

Bathroom Sinks

The sink is the most frequently used fixture in the bathroom, so consider its placement carefully. Allow at least 2 1/2 ft. in front of the sink to move around comfortably. Bathroom sinks generally sit 31 to 36 in. above the floor; 34 to 36 in. is usually most comfortable.

For a large master bath, create a washbasin area, separated from toilet and shower. Treat yourself to two sinks, placed at least 2 ft. apart.

Most bathroom sinks are mounted in a vanity cabinet. You can buy vanities with sinks already built in, or buy them separately. Deck-mount sinks drop into a vanity countertop. Integral bowl-and-countertop units sit on top of vanities. They're often made of synthetic marble or solid-surface plastic.

Small bathrooms get by with a wall-mounted or pedestal sink. These are made of vitreous china or enameled cast-iron or steel. A drawback: they have limited surface area for soaps and toiletries, and no storage space below. A pedestal sink conceals the plumbing.