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**in.Brief: The lofty heights of Parliament Hill**  
**All that glisters... surface design shines on**  
**En-suites: big ambitions in small spaces**  
**A week in the life of Anji Connell**

▲ “Wall hung furniture is particularly useful in smaller spaces as it creates both floor space and vital storage,” said Emma Gaskell, Marketing Manager of Frontline Bathrooms.

“A good example is our Aquatrend wall hung cloakroom unit. The contemporary design provides storage and a basin in just 400mm. The accompanying Aquatrend mirror and shelf offers yet more storage space for basin accessories, whilst the mirror projects light around the room.”

Selecting the Avola White option will mean its subtle natural colour will brighten up the room without being too stark and clinical.

“To allow adequate space for a shower enclosure it is important to choose a short projection WC, such as the Series 600 back to wall pan which is perfect for smaller spaces,” advised Emma.

“Finally, consider shower enclosures with minimalist features or a frameless design to give the illusion of space. The Aquaglass Sleek Quad is both stylish and practical for smaller bathrooms with 6mm glass and concealed fittings.”

Interior architect Thomas Griem of TG-Studio explained the need for practicalities too.

“It is wise to keep the en-suite as close as possible to the external soil and vent pipe as all waste water has to find its way to it,” he said. “The toilet, basin and bath/shower should be aligned in a row. Space is often at a premium, so it is important to plan the bathroom tight but comfortably. Storage, storage, storage!”

“Think of clever ways to include storage behind the mirror; in the shower; under ▼



Added drama from Kier Townsend

▲ It tends to be the norm to use light colours in a small space, but interior designer Irina Townsend of Keir Townsend doesn't always agree!

"Reflective dark surfaces with a variation of tone create a sense of depth," she said. "Well thought out black schemes can feel more spacious than pale schemes. Black schemes work better in electric light so a bathroom with no natural light can be dramatic," Irina Townsend advises.

A recent master en-suite bathroom project features a bespoke graphite colour sink in recycled glass lit from within with LED lighting fitted with bespoke chrome and black onyx taps above a black lacquered vanity unit. The wall behind the wash basin is clad with bespoke carved wooden panels with Art Deco detail. Textured grey/black mosaic tiles in the shower complement the grey silver floor tiles.

"En-suite bathrooms are very individual spaces and we always try to personalise them for each client's taste by using innovative materials and unusual textures and surfaces," Irina added. "It is all about comfort and how every client interprets it, as well as a touch of luxury, as this is the space to get pampered and relax.

"We designed a basin in recycled glass in one of our recent projects. It is a unique material, which comes in eight different colours and is environmentally friendly. At the same time looks like a precious stone, especially when back lit with LEDs. The LEDs can be dimmed according to mood and time of the day, creating a soft 'halo' effect."

So en-suites may well be small in size, but no reason not to be huge on impact!



Thomas Griem carves out a solution