

BERKELEY GLASS

The Homeowner's Guide to Designing a Custom Glass Shower

Custom shower glass is designed specifically for your bathroom—not pulled from a standard-size box.

Whether you're remodeling a primary bathroom or updating a guest space, custom glass helps elevate the entire room.

- A cleaner, more tailored appearance
- Better fit and functionality
- More design flexibility
- Easier maintenance and cleaning
- A more open, modern feel

411 Auburn St., Martinsburg, WV 25401

(304) 267-4527 | Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

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Step 1: Start with Your Bathroom Layout

Before selecting glass styles, think about how your shower fits into the space overall.

From storefronts to large-scale developments, our Contract Glazing division is trusted by businesses like Dunkin Donuts and many more.



Questions to Consider

- How much space is available around the shower?
- Will the door swing outward or slide?
- Is the shower in a corner, alcove, or open layout?
- Where are nearby vanities, toilets, or walls located?
- How much natural light does the bathroom receive?

The Layout Impacts...

- Door style
- Hardware placement
- Glass panel sizing
- Overall functionality

A shower that looks beautiful also needs to feel comfortable and easy to use every day.

Step 2: Understand Frameless vs. Framed Shower Glass

One of the biggest decisions homeowners make is whether to choose framed or frameless shower glass.



Frameless Shower Glass

Frameless showers use thicker glass with minimal hardware for a clean, modern appearance.

- Sleek, open look
- Easier to clean
- Makes bathrooms feel larger
- Highlights tile and finishes

Considerations:

- Typically a larger investment
- Requires precise measurements and installation



Framed Shower Glass

Framed showers use metal framing around the glass panels and door.

- More traditional appearance
- Often lower upfront cost
- Added structural support

Considerations:

- More hardware and edges to clean
- Can feel visually heavier in smaller bathrooms



Step 3: Measurements Matter More Than Most Homeowners Realize

Custom shower glass is only as good as the measurements behind it.



Even small inconsistencies in:

- Wall alignment
- Tile thickness
- Floor slope
- Ceiling height

CAN AFFECT THE FIT AND PERFORMANCE OF THE FINISHED SHOWER.

Professional Measurement Helps Prevent:

- Uneven gaps
- Leaking doors
- Alignment issues
- Improper door swing
- Long-term stress on hardware

Because every bathroom is different, custom measurement is one of the most important parts of the process.

Step 4: Design Details That Make a Big Difference

The right details can dramatically improve the final look of your shower.

POPULAR DESIGN CHOICES





Clear vs. frosted glass



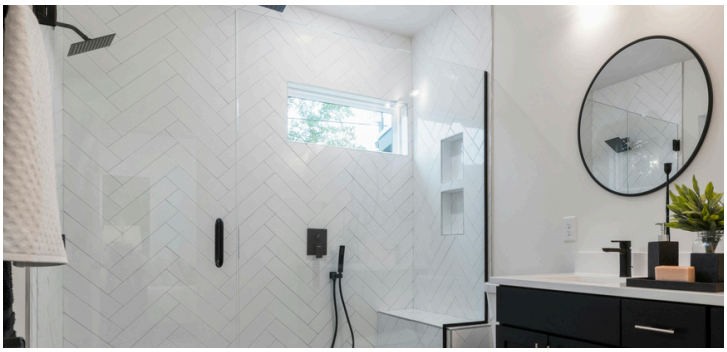


Matte black, chrome, or brushed nickel hardware





Hinged vs. sliding doors



Floor-to-ceiling glass panels





Minimal hardware designs

When choosing finishes, consider the rest of your bathroom's style so everything feels cohesive.



Step 5: Installation Factors Homeowners Often Overlook

Many homeowners focus on the shower's appearance without realizing how important proper installation is.

COMMONLY OVERLOOKED FACTORS

Wall Strength & Support

Some shower layouts require reinforced mounting points behind tile or stone.

Proper Waterproofing

Glass alone doesn't prevent leaks—correct installation and sealing matter.

Ventilation

Bathrooms with poor airflow can lead to excess moisture buildup.

Door Clearance

The shower door needs enough space to open comfortably without interfering with nearby fixtures.

Glass Weight

Frameless glass is heavier than many homeowners expect and requires precise support.

These details are what separate a shower that simply looks good from one that performs well for years.

Questions to Ask Before Hiring a Shower Glass Company



Before moving forward, it helps to ask a few important questions:

The right company should be able to guide you through the process clearly and confidently.

- Is the glass custom-measured for my space?
- What hardware and finish options are available?
- How long will installation take?
- What maintenance is recommended?
- Will the company handle both fabrication and installation?

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE PROCESS

A custom shower project typically includes:

Consultation

Discussing layout, goals, and style preferences.

Fabrication

Glass is custom-cut specifically for your shower.

Measurement

Precise measurements are taken after the tile and finishes are completed.

Installation

Professional installation ensures proper fit, function, and sealing.

Is a Custom Glass Shower Worth It?



For many homeowners, the answer is yes.

CUSTOM GLASS SHOWERS CAN:

- Improve daily functionality
- Modernize the bathroom
- Make smaller spaces feel larger
- Add long-term value to the home

Most importantly, they create a space that feels designed specifically for you—not built from standard parts.

Need Help Planning Your Shower Project?

Berkeley Glass designs and installs custom residential shower glass tailored to your home and your space. From modern frameless showers to classic framed designs, our team helps homeowners create clean, functional bathrooms with professionally installed custom glass.



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