

THE

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Dialogue with a Designer



Sheffield House Design Inspired By
A Passion For Design, Art, And Learning



Dialogue with a Designer

Victoria Sheffield of Sheffield House Design

BATHS OF AMERICA opened its doors in January 2005 when brothers Ali and Zeeshan Sultanali decided to start selling plumbing and tiles to the Houston market. Baths of America focuses on customer service and partners only with brands offering quality products and customer service. In addition to plumbing, Baths of America now offers door and cabinet hardware, major appliances, cabinetry, and countertops. It has turned into a one-stop shop for designers, builders, and architects, offering the latest designs and trends in the market.

This month **BATHS OF AMERICA** speaks with Victoria Sheffield, principle of Sheffield House Design. Victoria Sheffield began her design career in commercial projects for healthcare and higher education after graduating from the University of Houston. Following a break to raise her children, she returned in 2008 as a consultant and later founded Victoria Sheffield Design in 2016, handling both new builds and remodels. Now rebranded as Sheffield House Design, Victoria continues to lead a passionate team into an exciting new chapter, inspired by her lifelong love for design, art, and learning.

BATHS OF AMERICA: What motivated you to enter interior design?

Victoria Sheffield: My mother worked with an interior designer when I was a child, and I recall how much fun she had working with him as he came up with beautiful and creative solutions for our home.

BATHS OF AMERICA: How has the field of interior design changed since you graduated?

Victoria Sheffield: There is a great deal of emphasis on technology, sustainability and wellness focused design in the industry now. Our team embraces these evolutions enthusiastically within our design proposals.

BATHS OF AMERICA: How can an experienced interior designer help a custom home builder or a remodeling contractor with their building or remodeling projects?

Victoria Sheffield: An experienced interior designer can anticipate the questions and deliverables required by the contractor and will work closely with the client to document their design needs appropriately.

BATHS OF AMERICA: What sets you apart from other designers?

Victoria Sheffield: Our core values set us apart from our colleagues in the industry. We each have a unique set of skills that compliment the other team members, but we



operate under one Vision. Our core values unite us and keep us working towards the same goals!

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What has been your most challenging project and why?*

Victoria Sheffield: Our most challenging project is a residence in Bellaire that is a spec home purchased by the client. The client came to us to add their personal style and color! We introduced applications that we haven't specified before, but we collaborated with our vendor partners to provide beautiful and safe solutions.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How do you begin the materials selection process when working with builders' and remodelers' clients?*

Victoria Sheffield: Our team starts with a "Design Jam" after gathering information during the Programming phase of the Design Process. We gather materials such as counter materials, plumbing finishes, lighting finishes, fabrics, and paint samples.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What are some common mistakes builders and homeowners make?*

Victoria Sheffield: Many clients assume that making design decisions is easy and fun during a new construction process or renovation. Often, we are hired after construction has commenced because clients have reached "decision-fatigue." However, this proposes a stressful

challenge for all parties involved, as design solutions and selections are now rushed or construction is delayed during the design process.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *Speaking about staying current, how do you keep yourself up to date with all the design trends happening in the industry today?*

Victoria Sheffield: When possible, we attend CEU's, manufacturers' launch events and trade or professional organization events such as KBIS, ASID Gather, or Design Expos.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What fascinates you, and how have you incorporated that into your designs?*

Victoria Sheffield: My personal favorite is contemporary with eclectic textures and layers. However, our team have their own personal favorites, which makes them equipped to provide versatile designs for our clients!

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How would you characterize your style?*

Victoria Sheffield: Our projects' styles are directly influenced by our diverse clients, while paying homage to Houston's urban and eclectic aesthetic.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What would be your recommendation for "what to do first" in a decorating project when working with the builders and/or homeowners?*



Victoria Sheffield: I recommend scheduling a consultation with the homeowner first. If the builder is making the introduction, all three parties can attend the consultation, so expectations and budgets can be established. And chemistry is important, so everyone needs to feel comfortable working with each other for the next few months.

Collaboration between contractors, vendors, and designers is essential for a well-executed project. Clients benefit from a cohesive network of experts united by a shared commitment to quality and excellence.



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Victoria Sheffield

