

Trend Alert: living large in small spaces

New products and designers bring sophistication to small living spaces.

Small houses are all the rage right now as consumers and designers alike fall in love with the ease and elegance of cozy living quarters. From exquisitely appointed urban apartments to vintage-inspired beach bungalows, the rising trend in today's home design is to take a small space and make it live large. Even celebrities have seen the light, turning away from mega homes and instead discovering the charm of outfitting smaller spaces in their own personal style. The hit HGTV series "Tiny House, Big Living" is popular with viewers of all ages and serves as further proof that today's trends are all about being creative and making the best use of space.

While the square footage of homes may be shrinking, product designs are bigger than ever when it comes to style and sophistication. Industry leaders have become quite savvy about creating simplified designs that maximize space — both in terms of square footage and all-important visual space. Homeowners love the idea of living in luxury in a small space. The secret to pulling this off is a well thought-out design plan and innovative products that make smart use of every inch. U.S. designers are leading the way, with new product lines that help consumers maximize their living areas. In Europe, where living space is always at a premium, designers continue to fine-tune their space-saving techniques. Well-known Italian brands and new designers from Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Austria are bringing their products to market and showcasing exciting new levels of creativity.

Let's take a closer look at some of our favorite products that we see bringing thoughtful, sophisticated designs to even the most compact of spaces.

The double-ended *Terrassa* tub from **Victoria + Albert** offers a deep and roomy interior that easily accommodates two bathers, yet at just 67 inches long, it is sized to fit compact spaces. A freestanding bath is a smart choice for little bathrooms, as it has a smaller footprint than a garden tub and is



Victoria + Albert *Terrassa*

visually lighter. The beautiful *Terrassa* is notable for the sculpted swage detailing on the interior and its iconic rimless design that complements any décor from transitional to modern. www.vandabaths.com

Cinaton makes use of cutting-edge technology to create a clean, uncluttered look with its hands-free *2201 Pull-Down Faucet*. An ab-



Cinaton *2201 Pull-Down Faucet*

sence of levers and handles lends an understated style to this contemporary faucet, but consumers love it even more for the convenience and ease of its touch-free controls. Five strategic sensors allow users to direct water flow and control temperature without touching the faucet. Perfect for busy kitchens as well as hospitality and medical settings, this water-saving faucet is eco-friendly and ADA compliant with built-in safety controls. www.cinaton.com

As one of the hardest working areas of the home, the laundry room is a place where practicality really matters. This may explain why the *Jentle Jet* laundry sink from **MTI Baths** has been such a hit. This compact sink fits neatly into a laundry room and does double-duty as a utility sink. Per-

fect for pre-treating laundry and other functional chores, the *Jentle Jet* can also care for your fine



MTI Baths *Jentle Jet*

washables. With three micro-jets and a three-speed control knob, this surprising sink uses whirlpool action to thoroughly but gently wash your most delicate garments. It's a great way to get extra efficiency from a room without space to spare. www.mtibaths.com

ICERA solves the dilemma of allocating space for a bidet in the American bathroom by introducing the *iWash S-10 Bidet Seat* that converts an existing toilet into a bidet — as well as adding



ICERA *iWash S-10 Bidet Seat*

a few other luxurious features. The *iWash* system has an elegant design, but its true beauty is its instant water heating system. For the price of a competitor's tanked models, the *iWash* offers limitless warm water, a heated seat, warm air dryer and LED nightlight. This innovative system allows homeowners to add another layer of luxury to their bath without sacrificing valuable floor space. www.icerusa.com

We particularly love the **SIDLER LED Collection** of mirrored medicine cabinets. They evoke sophisticated luxury and are perfect for getting pampered and prepared. Imbued with Swiss perfection, the new LED mirror cabinet is crafted from anodized aluminum and features an original



BY LINDA JENNINGS
Kitchen & bath specialist

light design, refined in both its execution and technology. Opening the cabinet door reveals a mirrored cabinet back with plenty



SIDLER LED Collection

of room for toiletries. Energy efficient and seamless, the **SIDLER LED** provides 50,000 hours of light. The LED mirror also features soft-close doors, patented shelf adjustment system, built-in outlets, a magnifying mirror and a cosmetic box. www.sidler-international.com

Bain Ultra has redesigned two air jets tubs from its most popular therapeutic bath collections to complement smaller bathrooms.



Bain Ultra *Evanescence 5936*

The *Evanescence 5936* and the *Charism 5736* are sized to be "just right" for a single bather while still focusing on the relaxation, quality, and wellness elements that are