

Chris Jarvis ... Top Tips to save your money (and your sanity) when renovating your bathroom...

- **Changing the layout** of your bathroom by moving your bath, vanity and shower can often be an extra cost – but with Chris Jarvis Bathroom Renovations you can re-arrange the design of your bathroom **at no extra charge – saving you hundreds of dollars* Ask us how.** We'll help you plan a new layout that really works for you
- **Consider a skylight** – with most bathroom renovations a new ceiling is part of the build, and a combined light/heater/exhaust combo installed. Adding a skylight at this construction stage can set you up to save your light bills, significantly improve ventilation and help reduce the likelihood of mould. Plus you have a safer heater in winter and an extra feeling of light, airiness and space in the room-especially early in the morning when you need it most
- **Thinking of buying tiles using your own budget sources?** Think again. Cutting and laying the tiles is a massively labour intensive part of the build. We'd always recommend only buying tiles from a recommended supplier. Cheap tiles can be different colour shades, different sizes-the shape, and most importantly-the depth, making them very expensive to lay; and have a much higher percentage of breakages-leaving you vulnerable and possibly short of tiles
- **Build in a few "tiled niches"** in the bath and shower to put your shampoos and soaps. Fully tiled - these are easy to maintain and will last much longer than purchased "bathroom caddies" that can deteriorate after a relatively short time and may need replacing many times during the lifetime of your bathroom
- **Tile to 2m not to full ceiling height.** While floor to ceiling tiles are popular at the moment, 2m height tiles saves some tile cost and labour cost during construction. It means the plasterboard is painted – giving you the option to change the wall colour in the future
- **Choose a custom made shower screen:** Don't waste time looking to buy a ready made shower screen- they only come in limited sizes. Custom-made shower screens are surprisingly good value, can be measured up and installed soon after the bathroom is finished, and can add a million dollar look without breaking the bank. You've seen freestanding screens on "The Block"- imagine it in your bathroom
- **Time and money:** Remember-a bathroom reno is a major build-usually right in the centre of your home, so disruption to the family routine is a big consideration. Many DIYers underestimate the time and energy demands- enthusiasm wanes and quality slides. Up to 7 trades are needed to be organised on this major build of this long-term asset. Consider the overall cost viability of DIY when it comes to bathrooms
- **Safety:** The reno is also a mix of water and electricity, so safety, getting compliance certificates so warranties and insurance are not void; and using licenced professionals, are a must
- **Before you start:** get a safety inspection to check for any asbestos or hazardous materials.
Chris Jarvis Plumbing and Bathroom Renovations: winner of the 2013 HIA Award Best Bathroom Renovation in Qld. Winner 2013 Master Plumbers' Award for Technical Excellence Qld

