

Most homeowners follow the theory that bathrooms benefit from light and bright colours to make them look clean and spacious.

Jenna and Paul Sims didn't follow the rules. When they moved into their new builder's spec house, Jenna knew that the bathrooms needed more personality. Rather than go to the expense of changing tiles and fittings, she gave both the main bathroom and the ensuite an instant transformation with dark Resene Half Fuscous Grey walls.

Jenna's sister had used the full strength version of the colour, and Jenna loved it. Using the colour as a feature wall was an obvious solution to both bathrooms, one behind the bath, and the other is the wall you see as you look through the walk-in wardrobe from the bedroom. The other walls in both bathrooms are in Resene Double Black White.

Says Jenna: "The ensuite gets a lot of light so I knew a dark colour would work, and not overwhelm or close in the space. It's also an easy colour to accessorise as it goes with just about any other colour you'd like to use." At the moment, the ensuite is accessorised in soft turquoise and the main bathroom in fresh green.

"The colour has totally lifted both rooms and given warmth to what were quite sterile rooms. Paul wasn't convinced about the edge of brown that you get in the half strength of Resene Fuscous Grey – it's quite different in that respect to the full strength version but it really enhances the grain effect in the tiles."

Jenna is a master at finding stunning looking accessories at reasonable prices. The towel ladder in the ensuite is from Kmart, for example, and the green vases in the main bathroom are from Spotlight.

Both the ensuite (above) and the main bathroom (right) were given a colour facelift with Resene Half Fuscous Grey feature walls.

pictures Bryce Carleton

Resene Half Fuscous Grey

Resene Double Black White

