

*BATHROOMS, ONE OF THE MOST PERSONAL SPACES IN ANY HOME, ARE PERFECT FOR RELAXING AND UNWINDING FROM EVERYDAY LIFE— ESPECIALLY WHEN ENHANCED WITH SPA-LIKE AMENITIES*

# SOAKING — IN — STYLE

STORY **IRENE RAWLINGS**

## **MONTANA MINIMALISM**

The glass-enclosed soaking tub encourages relaxation. Floor-to-ceiling windows frame expansive views and bring the outdoors in; the surrounded woodland provides privacy. "A heated floor, the fenestration, the Japanese-style soaking tub ... it is all about comfort and simplicity," says interior designer Susie Hoffmann of Bozeman, Montana-based Envi Interior Design Studio. (See more of this bath on following pages.)

PHOTO AUDREY HALL

**I**t all started in 1883 when John Michael Kohler (yes, that Kohler) created the modern bathtub by attaching four decorative feet to the bottom of a cast-iron horse trough and coating it all with enamel. Aspen's Hotel Jerome (built in 1889) was an early adopter—advertising hot and cold running water in its bathrooms. Fast-forward to today: We travel, stay in hotels with luxurious en suite baths and bring these ideas home. The result? Spacious rooms with heated floors, rainfall showers, deep soaking tubs and big windows that frame majestic mountain views. >>



SOAKING IN STYLE

# MONTANA MINIMALISM

>> Straight lines, simple forms (anchored by an oversize rectangular Japanese-style soaking tub from Zuma) and floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the Spanish Peaks are the key design elements in this serene-and-stylish bath in a very contemporary home in Big Sky, Montana's Yellowstone Club. "The views are everything," says interior designer Susie Hoffmann, principal and owner of Envi Interior Design Studio in Bozeman, Montana. "Some people are uneasy with so much glass in a bath, but the surrounding woodland provides complete privacy." Each design choice emphasizes symmetry, restraint and limited ornamentation, choosing, instead, to celebrate a beneficial connection with nature. "You feel as if you could walk right outside," says Hoffmann. A monochromatic palette of muted white-on-white (Mosa stone tile), metal, glass, and wood deliberately does not compete with the colors and views. Hidden storage keeps the counters clutter-free. The floating walnut vanity and the sleek (heated) floors contribute to the room's simplicity. >>

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