

Memorable May newsletter



Thinking Big when your Bathroom is Small

Do you have little spaces and BIG ideas? You're not alone. Here's how to maximize every inch of space in a small bathroom—turning it into an oasis all its own.

If you're not quite ready for a wrecking crew but want to make your small bathroom appear bigger, try these tips and tricks for upsizing your space:

1. Use light, airy colors to open it up. Save dark colors for larger rooms.
2. Paint the door the same color as the walls, and add mirrors to create the illusion of depth.
3. Consider a slim shower stall to replace a bulky tub.
4. New tile can enhance the aesthetics of any room. Talk to your home center professional or trusted contractor to see the wide variety of beautiful textures and colors available today.
5. Clear out the clutter! A small space is no place for knickknacks and trinkets. One or two small, warm additions will pop much more than a menagerie of dust collectors.
6. Replace oversized cabinetry or outdated furniture with simple, sleek designs that provide needed storage without overwhelming your space.
7. Crown molding painted the same color as the ceiling adds size and depth to your ceiling.
8. Consider a pedestal sink to replace a bulky, outdated one. You will immediately open up much-coveted floor space.
9. Speaking of flooring, light colors work best here, too. Cool tiles, a light, natural wood or even a neutral vinyl will add a fresh look to an old room.
10. Light the way with new fixtures. If you choose a light, neutral color palette for the rest of the bathroom, this might be just the key to adding a splash of accent color and bright light. Many older homes and small bathrooms have limited lighting, which can add to that cramped feeling. Let the light in with beautiful new fixtures!



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Making a Memorable Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13. Here are some creative ways to make lasting memories for the wonderful mothers in your life:

- 1. Make a memory jar.** Cut some colorful strips of paper, and have siblings, neighbors and friends each write a memory they share with your mom. Put all of the memories in a beautiful jar, and tell her that she can either read them with all of you beside her or enjoy them when she's alone and in a reflective mood.
- 2. Picture this!** With so many photo-editing software programs available, making a video montage for your mom has never been simpler. Ask your local media store specialist for the latest software designed to make your memories magical!
- 3. Book it!** Choose a beautifully bound journal to scribe your most cherished memories, or purchase a scrapbook to mix photos with the written word. Either will be cherished for generations.
- 4. Travel time.** As the years go by, we all get caught up in the events and busy work of our own lives and children. Most moms would love to capture just a snippet of time with their grown children. Take the time for just you and your mom to travel for a day, a weekend or a whole week. Spend the hours catching up, laughing out loud or visiting old haunts. It will be a time remembered forever.
- 5. Pass it on.** As a gift to generations of moms and moms-yet-to-be, create a legacy for the women in your family by starting a Mother's Day tradition of charitable goodwill. Donating in your family name can make a lasting impact and build a foundation for philanthropy that will carry from parent to child for years to come.

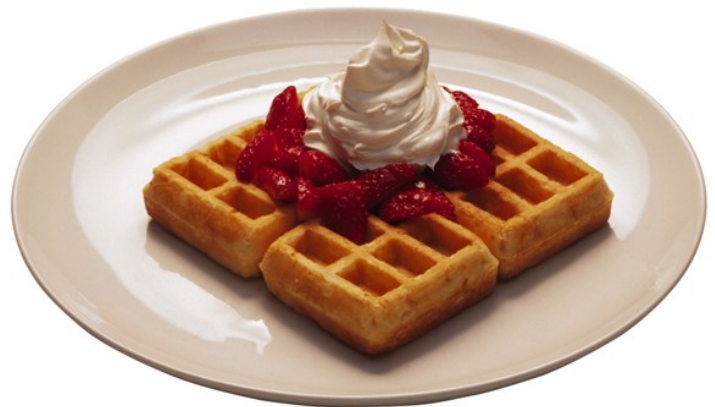


Beautiful Belgian Waffles

Treat mom and the rest of the family with this delicious brunch classic!

