



## CRISP AND CONTEMPORARY

DESIGNER: **TOM SANTARSIERO, ULRICH, RIDGEWOOD**

PHOTOGRAPHER: **PETER RYMWID**

When designer Tom Santarsiero of Ulrich says he likes to have his hand in lots of different things, he means it literally. The one-time cabinetmaker and carpenter regularly lends a hand on-site with custom-crafted cabinetry and millwork.

He has an eye for the subtle details that can transform an ordinary bathroom into an extraordinary one. For this existing master bathroom in Wyckoff, Santarsiero first addressed its architectural challenges, adding beams across the vaulted ceiling to bring a better sense of balance and scale to the room without obstructing the skylight.

Envisioning a clean, calm-looking space, Santarsiero chose a single material — honed Carrara marble from Wayne Tile in Ramsey — and used it throughout the space, in variety of shapes and sizes, to create harmony. On the wall behind the vanity, he installed tiles vertically with an offset of their length between courses to make an understated design statement.

“You usually see them horizontally, offset by half their length, but this is much more interesting,” he says.

On the floor, classic hexagonal tiles float within a border around the room. For color contrast, he introduced a walnut vanity with a traditional shaker-style cabinet in “Sable Nogal,” a deep rich shade of brown, by Draper DBS. A trio of modern polished nickel sconces by O’Lampia Studio Inc. in New York City, chosen by the homeowner, cast a soft glow on the honed countertop, which features a pair of polished chrome faucets by Grohe.

To create more storage space, Santarsiero replaced a large, seldom-used whirlpool bathtub with a smaller regular tub by Kohler and tucked an armoire-style cabinet, designed to resemble a freestanding piece of furniture, behind the door. Above the tub, he claimed unused attic space to recess a cabinet for towels and bath accessories. The finishing touch? Matching mirrored medicine cabinets he built himself, naturally. >