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# Go with the flow

FEATURE **AMELIA THORPE** PHOTOGRAPHS **DARREN CHUNG**

Helen and David Judson have created a spacious bathroom which cleverly blends the best of characterful, and contemporary styling

COVER IMAGE (PREVIOUS PAGE) BY MAIN MAINSTREAM IMAGES



The twin sinks add a sense of symmetry to the room and cleverly conceal useful storage space

Knowing that your bathroom needs renewing is one thing but deciding how to do it is quite another, as Helen and David Judson discovered when it came to renovating the bathroom in their Victorian terraced home in south London. 'Since we moved in five years ago, we have been gradually working our way through the house, adding an extension and putting in a new kitchen,' explains Helen. 'But when we finally got around to the bathroom, we just couldn't decide what to do.'

Helen and David both say they have strong views about the design of their home, so why was the bathroom causing such a problem? 'It was difficult to see how to make the most of such a fantastic, large space as the room was so poorly laid out,' says Helen. 'The shower cubicle jutted right

out into the centre of the room and the position of the two windows, hot water cylinder and pipework didn't make it any easier to come up with a new plan.'

Browsing through a magazine, Helen came across an advertisement for specialist bathroom design and installation company Flow. She phoned designer Lara Francis after spotting a bathroom she particularly liked on Flow's website. 'We got on well with Lara immediately,' says Helen. 'She understood the layout issues and came up with some very clever ways of making the most of the space.'

'The obvious solution was to put the bath opposite the fireplace and the shower against the far wall,' explains Lara. 'But, by switching those two elements around, the design is more unusual and makes room for



A tiled wall conceals the shower pipework. It also allows for a cut-away section that creates a shelf for shower gels



A recess has been cut into the outside wall and tiled in Buxy mosaics to provide a well positioned spot for bath-side toiletries

## Helen's favourite items

- My large, freestanding Clearwater bath. It's so luxurious! Available from Flow, 020 7733 7373; [flowlondon.co.uk](http://flowlondon.co.uk)
- The Victorian-look fireplace was a great find. It's in keeping with the period feel of the house and adds character. One day, we might get it to work – it would add even more atmosphere to the room on a cold night. Available from Victorian Fireplaces, 0161 429 9042; [victorianfires.co.uk](http://victorianfires.co.uk)
- The globe lights next to the basins, along with the bespoke mirrored cabinets, make a fantastic feature of the area. Artelinea pendant light globes, available from Flow, see above.

