

Buying a Bathroom Sink

There are a lot of little decisions that go into choosing a new bathroom sink. To find a sink that expresses your style, you'll want to consider material, color, and shape, as well as installation type and your overall bathroom design. It's also important to consider who will use the sink and what for—just hand-washing, or will it be used for brushing teeth, shaving, and other personal care tasks? It's also a good idea to think about how the sink installation will impact cleaning.

Measuring Your Space

Sinks come in standard sizes that coordinate with standard countertop cutouts. Consider the size of the sink, and of the counter, too. Would you rather have a slightly smaller sink and more counter space or a bigger sink and less counter? For a pedestal sink rather than a vanity, you will need to ensure that it fits your space.

Evaluate Your Space

- Are you replacing your existing sink and working with the same footprint?
- Are you coordinating with a vanity or would you like a pedestal or console sink?
- If you're keeping an existing faucet, will it limit the height of the sink?
- Is your space plumbed for one or two sinks? If one, is it centered in the space or off to one side?
- Will your vanity accommodate the sink shape you prefer—round, oval, rectangle, or square?

How to Measure

If this is a simple replacement, measure the length, width, and height of your current sink and choose one with the same measurements.

Measure length from side to side and width from front to back. Where you measure will depend on the installation type. Be sure to refer to the specification sheet for exact dimensions.

Height and depth are two separate measurements. Height is the full measure taken on the exterior from top to bottom. Depth is the interior measure of the basin and the depth of water it will hold. Sinks with an overflow are measured from the deepest point to the overflow only.

Use and Function

The sink design should be compatible with how it will be used. A shallow statement sink may be best-suited to a powder room where hand-washing is the primary activity. For a busy family bathroom, a deeper sink that can work for face-washing, shaving, and other personal grooming tasks may make more sense.