

Spa Spectacular



Sibling design partners Jeffrey and Deborah Fisher of Jeffrey Fisher Home in Toronto created a stunning home-spa retreat to rival any you might find at a five-star resort.

By Jeffrey Fisher

The Shipyards in Collingwood, Ont., is a natural fit for families with active lives and a love of the outdoors. Set alongside beautiful Georgian Bay, the community offers views of not only the water but also the ski hills of Blue Mountain. Homeowners here spend lots of time outdoors and on the go, so it's no surprise that a soothing in-home retreat offering the total spa experience is a much-in-demand feature.

We recently had the pleasure of creating just such a retreat in a home we designed for one of the Shipyards' newest developments. Inspired by the luxury resort-style spas that we've seen on our travels, we embraced a sleek, modern esthetic to create a relaxing and efficient space. Achieving an ultra-spa look is easier than you might think. So whether you're renovating or simply updating your space, here are a few design ideas to get you started.



Soothing Sauna

Besides the luxurious walk-in shower, probably the most exciting feature in this in-home spa is the Canadian-manufactured home sauna. Made of 100 per cent toxin-free Ontario wood by SaunaRay, this plug-in unit requires no drains or vents and operates at a lower temperature than traditional super-hot saunas. This space allowed us to install a two-seater model, but there are other sizes available.



Design & Colour

Clean lines and a modern approach define the spa look. To achieve this look, we covered the walls and floors in 12- x 24-inch cross-cut Italian travertine tiles. The result is a soothing sand-and-coffee-colour wave pattern that gives visual interest. We stacked the tiles on the walls from floor to ceiling and laid the same-size tiles in a brick pattern on the floor.

Translucent 12- x 24-inch glass tiles in watery mineral green line the walls of the large glassed-in shower and separate water closet that houses the toilet. Changing the tile for these areas softened and brightened the space. The colours of the two tiles complement each other and create a classic spa feel.

The Comfort Factor

Radiant-heat floors are an essential part of any new in-home spa, and they're especially appreciated during cold Canadian winters. Vancouver-based Nuheat offers an electric floor heating system that can be installed under tile and laminate/engineered wood floors. Its newest product is the off-the-shelf Nuheat Shower Mat, which installs under tiled shower floors and can even be used to keep the chill off of tiled shower benches.



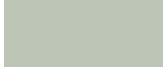
Vanity, Thy Name Is Vanity

White represents freshness and purity. And the rich mahogany vanity, topped with the white American Standard Boxe Tropic vessel sink and polished chrome Moen 90 Degree faucet, defines the clean, elegant look of the home spa. A simply framed mirror is flanked by chrome-accented sconces from Universal Lighting. These are set on dimmers to create just the right lighting, whether for applying makeup or relaxing in the sauna. Pot lights, also set on dimmers, illuminate the main area and shower stall.

The Added Touch

Finally, when accessorizing, don't forget spa touches like plush towels, a potted orchid and luxurious bath and body products. ■

The Fishers' Favourite Spa Colours:

-  Whalebone 6202-21
Sico
sico.ca
-  Feather Gray 2127 60
Benjamin Moore
benjaminmoore.com
-  Pale Powder No. 204
Farrow & Ball
farrow-ball.com



Get the look with quartz from Cambria's new Waterstone Collection. cambriacanada.com



Boxe Tropic Sink by American Standard. americanstandard.ca



The Nuheat Shower Mat installs easily under a tiled shower floor. nuheat.com

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The complete
spa experience is all
about comfort.

SOURCES (Room Design): **Wall Sconces:** Freeport Collection by Kichler (Kich45086PN), Universal Lighting, greatlighting.com.
Tiles: Elite Tile Imports, elitetile.com. **Sauna:** SaunaRay, saunaray.com. **Sink:** American Standard (Boxe Tropic Sink), americanstandard.ca.
Basin Faucet and Shower Fixtures: Moen (90 Degree chrome low arc bathroom faucet, 90 Degree chrome Moentrol tub/shower), moen.ca. **Vanity Countertop:** Cambria, cambriacanada.com. **Electric Floor Heating System:** NuHeat, nuheat.com.