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# Classic Romance

What couple wouldn't relish a master bathroom designed as an adults-only getaway? Debbie and Louis Kuntz, parents of three, have turned their dreams of a secluded retreat into reality with this luxurious, old-world-style refuge where they spend time together and unwind. To get the exact look they wanted, the Kuntzes remodeled their





Debbie and Louis Kuntz each enjoy their own vanity space—curved-front, furniture-style creations staged against subway-tiled walls.

**RIGHT:** Russet-color, marble-slab countertops on the vanities offer warm balance to the nickel-plated faucets.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** A mix of subway, bullnose, and embossed tiles lends elegant vintage style to the walls.

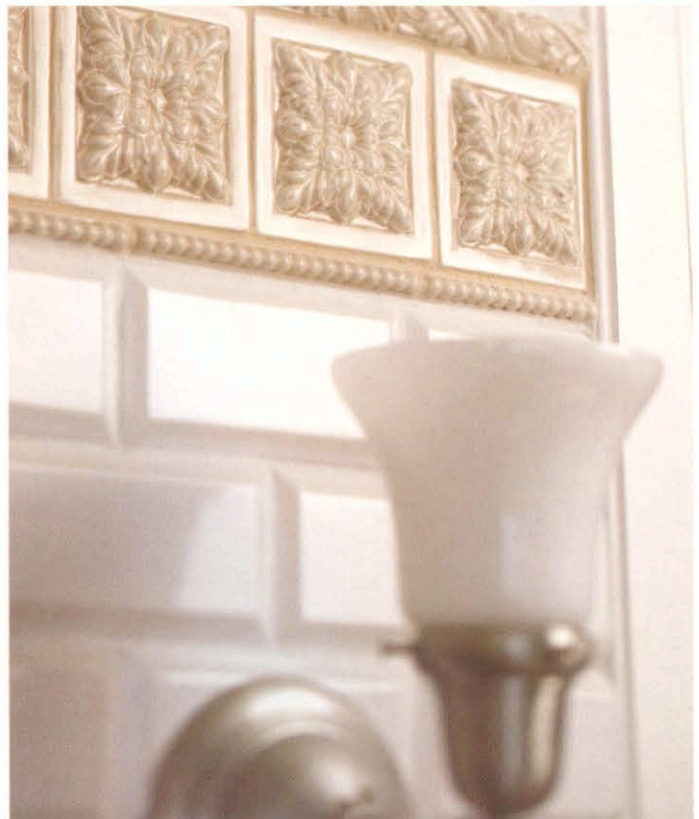
**OPPOSITE:** Two windows and a French door keep the bath sunlit during the day. At night, plantation shutters in the downsized tub alcove offer privacy.



bland 1980s bathroom, adding a whirlpool tub and a walk-in shower—each of which is designed for two. “The original bathroom was spacious but echoey,” Debbie says. “I wanted intimacy and warmth.”

The room’s original bathtub area “was a bit larger and wide open,” Debbie says. Moving one side wall made the space more proportional to the new bathtub and created a cozy, sun-soaked alcove for the oversize tub. A broad, russet-color marble slab serves as a roomy deck around the tub for candles, towels, and scented oils. Embossed tiles lend artistic prominence to the tub entrance and around the room, spicing crisp expanses of white subway tile with dimensional vintage beauty.

The grand, two-person shower replaces a much smaller shower and adds to the pampering possibilities of the couple’s refuge, offering multiple





Heated towel bars offer post-shower luxury and comfort. The doorway beside the shower leads to a separate room for the commode.

showerheads. One centered in the ceiling produces a refreshing rainlike shower. "My husband is 6 feet, 4 inches tall," Debbie says, "so we made the new shower much larger, and the center rain showerhead is perfect for his height." Nearby, Debbie added a freestanding, antique hutch for linen storage with timeless appeal.

A pair of vanities repeats this furnished look with curving buffet-style fronts, nickel-plated hardware, and handsome claw feet. Rich, russet-hue marble slab countertops provide warm contrast to the white-painted vanities. "I tend to be fairly traditional in most of my furnishings," Debbie says, "but I didn't want old and tired. These are timeless, but the darker countertops feel more modern." A lower countertop bridges the gap between cabinets and serves as a spot where Debbie can sit to apply cosmetics and do her hair.

Travertine-tile floors provide a touch of elegance throughout and earthy color underfoot, emphasizing the airy ambience created by the white-tile walls, fixtures, and vanities.

Adding to the breezy, vintage mix are white plantation shutters and a French door leading to an outdoor balcony. What could be more romantic? **DB**

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