

WINNING DESIGNS

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Working with space restrictions is always a challenge for contractors trying to offer clients the most bang-for-the-buck in the two most utilized rooms of the house, the kitchen and bathroom.

Two local contractors were awarded top honours this past winter at the Ottawa Kitchen and Bath Association's Vision Gala awards and they share some strategies with *Ottawa At Home*.



MEDIUM SIZED GRANDEUR

The appeal of this award-winning medium-sized kitchen by Panoramik Home Improvement's senior designer Shannon Callaghan is in its simplicity and attention to detail. The horizontal walnut cabinetry, which has been painstakingly bookmarked and sequenced so it flows seamlessly throughout, sets off the contemporary white quartz island and counter top. A feeling of lightness is conveyed through the floating cabinets and island, with thin waterfall-style support legs.

"A medium-sized kitchen can absolutely incorporate everything you need," Sharon explains, "which means that your footprint is smaller and your price point is lower." New trends like integrated appliances, where the fridge is reduced to cabinet depth, and dividing the kitchen area into different centers—such as a beverage center that houses an espresso machine, wine storage unit and small fridge for cold drinks—creates additional space. The L-shaped island is a great conversation starter and allows the chef to socialize while preparing a meal.



SMALL BUT MIGHTY

When creating this award-winning small bathroom, Paul Denys of Denys Builds Design says that the plans were driven both by the client's wishes and the need to distill everything down to the bare essence. The shower, for example, is without a door or curb and the room is sloped toward the drain. Tight quarters also meant that they were able to forego the built-in tiled niche for soap in the original design once they realized all the toiletries stored in the cabinet drawers could be reached from the shower. The heated floor ensured that any small puddles would dry within the hour. A full-width mirror and vaulted ceiling lend a feeling of spaciousness, along with the monochromatic colour palate and streamlined counters and fixtures.

