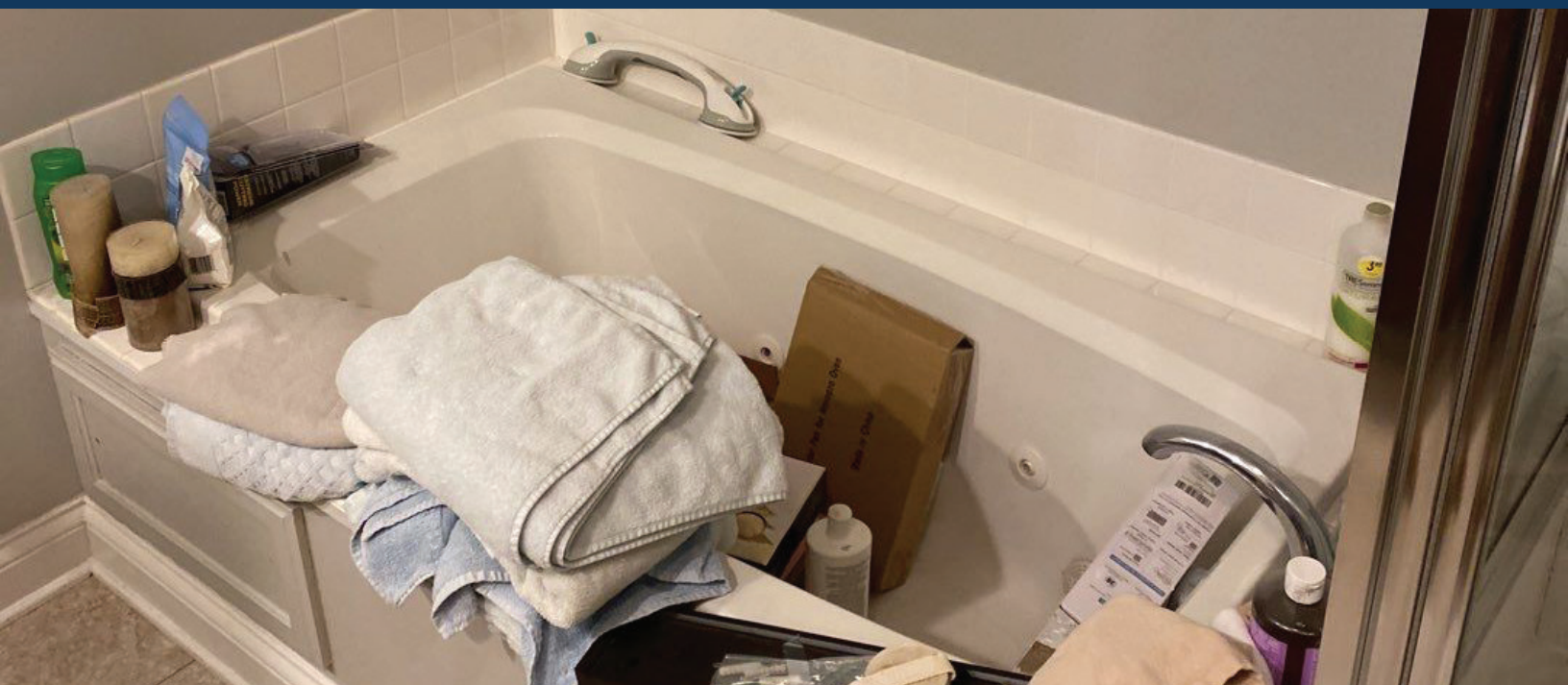


5 Reasons Garden Tubs Are the Most Wasteful Part of Your Home



Garden tubs waste more than just space. See what your master bathroom can become with an easy garden tub removal.



Garden tubs used to be considered a luxury for their deep soaking space, hydrotherapy jets, and elaborate tile surrounds. Today, these features no longer fit with homeowners' needs or style preferences. And as it turns out, garden tubs are incredibly wasteful.

From wasted space to wasted money, there are five main reasons that garden tubs are no longer beneficial to have in the home. (These also happen to be the top reasons we remove and replace garden tubs every day!)

