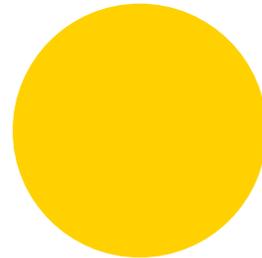


IMPROVEMENT CENTER



Water Closet Product Guide

Water closets: the often-ignored bathroom fixtures

Tubs, vanity tops, and faucets receive much of the fanfare during a bathroom renovation, but what about the fixture that may receive the most use when your project is complete? The water closet -- or toilet as it is more commonly known to everyone outside of the plumbing industry -- is often forgotten when bathroom decor is being discussed. However, what many people don't know is that water closets are available in numerous styles, configurations, and even different colors. While you may not want a water closet to be the focal point of your bathroom, there's no reason why it can't complement the room's overall appearance.



Water closet configuration options

What configuration options do you have when choosing a new toilet for your bathroom? Don't feel bad if you can't name any -- for many people a toilet is a toilet -- what else is there to know? However, manufacturers now offer options that can make your water closet easier to use and clean and even help you save water. Here are a few features to consider when planning your bathroom renovation:

1. **Height.** Standard water closets are normally less than 17 inches tall at the seat, but if you're reaching the age where your back might appreciate a break, consider installing a taller model. Most manufacturers offer toilets that at 17 to 19 inches are considered a little taller than standard and might be ideal for a bathroom used primarily by adults.



2. **Bowl shape.** Elongated, round or compact-elongated -- which is the right shape for you and your bathroom? Elongated bowls are thought to be more comfortable for adults, but are about two inches longer than the round bowls children often prefer. If space is an issue in an adult-only bathroom, consider using a compact-elongated water closet.
3. **Water usage.** Whether you want to help save the environment or just lower your water bills, a dual flush water closet allows control of how much water is used every time the fixture is used. One setting is perfect for liquid wastes and a second is used for solids. Using the liquid waste setting might reduce your water usage by up to 30 percent each year over a standard flush toilet.

While these are the primary configuration choices, many manufacturers also offer options such as assisted flushing, one piece construction, and models that include bidet functions.

A water closet for every remodeling budget

Whether you're remodeling on a tight budget or have set out to create the bathroom of your dreams, there are many water closet options. Consider some of these for your project:

1. Standard water closet. These budget-friendly toilets don't have a lot of frills but get the job done. Most have two-piece construction and are available in either elongated or round bowl styles. Expect to pay in a range of \$225 to \$400 for these economical fixtures.
2. Mid-range toilets. Paying a little more allows you to add styling features to the bowl and tank and one-piece construction which can be easier to clean. Manufacturers often offer numerous color options such as black, sand or grey in this price range. Prices range from about \$800 to \$1,500 for a mid-range toilet.



3. Luxury water closets. If you're going all out on your bathroom renovation, why not splurge on a state-of-the-art water closet? Toilets in this range often offer bidet functions, dual-flushing capability and many other features not found on lower-priced models. Of course, a luxury water closet comes with a luxury price. You can typically pay from \$3,000 to \$6,000 for one these models.

Regardless of your budget, there's a water closet that can enhance your bathroom remodeling project.