

TIPS FOR COMFORTABLE BATHROOM

Once I had a client who came up to me and asked "is there any flexible bathtub?" When I asked back, "why would you need such a bathtub, not as if kids' play pool?" He responded "we want it big when bathing with others and small when bathing alone to save water." The response sounded quite reasonable so I gave much thought to it.

Poor thinking is futile, and a good sleep would rather bring us a bright idea like this time. Downsizing the bathtub can be compensated by upsizing the input to it. Heated stones can function also as a warmer, and putting some woodblocks might give you both a good lid and Goemon-taste experience. I was telling the client these ideas somewhat proudly, if I say so myself. These are still in the planing phase, but will be tried out when realized.

The size of the bath we want has been getting bigger and bigger. Bigger is always better... maybe not. For example, a 120cm-long bathtub in semi-Japanese, semi-western style can generally contain 270ℓ, so can 130cm-long 280~300ℓ. In other words, 1cm in length means 1-3L in capacity. It's all up to the number of your family member, the way you bathe, and how much you think about the energy consumption.

Probably bath is the most humid and mildew-able space in the house. Mildew on the tile joints is dirty and hard to remove. Some people would like to hide it with colored tiles, while others would prefer white ones to make it easy to notice. To build a mildew-free bathroom is the best answer but many people would give it up for some reasons.

I have installed a skylighted bath before. It was bright, clean, and therefore mildew-free, though it was on the northern part of the house. It is used as a drying room sometimes. Two windows (one above the other, or kitty-cornered) and a sufficient ventilation will greatly help prevent mildew, though the criterion might slightly change according to the surrounding environment.

Bath is basically a place for naked bodies. Taking into account hygiene and safety aspects as well, we hopefully make a bath that washes away our troubles in this floating world.