If you're dealing with one or more of these five issues, you're in luck. The following pages show some of the **most popular floorplan changes you can achieve by replacing your garden tub** with a bathing space that works better for you and your family.

PROBLEM 1

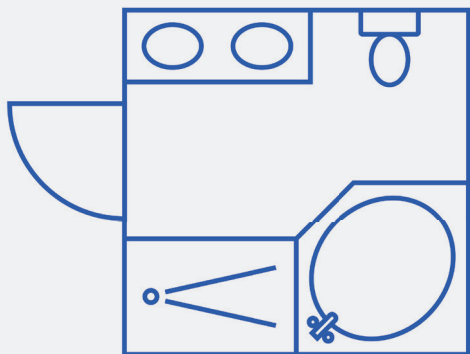
Wasted Space

An oversized soaking tub surrounded by bulky framing and tile gives the *appearance* of a luxurious built-in bath, but it's actually costing you valuable floor space.

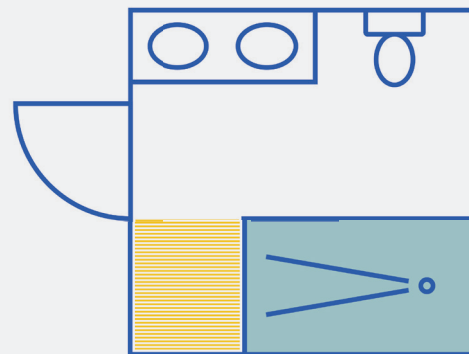
Compared to a standard bathtub that measures 15 square feet, a corner garden tub can take up as much as 25 square feet of your bathroom! According to a recent survey from YouGov, that extra 10 square feet of space is dedicated to a bathroom fixture that's used just once a week or less.

What a waste!

Replacing your garden tub with a walk-in shower – or removing it altogether – creates great opportunities to gain square footage within your existing bathroom *without* the expense and mess of changing the bathroom footprint.



Say goodbye to...
THE TUB YOU DON'T USE



And say hello to...
EXTRA STORAGE SPACE!

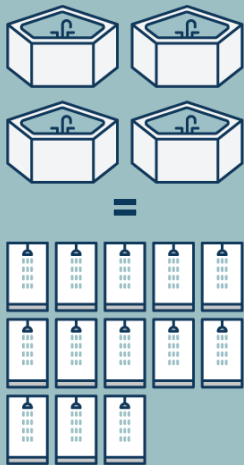
PROBLEM 2

Excess Water Use

Their large size puts garden tubs at a second disadvantage: they use *considerably* more water than necessary for bathing.

Compared to an average 65 gallon capacity for a standard bathtub, corner garden tubs can hold 85, 96, or sometimes more than 100 gallons of water! Meanwhile, a 10-minute shower with a standard 2.5 gallon-per-minute showerhead will give you plenty of time to get perfectly clean using just 25 gallons of water.

LET'S DO SOME BATH MATH:



For every 4 soaks you take in a garden tub, the same amount of water could be used for 5 soaks in a standard tub – or 13 showers.

An average garden tubs holds about 20% more water than an average standard tub.

A 10-minute shower uses about 60% less water than a standard tub, and 70% less than a garden tub.



PROBLEM 3

Difficult to Get In & Out Of

As homeowners plan to live in their homes longer, we receive frequent requests to update bathrooms for both style *and* safety. In these cases, garden tubs are among the first fixtures to be cut from bathroom layouts.

Because of their size, garden tubs are more like small swimming pools than bathtubs. And while some designs have steps or seats built into their surrounds, garden tubs (unlike swimming pools) almost *never* have handrails or grab bars to provide safe balancing while getting in and out of the tub.

Bathroom slip-and-falls cause 78,000 injuries in the U.S. every year, contributing to bathrooms ranking as the second most dangerous room in the house (behind kitchens).

With this in mind, garden tubs are not a good choice for safe bathroom designs. A well-designed walk-in shower, or a walk-in tub, are much better solutions when safety is a priority.

PROBLEM 4

Difficult to Clean

Challenges getting in and out of the tub extend to cleaning these bathroom behemoths, which may require even more attention if they're outfitted with jets.

