



The renovation of a Chicago brownstone included the transformation of its primary bath into a relaxing haven, complete with a spacious walk-in shower, a soaking tub, and an indoor sauna. The homeowners travel often and wanted the space to replicate the luxury baths of their favorite hotels. Think creature comforts such as high thread-count towels, sensory experiences like aromatherapy steam showers, and style-forward material selections. "The goal was to feel an influence of hospitality design in the comfort and amenities," says Centered by Design's Claire Staszak."My job was to blend a traditional, tranquil aesthetic with tech-forward, clean, and contemporary design."

◆ Expansive Double Shower
The homeowners liked the looks of large wet rooms, but envisioned a wet mess for everyday use. Designer Claire Staszak created an oversize double shower—complete with two rainfall showerhead systems. Floor-to-ceiling glass (cut and clipped together for the doors) and a curb (made of Calacatta marble and topped with quartzite) keeps water under control. The soaking tub sits outside the enclosure as the room's centerpiece.

"The space is cleanfeeling, like a modern hotel's bath. We were thoughtful with details: sensory add-ons and sophisticated fixtures."

—CLAIRE STASZAK, INTERIOR DESIGNER



High-Tech Lights
The bath's lights,
controlled by a wall
keypad, dim for unwinding
or brighten for hotelworthy illumination. Near
the vanities, a wall hook
made of backlit alabaster
glows as a soft nightlight.

The teak sauna wasn't a laborious or expensive addition to the renovation, Staszak says. Its plumbing and electrical needs just called for some preconstruction planning. The amenity has become a respite for the owners, parents of two young boys.