BATH EXPRESS offers 17 packages, and you can pick and choose to make more than 100 combinations, most of which include Kohler hardware and Strasser cabinetry. Most orders cost \$10,000 to \$20,000. The firm's parent company, **THE KITCHEN GUILD**, does more custom, high-end projects. *Bath Express (bathexpress.com) and the Kitchen Guild (kitchenguild.com) both have multiple area locations.*

BOFFI GEORGETOWN, an Italian company, offers a European feel and a sense of history—wood designs by Maxalto are fashioned after French designs from the period between the two world wars. Boffi-installed bathrooms carry a three-year guarantee. *3320 M St., NW; 202-337-7700; boffigeorgetown.com.*

CARNEMARK often uses large-format (12-by-24-inch) wall tiles and shower enclosures made of Starphire glass—which appears less green than other brands—to create modern, open designs with clean lines. The firm takes on custom design/build projects as well as small updates. *7500 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda; 301-657-5000; carnemark.com.*

CASE DESIGN/REMODELING has eight designers on staff—half architectural and half interior. They provide services that range

← CLEAN AND SIMPLE

Design: Anthony Wilder Design/Build **Gray tile, showerhead and controls, sink faucet and vanity:** Porcelanosa