Effectively cleaning a garden tub means awkwardly reaching over the bulky surround (and sometimes climbing in!) to reach all areas of the tub. In order to clean jetted tubs, the tub must be filled high enough to submerge the jets so a cleaning solution can be added to the water and run through the internal tubing. If you skip this step, you'll end up with flakes of moldy sediment flushed into your tub next time you want to take a bath. **Gross!**

Not only is all of this inconvenient and difficult, but filling the tub halfway just to clean it is even more wasted water to account for. What a pain! Garden tubs definitely don't have an "easy clean" factor like standard tubs and walk-in showers do.





PROBLEM 5

Outdated Style

Garden tubs were once viewed as luxury amenities because of how substantial they appeared. The built-in designs, elaborate surrounds, jets, and other features had an air of indulgence that many homeowners desired, especially in the 1980s and 90s.

Of course, times change, design styles go with them, and the time for garden tubs has passed.

Today's aesthetic focuses much more on minimalist designs and clean lines without being stark or plain. The result is bathrooms that are comfortable, functional, and – most importantly – **timeless**.



What Could You Do with Extra Space in Your Bathroom?

Garden tubs have a lot working against them and, as we frequently hear from homeowners, not enough advantages to make them worth keeping. Many of our customers tell us their unused garden tubs are now just where they keep dirty laundry baskets and bulk toilet paper packages. That's definitely not the intended use of that space!

You already know it's time to replace your, bulky, inaccessible, wasteful garden tub with a space that's truly useful to your home – but what could that be? When you design your new bathroom, the options are endless!

Here are 8 Ideas
You Can Steal to
*Create Your Dream
Bathroom:*



1. ELBOW ROOM

If your garden tub simply makes your master bathroom too cramped, removing the tub and leaving the space open is an ideal solution. Especially true if you share your master bathroom with a significant other, the extra room to move around can make getting ready easier in the morning and before bed.

2. A BETTER BATH OR SHOWER

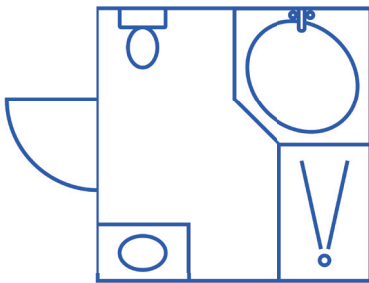
Bathtubs aren't all bad! A standard size bathtub can usually replace a garden tub with room to spare. This is a great option if you enjoy taking baths, but want to save water and space. No need for the tub? Expand your existing shower area to something more stylish and suitable to your current and future needs.

3. LINEN CLOSET

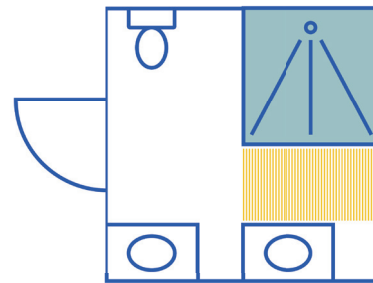
A popular option for garden tub removal projects is to frame out the open space to accommodate a linen closet. This is a wonderful option for bathrooms with too little storage, or if you want to supplement storage that already exists. Rather than a built-in linen closet, choosing a beautiful armoire or other piece of furniture is another way to add storage with style in this newfound space.

4. VANITY OR MAKEUP TABLE

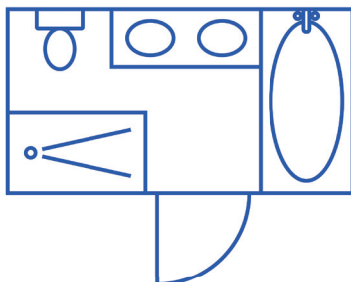
Standalone vanities are another option for adding furniture, function, and style to your master bathroom. Choose an antique makeup table, mirror, and stool for a more decorative design, or sleek, modern fixtures for an updated look.



