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## SAMANTHA PYNN

## The slickest shower doors to sing behind.

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Hey Sam,

I'm having the bathroom renovated, gutting it right back to the studs. No patch jobs, as the people who owned the house before us put in a tub cover (I suspect to hide the worn enamel). No one ever uses the tub because the darn cover creaks every time you move. Now the plan is to remove the tub altogether and install a shower with a glass door. I'm looking for something clean and simple. You used a fantastic looking door on your show that had a real clean look. Can you give me some more details and give me a cost estimate.

Thanks, Mike Dear Mike,

A bathroom reno is a big project so it's wise to research what you want so that you get your reno right the first time.

There are plenty of custom glass styles on the market. Though glass doors with hinges are still popular, these days it's all about the roller door.

The door you saw on Open House Overhaul (in the photo above) is a frameless roller door from doorsandmore.ca. The starting price for this is \$1,600. The door looks so sleek because there are no rails, tracks or channels to hold it in place, only a bit of silicone on the wall between the glass and the tile to keep the spray in the shower.

People are loving <mark>the roller door</mark> for many reasons. The simplicity of the door fits into any decorating scheme from über mod to classic or country.

Beyond aesthetics, a <mark>roller door</mark> while well suited to a modern bathroom, the roller doors are so simple they will blend into any style of decor.

The Roller Door is great for small spaces because it slides back and forth, eliminating the need to have space for a door to swing open. Plus, roller doors can be cut to any size, which makes them great for bathrooms in small condos or in basements where the ceilings are low. And, because the door doesn't extend to the ceiling, the open space allows for ventilation so there's no mildew where the glass meets the ceiling.

Installing a roller door is not an easy job, though. Because frameless roller doors have only a band of silicone between the tile and the glass, the doors are measured to fit within 1/16th of an inch. Moreover, no bathroom wall is perfectly level, so the glass often has to be cut on an angle (of course this is not noticeable when you're looking at the door). The job is so precise that the space is measured on site after the tile has been installed. "once the tempered glass has been cut," Frank Gartner of Doors and More says, "it can't be altered, not even by 1/16th of an inch." If a mistake is made, the glass is unusable. In other words, this is not a DIY job.

Last, unlike the sliding-glass shower door on tracks from my suburban childhood — which always got stuck (even when someone was in the shower) and sounded louder than our 250-pound wooden garage door — the easy-glide system of the glass roller door is whisper quiet. Happy bathroom renovating! Sam

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