

BOWLED *over*

Give your bathroom or cloakroom a touch of class with a cutting edge basin.

The bathroom is an area of the home where an air of luxury can be achieved fairly simply and without spending a fortune. With some stylish sanitaryware and taps, chic tiles, and flooring to complement it all you're practically there.

Buying a complete suite can be one of the best ways of bagging a bargain, but buying separates can mean you get a wider choice and, as long as the styles aren't incongruous, can give your bathroom a distinctive look.

Basins – even small ones – can inject a stylish element without too much fuss. Tiny ones are ideal if floor space is limited, especially if they are wall-mounted, and these are far more sturdy nowadays thanks to improved fixings.

Victoria Willis, product manager at Geberit, says: "Wall-mounted basins have long been the norm on the Continent, but the UK has been slow to catch on, largely due to the belief that a wall-hung basin is a lot trickier to install than a floor standing alternative – which is not true at all as long as the correct fittings are used."

For example, Duoline, a new system from Geberit, uses a metal frame bolted to the floor, which can be within or attached to the wall, and means a basin can be fixed to even a stud wall with no need for structural work.

Full height free-standing column basins can make an equally striking statement, although they can take up a fair amount of space.

Counter-top basins can solve this problem – especially if beneath the counter there is valuable storage space, providing a great way to keep clutter to a minimum, which is essential to create the chic, stylish spa-like bathroom inspired by luxury hotels.

Materials are varied, ranging from enamel, the most common type, to copper, glass, stone, plastic or even wood. We have scoured some of the top manufacturers and retailers to get an idea of what's available on the market.

At an impressive 1,480mm wide, the Goccia basin is made of K plan, a non-porous fusion of resins and minerals derived from aluminium. Price £2,280. 020 3375 9001, www.alternativebathrooms.com



Left: The Europa collection has wall or deck mounted basins, as well as bidets and WCs. This basin costs £204. 0845 201 1915, www.aquaplussolutions.com
Right: These striking basins are fitted using Geberit's Duoframe fixing system, connected both to the wall and floor. 0800 077 8365, www.geberit.co.uk



Left: The WT.RX column washstand is made from GlassedSteel, and is plumbed into the floor. Price £916. 02476 717129, www.alape.com
Middle: This wall-hung concrete washbasin is up to 1,200mm wide, and comes in grey, sand or black from In-House. 01661 842304, www.inhouseuk.net
Right: The Cava wall-mounted cloakroom basin has a lovely retro twist. Price £235. 0845 873 8840, www.bauhaus-bathrooms.co.uk



The Shui basin has a classic shape with a contemporary twist. It is made from BC Designs' own Cian material which has a solid colour throughout. Price £378. 01206 827100 www.bcdesigns.co.uk



For the ultimate in space saving, the Caroma integrated toilet and basin uses waste water from the basin to flush. Price £499.95. 0800 206 1680, www.boundarybathrooms.co.uk



Left: The chunky Trac Mini basin has an occasional towel holder beneath. From £285. 0845 470 2427, www.frontlinebathrooms.co.uk
Right: The Deco ceramic basin has a timeless elegance. From £720. 01708 526361, www.perrinandrowe.co.uk

Left: The free-standing Amberes sink can be installed against a wall or be a focal point in the centre of the room. 01530 830080, www.uk.roca.com
Right: The MH bowl is available in stainless steel, marble and black granite. Prices from £1,605. 01527 584244 www.waterfrontbathrooms.com



Left: The Riverstone basin, sourced from the riverbed and crafted by hand, comes in random sizes. Price from £360/m². 01993 824200, www.indigenoussltd.com
Middle: The Moove basin is crafted from white Techstone, a strong and versatile material. Price from £2,100. 01274 654700, www.jacuzzi.co.uk
Right: The translucent basin of the Ylang comes in one of 11 different colours. From £1,335. 0845 468 1100, www.aromabathjpd.com



Above: The Manhattan White modular furniture collection has glossy white doors and natural woodgrain. Shades 0845 127 5696, www.shadesfurniture.co.uk



Left: The Solo Euphrates basin from Heritage comes with a console as an option. Price £384. 0844 701 8501, www.heritagebathrooms.com
Right: The Axor Bouroullec Collection has a series of shelves for the handy storage of bathroom essentials. 01372 465655, www.hansgrohe.co.uk

Left: The high gloss finish of the black Morphosis basin makes for a sleek and stylish look. 01274 654700, www.jacuzzi.co.uk
Right: The iconic Tam Tam washbasin from Laufen is now available in a velvety matt grey. 01530 510007, www.laufen.co.uk