Ingredients:

- 2 cups cake flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 4 large eggs, separated
- 2 tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 4 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
- 2 cups milk
- non-stick cooking spray



Preheat waffle iron according to manufacturer's directions. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl and set aside. In a second bowl, use a wooden spoon to beat egg yolks and sugar until sugar is completely dissolved and eggs have turned a pale yellow. Add vanilla extract, melted butter and milk to eggs, and whisk to combine. Combine contents of both bowls, and whisk just until blended. In a third bowl, beat the egg whites with an electric mixer about 1 minute, until soft peaks form. Gently fold egg whites into waffle batter with rubber spatula. Do not over-mix! Coat waffle iron with non-stick cooking spray, and pour enough batter onto iron to just cover waffle grid. Close and cook per manufacturer's directions until golden brown, about 2 to 3 minutes. Top with fresh berries and a dollop of whipped cream. Serve immediately.

Real Estate tips

brought to you by
Mandie M. Spudich



According to the National Association of REALTORS® 2006 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, the most commonly used information sources when searching for a new home are:

- Real estate agent - 85%
- Internet - 80%
- Yard sign - 63%
- Newspaper - 55%
- Open house - 47%

- Home book/magazine - 34%
- Builders - 26%
- Television - 11%
- Relocation company - 5%

How will you search for *your* next home? If you are like most people, you will turn to a real estate professional for guidance. I would be happy to show you the homes that are available in your area, share new information regarding mortgage options and keep you posted on the very latest trends that can affect the way you buy or sell a home. Whatever you need, I am here to help. Call any time!

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE:

- Comparative Home Analysis
- Merchandising Review
- List of Properties
- Mortgage Options Analysis
- For Sale By Owner Kit
- LISTING GUARANTEE

Take Five! Handy Household Tips

1. Have a grimy toilet but no time to scrub? Simply drop a couple of Alka Seltzer tablets in the bowl, let fizz for 10 minutes, then wipe the scum away! The fizzing action works as a powerful cleaning agent, so you don't have to.
2. To deter mosquitoes from biting, splash plain rubbing alcohol on yourself and allow it to dry. If ticks are the worry, put some Vick's Vaporub® on your pants and legs to ward them off.
3. Remove acid buildup on your car battery by sprinkling baking soda on the battery terminals. Spritz with water to dampen, and let set for about an hour. Sponge off with water, and air dry.
4. Rejuvenate feather pillows by tumbling them in a cool dryer for about 10 minutes. Make them extra fresh by adding a cloth dampened with fabric softener to the dryer.
5. Grind a cup of uncooked rice in your coffee grinder every now and then to clean the grinder and sharpen its blades.





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I'm here to take your dreams from Concept to
Close!

Honoring All Moms

For all of the mothers in our world. From the brand-spanking-new moms to the still-yet-to-bes, from the any-day-now moms to those who have been around the block... let us all give thanks.

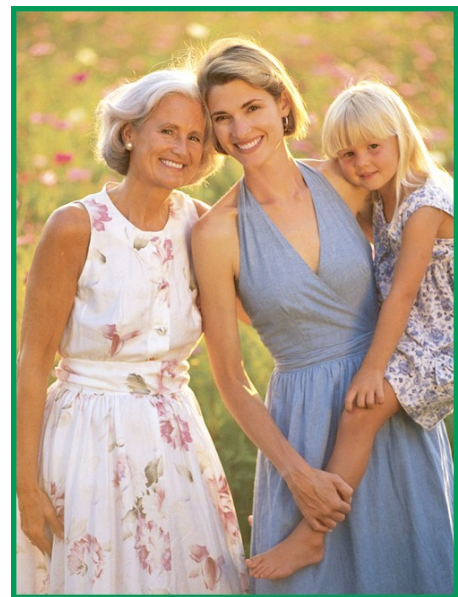
It is their spirit that guides our worlds. It is their heart that brings us home. It is their words that heal our heartaches. It is their arms that comfort us at any time, at any age.

Mothers are the foundation under our feet. They are the small voice inside our heads helping us sort right from wrong. They are the courage that drives us to be more, achieve more, believe more than we ever thought possible.

Celebrate all of the wonderful moms in your life, in our lives, this month.

Happy Mother's Day, all! Whatever you need, whenever you need it, I am here.

Be well.



An Equal Housing Opportunity Broker. If Your House is Currently Listed, This is Not Intended As a Solicitation. This newsletter is intended for informational purposes only. No reader should rely solely on the information contained herein, as it does not purport to be comprehensive or to render specific advice.

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