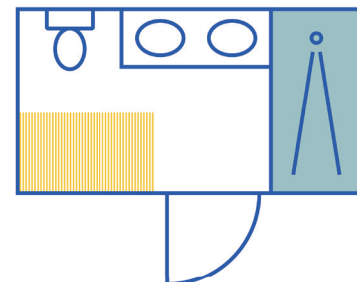
Say goodbye to...
A CRAMPED BATHROOM



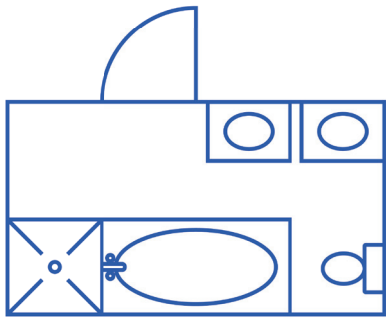
And say hello to...
A BEAUTIFUL NEW VANITY



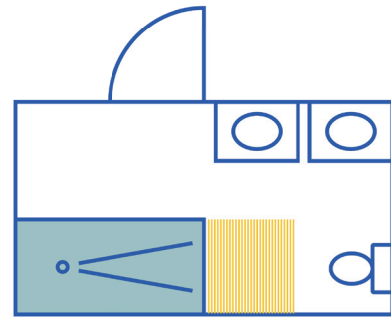
Say goodbye to...
YOUR CRAMPED SHOWER



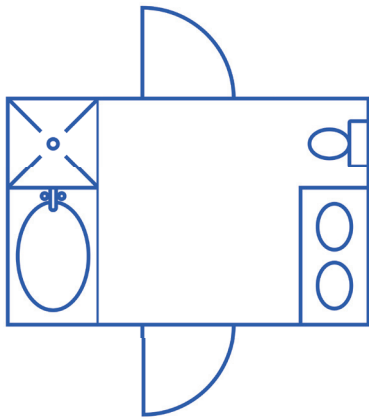
And say hello to...
15FT² MORE SPACE & A WALK IN SHOWER



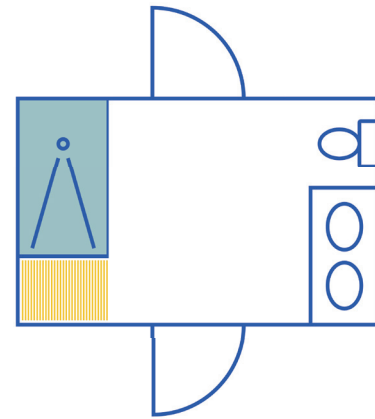
Say goodbye to...
A CRAMPED BATHROOM



And say hello to...
10FT² MORE SPACE TO MOVE AROUND



Say goodbye to...
A SMALL SHOWER



And say hello to...
A PLACE FOR YOUR PETS

5. DRESSING AREA

Many garden tub spaces feature windows that make them ideal for applying makeup or simply getting dressed in the morning. Why not make your former garden tub corner your new dressing area? Treat yourself to decorative hangers and hooks where you can plan your outfit and accessories for the next day and make getting ready a breeze.

6. BENCH SEATING WITH STORAGE

Combine storage and dressing area ideas by adding a storage banquette with a cushion to your bathroom. Again, this could be a built-in or standalone piece depending on your needs. A storage bench is a great place to store extra toilet paper, shampoo bottles, and more, and the seating space is an easy place to dry off after a shower or finish getting ready for the day.

7. LAUNDRY AREA

Has your unused garden tub become a glorified laundry basket? Create a real laundry sorting space right where you need it by adding rolling laundry baskets and other utility carts to your bathroom. A dedicated laundry station makes it easy to corral dirty clothes and keep detergents, stain removers, and other clothing care needs easily on hand.

8. PET CARE CORNER

Fido and Fluffy deserve attention too! Even a small amount of reclaimed space can be plenty to accommodate a litter box (which many homeowners already keep in their bathroom area). If you have a larger footprint to fill, food dishes, kennels, and pet beds can also fit well in the master bath.

Your Best Solution:

If you're craving more space or thinking about enlarging your master bathroom, **the square footage you're looking for already exists in the footprint of your unused, outdated garden tub.** Removing that tub can help you reclaim 20 square feet or more of floor space that you can customize to suit your lifestyle!



The Improveit team is ready to help you get started today. **Call 855-931-2120** to finally make your garden tub a thing of the past, and start realizing the dream bathroom you've always wanted!