

Hall Bath Guide

Shower,
Tub
or Both?

After



Before





Bathtub to shower conversions are among the hottest trends in bathroom remodeling today, and walk-in showers are often on the checklist of features prospective home buyers seek. On the other hand, permanently getting rid of a bathtub can be an intimidating decision to make during your bathroom remodel. Let's take a look at some of the pros and cons of this conversion.



The Pros: Showers Are Used More Frequently

Perhaps the best argument for converting your standard tub into a walk-in shower is a purely practical one: most Americans utilize their showers far more frequently than their tubs. While some homeowners are attracted to the idea of luxuriating in a steaming bath, the reality of a fast-paced, modern lifestyle is that showers are the preferred go-to option.

Before



After





The Pros: Showers Take up Less Square Footage

Another reason many homeowners are making the change is that since tubs are often entirely unused, they end up hogging valuable space, whereas walk-in showers are a much more effective use of square footage. Even looking beyond their smaller footprint, walk-in showers often increase a visual feel of spaciousness. Since the shower doors are glass, this continues the lines of sight to produce an open effect.

The Pros: Showers Are More Easily Accessible

Walk-in showers are also much more easily accessible than bathtubs, particularly for older or handicapped homeowners who may be tired of clambering over a bathtub wall to bathe. Features like built-in bench seats, grab bars and handheld shower heads make independent bathing possible.



The Pros: Showers Save Water

Because the average American takes 8-minute showers, showers also typically conserve more water than baths, which benefits the environment and lowers your utility bills. Since walk-in showers are attractive features for most home buyers, the conversion itself can also boost your home's resale value.



The Pros: Converting Provides the Opportunity for Additional Remodeling

Finally, making the switch from a standard tub to a walk-in shower will allow you the opportunity to address bathroom updates you've wanted to make for years. Maybe you're ready for new flooring with built-in heating, improved lighting, or a new exhaust fan. Need more storage space? Take the opportunity to upgrade your cabinetry. Whatever the case, the tub-to-shower conversion offers you the perfect opportunity to upgrade surrounding features.

Before & After!



The Cons: Young Families Regularly Use Bathtubs

The only real con to converting your standard bathtub to a walk-in shower is that younger families use tubs regularly for bathing children. So, if your home does not have a second bathtub, making the choice to convert to a walk-in shower should be made after careful consideration. Instead, consider replacing the dated shower surround and upgrading your bathtub and other fixtures.

Before



After





Closing Thoughts

If your home has more than one bathtub, then converting one bathtub into a walk-in shower is a no-brainer since it will increase functionality, make your home more attractive to buyers, and save you space and money. If you only have one bathtub, you may want to consider your long-term goals: Is this your forever home, and would you prefer a walk-in shower to a bathtub? Do you plan to resell, and would it be wise to wait on a conversion? To explore the answers to these questions, contact J&J Construction to discuss your bathroom remodeling project.