

SUBWAY SUPERSTAR

Tiles go the extra mile in this breathtaking boys’ bathroom.

The brief

“From the beginning I had a curved ceiling in mind; I loved the idea of a subway vibe,” says Bonnie Hindmarsh, co-founder and creative director of Three Birds Renovations and designer and owner of this Sydney bathroom. Shared by two of her four sons, the space had to be playful yet still fit in with the muted tones used throughout the rest of the home.

The design

Running the tiles across the ceiling was crucial to achieving the subway-station feel, says Bonnie. She chose simple subway tiles in a mix of pale blue and white, in both gloss and matt finishes. The challenge for her tilers was to lay them in a ‘no pattern’ arrangement. Featuring three Faucet Strommen showers, the shower enclosure is big enough for the boys to all jump in at once. Its glass shower screen proved one of the more challenging elements because of the bathroom’s curved ceiling, but Viridian was able to provide a custom-cut door. The vanity features a Caesarstone top and a simple, handle-free cabinet. At the opposite end of the bathroom, set on marble penny rounds that flow over the ceiling, is a freestanding bath, chosen for its simple lines. It’s teamed with a Caroma floor-mounted bath filler and whimsical ‘Frost 10 Light’ chandelier in Brushed Chrome from Beacon Lighting. “I wanted to make sure this bathroom felt ‘boyish’ but elegant enough to not be defined as a space just for children. It will always work for them, regardless of their ages.” ▶

“I was after a slimline vanity that was no fuss – just like my boys!” quips Bonnie. “But I didn’t want it to look plain, so I opted for deep grooves in the drawer fronts.”

“I had planned clear glass for this window, but my husband convinced me that the boys wouldn’t want their mum looking in while hanging out the washing. So I made a late change and chose decorative ‘Scala’ glass from Viridian.”

Styling by Bonnie Hindmarsh (main image) & Kayla Gex (bath). Photography by Chris Warnes (main image) & Maree Homer (bath).

✦ “The tiles are gorgeous but really quite simple. They’re a standard subway shape with a pressed edge that isn’t dead straight, which is what I love about them. The powdery-blue tiles are glossy and the white ones are matt.”

THE DETAILS

Tiles ‘Crayon Bianco’ matt and ‘Crayon Azzurro’ gloss 75x300mm ceramic tiles, from \$90/m², and ‘Carrara White’ marble penny round mosaics, from \$30/305x288mm sheet, all National Tiles.

Vanity Custom vanity in Dulux White on White with Caesarstone Statuario Maximus top, \$4169, Carrera By Design.

Bath, basin and tapware ‘Contura’ 1700mm solid-surface freestanding bath, \$4150, ‘Contura’ bath filler, from \$1427, ‘Pin Lever’ gooseneck basin mixer, from \$308, and ‘Quinn’ 570mm square under-counter basin, \$478, all Caroma.

Showerheads ‘Pegasi’ overhead shower, \$510, and ‘Cascade’ gooseneck showers, \$431/each, Faucet Strommen.

Mirror ‘Flynn’ mirror, from \$449, Oz Design Furniture.

Three Birds Renovations; threebirdsrenovations.com

THE PALETTE

Get the look with these beautiful materials.

Dulux White on White painted cabinetry

‘Carrara White’ penny round mosaics

‘Crayon Azzurro’ subway tiles

THREE OF A KIND: SHOWERHEADS

FROM LEFT ‘Icon’ showerhead and ceiling-mounted arm, \$488, Astra Walker. ‘Neu England’ shower rose and ceiling dropper, \$402, Brodware Industries. Posh ‘Canterbury’ showerhead and arm in Chrome, \$269, Reece.