



# PERSONAL REFLECTION

French antiques handed down for generations embody the beauty of a classically appointed bath.

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**OPPOSITE:** The antique chandelier was chosen to complement the French antique mirrors. "We saw it on a trip to Paris and knew it would look perfect in the bath," homeowner and designer Angie Gren says.

**THIS PHOTO:** The vanity's simplicity matches Angie's taste. "When possible, I prefer open storage; it adds warmth and interest," she says.





## The most meaningful gifts often become precious family keepsakes.

More than 50 years ago, a bride received a pair of beautiful French antique mirrors. Those mirrors were lovingly passed down to her daughter, and then, most recently, to her grandson David Gren and his wife, interior designer Angie Gren.

Those same mirrors became the focal point for David and Angie's elegant master bath retreat. Now placed regally over the bath's double vanity, the mirrors helped set the tone for the room's color, surface, and accessory selections. "When painted antiques are placed in a backdrop of creamy white walls, they are spectacular looking," Angie says. "I chose warm white for the walls and the trim. I love white as a design element, especially in the bathroom. It cleans everything up."

Honed Calacatta marble lends an old-fashioned feel to the countertops, tub surround, and shower walls, as do the white hexagonal floor tiles. Shiny hammered-copper sinks and vintage-style faucets look right at home below the glamorous mirrors. The open vanity was designed to complement the heirlooms. "I wanted it to look like an elegant, old French washstand," Angie says.

Classic styling was always part of the plan. "When we built the home, I wanted to capture the feeling of an old East Coast-style cottage, perhaps purchased by a family who came over from Europe and warmed up with a fantastic collection of antiques," says Angie, who is inspired by homes of the 1920s and 1930s.

Practicality also played a role in the design scheme. The couple wanted materials and fixtures that felt timeless and would age well. "We have three children under the age of 7, and they all like to come in here and take a bath," Angie says. "For us, a bathtub is a must. A soak in the tub makes the stress of the day fade away."

Time spent in the bathroom offers David and Angie a reminder of how lucky they are. "We are thankful to have been given gifts that have become an integral part of our home and that will last a lifetime," Angie says. **KBI**

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**ABOVE:** The hammered-metal sinks are easy to maintain, and their texture disguises water spots. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** Instead of an all-glass enclosure, Angie opted for a marble-tile-lined shower surround. "It complements the vintage look of our bath, and one of the exterior walls provides privacy for the commode." **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** The tub's pullout spray makes bathing children convenient. **OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT:** The shower has a massaging showerhead and a handheld spray that makes cleaning a breeze. **OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT:** The tub's wide marble surround keeps all bath-time necessities in reach.

### Takeaways

- 1** A mix of antiques and vintage-inspired fixtures creates a built-over-time feel.
- 2** An all-white color palette looks timeless, clean, and elegant.
- 3** Wainscoting complements a classic cottage look and adds texture to white walls.
- 4** A furniturelike vanity provides open storage and old-fashioned character.
- 5** A roomy tub surround accommodates bath-time essentials.

